

Our guest preacher this morning is The Reverend Ryan Eller, is the Executive Director of Define American. Prior to joining Define American, he was U.S. Campaign Director for Change.org, where he led efforts for justice in the Trayvon Martin case and for LGBT inclusion in the Boy Scouts of America as the platform grew from 14 million active users to over 45 million during his tenure. In addition, for a number of years, he was the Lead Organizer for CHANGE (Communities Helping All Neighbors Gain Empowerment), the largest multi-faith community organizing group in the southern United States.

He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Wake Forest University and a Masters of Public Administration from Penn State University. He was ordained by First Baptist Church of High Point, NC in 2007 and is a former officer in the United States Navy Chaplain Corps. His work and writing can be found in both regional and national publications, such as: CNN, MTV, Sojourners, Politico, the Huffington Post, Medium, Associated Baptist Press, and the Religious Herald.

Covenant

We strive to be a joyful, welcoming Christian Community.

We seek to be faithful in a world torn by suffering, injustice, oppression, and war.

We are inspired by God, Christ's Ministry, and the examples of other faithful people.

We join together in worship and song, fellowship, study, and mission to embrace the risks

and challenges of continuing Christ's ministry

We struggle to live out our faith in the world by furthering justice and peace, witnessing to the truth,

and proclaiming God's love and mercy for all people.

Open and Affirming Statement

As a covenant community we are committed to the belief that all people are created equal before God.

In affirmation of the inclusive love of Christ Jesus, we welcome persons of any race, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability and economic circumstance to full participation in our community life and ministry.

We strive to reflect these beliefs in the language and content of our worship and in our lives together.

(This statement adopted in 2000, reflects the welcome of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people and their friends and families.)

10:00 a.m. – 5

Parish and Pastoral Relations Committee

Committee Members: Tom Mollerus, Fred Moder and Diana Conroy
The Parish and Pastoral Relations Committee is a standing committee chosen by the Board and Deacons that seeks to support and maintain an open and healthy relationship between the pastor/s and members of the congregation. The committee does not seek to take the place of communications between the congregation and the pastoral staff. Congregants who wish to communicate with this committee may send an email to prrc@needhamucc.org. **Please do not use email to discuss sensitive or confidential matters; just use the email to set up an appointment for a telephone or in-person meeting.**

Board Members

Moderator - Jackie Allen, Clerk - Keith McClelland
Term Ends 2018 Michael Normile, Blair Wentworth, Sharmon Priaux
Term Ends 2019 Jim Conroy, Diane Rees, Kristin Mollerus
Term Ends 2020 Howard Sesso, Kenneth Allen, Barbra Morton, Amanda Angel

Deacons

Term Ends 2018 Lee McNally, Charlie Baker, Claudia Darmofal, Susan Lively, Kirby Salerno
Term Ends 2019 Rick Devereux, Dibby Moder, Scott Stewart, Carol Miller, Jean Veigas
Term Ends 2020 Kevin Blume, Paul Brown, Jane Clayton- Matthews, Sue Cotton, Lucy Slosser

Rev. Jim Mitulski's Office Hours

Please contact the church office to schedule an appointment during his office hours of Tuesday & Wednesday 2-6pm; Thursday 2-5pm

Evening hours are also available by appointment.

*If these times do not work for you please contact the office for alternate availability.

Staff

Interim Senior Minister
The Rev. Jim Mitulski
RevJim@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 106

Associate Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder
RevHeike@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 105

Director of Children & Youth Ministries
Madelyn Downer
Youth@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 104

Music Director
Valerie Becker
musicdirector@needhamucc.org

Organist/Accompanist
Sangyoung Kim

Church Administrator
Danielle Jurdan
Office@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 101

Office Assistant & Bookkeeper
Cindy Sullivan
Office2@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 100

Development Consultant
Irma Bauer-Levesque

Handyman
Bill Donovan

Housekeeper
Sanira Alchaar

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The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

10:00 a.m. – 6



The Congregational
Church of Needham

An open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

June 11, 2017
Trinity Sunday
Race Amity Day

PRELUDE

Invocation
Felix Mendelssohn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jim and Rev. Heike

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray together

**Holy Mother you have birthed us into life,
Holy Father you have nurtured us along our way,
In you we have lived and moved and have our being.
To you we bring our offering of praise and thanksgiving.
We open ourselves to your presence in this time of worship.
Fill us with resolve and purpose, to be your community
and to expand our boundaries until all of creation is renewed
and all people are welcomed and blessed.
This we ask through the risen and ascended Christ
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

OPENING HYMN #277 (*Black, New Century*)

Holy, Holy, Holy

ANTHEM

Let Thy Merciful Ears O Lord
Thomas Weelkes (1576 - 1623)

SELECTION OF READINGS

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Creator and of the Beloved and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

HYMN #278 (*Black, New Century*)

Creator God, Creating Still

SERMON

The Rev. Ryan Eller
Executive Director, Define American
Baptist Minister, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

HYMN #283 (*Black, New Century*)

Spirit of the Living God

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers for Our Friends and Families, Our Church, Our Community, and the World.

Lord's Prayer (please pray whatever form is familiar to you; many choose to pray Our Father, Our Mother, Our Father and Mother, Our Creator, or Our Maker, or Father/Mother God...debts/debtors or trespasses/those who trespass...)

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

In each of our pews today is a black friendship book which we encourage you to fill out and pass to the person next to you during the offering. If you have been with us before, just put down your name, but if you are new today, please let us know who you are. Thanks!

Offertory Anthem

Be Thou My Vision
Paul Basler (b. 1963)

***Doxology**
(see insert)

For the Life That You Have Given
Tune: Pleading Savior (NCH 397; PH 409)

**For the life that you have given,
for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor,
with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises;
heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you,
living what we pray and sing.**

Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN

Sing a New Church

1. Sum-moned by the God who made us rich in our di-ver-si-ty,
2. Ra-diant ris-en from the wa-ter, robed in ho-li-ness and light,
3. Trust the good-ness of cre-a-tion; trust the Spir-it strong with-in.
4. Bring the hopes of ev-ery na-tion; bring the art of ev-ery race.
5. Draw to-gether at one ta-ble all the hu-man fam-i-ly:

gath-ered in the name of Je-sus, rich-er still in u-ni-ty;
male and fe-male in God's im-age, male and fe-male, God's de-light.
Dare to dream the vi-sion prom-ised sprung from seed of what has been.
Weave a song of peace and jus-tice; let it sound through time and space.
shape a cir-cle ev-er wid-er and a peo-ple ev-er free.

Refrain
Let us bring the gifts that dif-fer and, in splen-did, var-ied ways,

sing a new church in-to be-ing, one in faith and love and praise.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Eller

POSTLUDE

Sorite
Nicholas Jaques Lemmens

Worship Assistant: Christine Weitzel
Deacons: Jean Veigas, Susan Livley
Altar Guild: Laura Cullen
Ushers: David Libby, Alex Cullen, Nancy Lane, Scott Lively
Flowers: Beverly Bolivar
Flower Delivery: Amy Kennedy

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert and Alma Treen from Jane and Adam Brand.

After church this morning we are having an informal congregational meeting and a fellowship lunch gathering. Everyone is invited to stay for both.

You are invited to return at 2 pm for the Celebration of Race Amity Day, with members of the Towns of Needham and Wellesley. This was established as a State of Massachusetts observance this year and was sponsored in the State Legislature by our own Needham Representative Denise Garlick.

Vacation Bible School | August 2017

SUPERHERO CENTRAL



Have you always wanted super powers? Wouldn't it be fun if you could save the world?

At VBS: Superhero Central, we'll learn about all the super powers we already have! Love, Friendship, Hope, and Faith all work together to make the world a better place! Our days will be filled with lots of fun arts and crafts, games and playground time, cooking class and snack time.

Students will bring brown bag lunches. Gluten-free snacks will be provided.

August 21 - 25, 2017

NEW TIME: Drop-off at 9:00 AM; Pick-up at 2:00 PM

Rates:

Get one day free when you sign up for the whole week!

\$30/day or \$120/week for the first child

Family discount:

\$20/day or \$80/week for additional children

Registration is open!

VBS: Superhero Central is open to children ages 3-8.

Children must be toilet trained.

If this program is cost-prohibitive for your family, please reach out to Maddie Downer, our youth director, regarding scholarships at youth@needhamucc.org. Please put "VBS Scholarship" in the subject line.



Welcome to all who are new or here for the first time! If you are interested in learning more about our church, please email Rev. Jim at revjim@needhamucc.org, Rev Heike at revheike@needhamucc.org or call the office at 781-444-2510 to set up a conversation.

For updates on church life, our family ministries, Christian Education and Youth Ministries follow us at: **@NeedhamUCC on Instagram**
Congregational Church of Needham UCC on Facebook
@needhamucc on Twitter www.needhamucc.org

Please silence your cell phone before attending the service. You can Check In on Facebook and let people know you are here. Feel free to Tweet or Instagram during the service. If you would like or need a hearing device an usher will be able to assist you. Children's Childcare is offered for infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers in the Nursery located downstairs during the service. After Time For Children, students are dismissed to their classrooms for Bible Village. On Communion Sundays, students attend Bible Village first and then join the Worship Service for Communion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

June 11, 2017



The Congregational
Church of Needham

Events & Announcements

TODAY: June 11th Board Update and Blue Ribbon BBQ! 11:30am
Join us for a mid-year update from the Board including the status of the 1180 building and a 2017 budget update.

Guatemala Partnership Social, Saturday, June 17, 6:00 – 8:00 pm,
at the Johnson's (505 Great Plain Ave.): Please join us for a relaxing BBQ and an evening of good fellowship.
For more information contact: caryljohnson@gmail.com.

Once in a While Choir

Our intergenerational choir (all ages are welcome) has been invited to sing on June 25th for Music Sunday. It would be great to have as many of you who might be interested and available to join in the fun. Even if you haven't sung with us in the past, please join us if you'd like. It's a guaranteed winner, and you will enjoy it. I promise.

We will sing a song we sang two years ago, "Raise Your Voices." This is the one the children begin and the adults join in on the second verse. It's easy, joyous, and easy again.

It will be grand if you can join us.

Two rehearsals:

Sunday, June 18th, 9:15 -9:45 (if you can make it)

Sunday, June 25th, 9:15 - and sing at 10:00 service

Please let me know if you're interested. -Cici Hunt

Book Study - June 28 @ 7:00 pm

Join us on Wednesday night June 28 at 7 pm for a discussion of When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi, a memoir about a young doctor and his battle with cancer. It is thoughtful, spiritual, concise and beautifully written. Here is a link to the Boston Globe review <https://www.bostonglobe.com/arts/books/2016/01/12/young-doctor-husband-father-traces-his-losing-cancer-fight-memoir/CKzcOvnIP5A761MSNGjMsI/story.html> See Jim if you have Questions. Copies are available at church outside the chapel.

Sing! Prayer and Praise

Join us Wednesday nights in the Chapel during the summer for a short Service of Fellowship, Praise and Singing! We will be using the UCC Song-books, Sing@ Prayer and Praise which were a gift to the church from Kathy Carpenter and Barbra Morton. It's a wonderful way to stay in touch and centered during the summer months!

Bible Study Group, Sundays at 11:30 a.m., Conference Room

We are currently reading the book of Genesis a few chapters at a time. We will continue meeting until the end of June, then start up again after Labor Day with another section of the Bible. We love having new people come try us out!

New Directory 2017

We will be issuing a new member directory this year. Please send your family pictures and any updated contact information into the church office so they can be used in the directory.

Chancel Choir

Please come sing with us! Chancel choir rehearsals for the month of June will be at 8:30 on Sunday morning in the sanctuary. We would love to have you be part of our choir!

August Vacation Bible School: Super Hero Central Ages 3-8

August VBS will be offered to students ages 3-8. We will learn how Jesus is a super power. Lots of games, crafts, and other fun activities. Students will bring brown bag lunches, snacks will be served. Please register online at www.needhamucc.org/VBS.

Dates: Monday August 21– Monday August 25

Times: Drop Off at 9am / Pick Up at 2pm

Bylaws Review

A team of Deacons and Board Members has initiated a review of our Church's bylaws to identify areas where updates would be helpful. The intent is to have any proposed changes ready for Congregational review in the late fall and for a vote at next January's Annual Meeting.

The team is not contemplating changing the Church's governing structure. An example of a helpful change we are considering is that in the case a board/deacons/committee member resigns, at the next Annual Meeting a new member will be elected to serve only the remaining years of the resigned members term, and not the standard 3-year term. This will prevent too many members of a committee all being on the same 3-year cycle. We are also evaluating how to make the Parish and Pastoral Relations Committee (PPRC) a permanent Committee of the Congregation. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for the team, feel free to contact any one of its members: Susan Lively, Mike Normile, Sharmon Priaulx, Howie Sesso, and Scott Stewart.

Calendar June 11th—July 9th

Sunday June 11th Communion Sunday	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Congregational Update and All Church BBQ
Monday June 12th	9:00 am 7:00 pm 7:15 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Finance Team Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Immigration Task Force, <i>Library</i>
Wednesday June 14th	7:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Saturday June 17th	6:00 pm	Guatemala Partnership Family Social, <i>505 Great Plain Ave.</i>
Sunday June 18th Father's Day	8:15 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 10:00am 11:30 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir, <i>Sanctuary</i> Once in a While Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
Tuesday June 20th	7:30 pm	Rev. Jim Ecclesiastic Council, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Wednesday June 21st	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Sunday June 25th	8:30 am 9:15 am 10:00am 11:30 am	Chancel Choir Breakfast, <i>Linden Hall</i> Once in a While Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service—Baptism, <i>Sanctuary</i> Meditation Group w/ Sue Findlay, <i>Chapel</i>
Tuesday June 27th	7:00 pm	Outreach Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Wednesday June 28th	7:00 pm	"When Breath Becomes Air" Book Discussion w/ Rev Jim, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Sunday July 2nd	10:00am	Worship Service, <i>Chapel</i>
Tuesday July 4th		Office Closed—Independence Day
Wednesday July 5th	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Study –Book of Acts Sing! Prayer and Praise, <i>Chapel</i>
Friday July 7th		Office Closed
Sunday July 9th	10:00am	Worship Service, <i>Chapel</i>

6/4/2017 Collections* = \$1,994

6/4/2017 Worship Attendance = 177 people

May Electronic Pledge Amount: \$12,639.82

Please contact the church office 781-444-2510 or office@needhamucc.org to find out how you can give electronically.

*Collection amount does not include additional pledges received electronically.

Our current pledge amount for 2017 is \$367,804.00. This represents a budget shortfall of \$56,459.00 for the year.