



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

August 31, 2014

Theme: Great Stories of the Bible



Our 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.

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.



Sunday, August 31, 2014

10:00am

Childcare for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers is available in the preschool room downstairs during the service.

WELCOMING MUSIC

WORDS OF GREETING

***HYMN # 46 (NCH)**

Hope of the World

READING

God Gives Us A Future
by Elizabeth J. Smith
from *Songs for Hopeful Church*

PRAYER

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

LIGHTING CANDLES FOR JOYS & CONCERNS

MUSIC

SERMON

”Words of Hope”
A sermon on the book of Revelation, based on Rev 21:1-6
Heike Werder

TIME TO REFLECT

PASTORAL PRAYER

Congregational Response

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

OFFERTORY

**Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN # 617 (NCH) Unite and Join Your Cheerful Songs

FINAL BLESSING

POSTLUDE

**You are invited to stand.*

Deacons: Mary Lou Hughes, Fred Moder

Ushers: Frank Arren, Todd Barth, Dave Johnson, Jan Rubenstein

Altar Guild: Denice Koljonen

Flowers: Debbie Wentworth

*The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Emily Campbell
by the Lucas family.*

- Welcome to all who are here for the first time. Please fill out the blue “Welcome” card in the pews to receive weekly emails or newsletters.
- Please turn off your cell phone before attending the service.
- Please ask an usher if you would like a copy of the sermon, or need a hearing device. Copies of the sermons are also available on the sermon link at www.needhamucc.org, our church website.

*The Congregational Church of Needham
1154 Great Plain Avenue
Needham, Massachusetts 02492
Telephone 781-444-2510; Fax 781-444-3580
E-mail: office@needhamucc.org
www.needhamucc.org*

The Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
The Rev. Jamie Klopotoski, Youth Minister

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE!!!: Welcome Back Sunday is September 7th! Hope everyone had a restful summer. Be sure to check the announcements and website for upcoming information about Welcome Back Sunday.

BACKPACK BLESSING: To start off the school year, backpacks will be blessed at **11:30am in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 7.** Drop off backpacks on the stage in Fellowship Hall upon arrival at church.

Guatemala Delegation Report Back, September 14th, 11:30am, Linden Hall: Colorful pictures and impressions from the recent memorable visit to Santa Maria Tzeja will be shared. Many wonderful experiences were had in people's homes, with village children, and in gatherings with village leaders. Please join us to learn more about our church's 27 year partnership and the opportunity it provides for personal engagement and growth. Light refreshments will be served.

Trip to Germany: Plans for our trip to Germany are on their way. If you or a member of your family (extended family too) might be interested in traveling with us, please let them know. Prices and dates depend on the number of people wanting to go. Travel Dates are: ***June 24 to July 3, 2015 or June 25 to July 5, 2015.*** For better airline fares bookings need to be considered soon. ***RSVP by September 15th*** to Rev. Heike or contact her for more information.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, September 20, 6:00-8:00pm-Guatemala Partnership Friends Family Event: There will be plenty of fun, food, and entertainment. Please plan to join us for an evening of fellowship and celebration for all the wonderful work supported by our congregation. ***Caryl and Dave Johnson will host us at 505 Great Plain Ave.***

Help Make Your Mark On The New Building: We are so excited to start using our new space. If you would like to be part of getting our new space ready we could use your help. We are planning a work day that will consist of light cleaning, painting, gardening and general sprucing. If interested please contact the office at office@needhamucc.org or 781-444-2510. Opportunities to help for all ages!

Sign-Ups for February 2015 Delegation to Guatemala: Please contact Brenda Metzler to sign up or request information—bmetzler7@verizon.net. Travel dates are February 11-22, 2015. We especially need youth (with or without parents). The window of opportunity will close when tickets are purchased in late September, so don't delay.

Noah's Ark Board Position :There is an opening for a treasurer for the pre-school board. We need someone to keep track of the budget and attend the

Board meetings monthly on the second Monday. Please speak to one of the ministers or NAP Board president Laurie Davis if you are interested in being considered.

Capital Campaign Pledge: If you have not paid your capital campaign pledge and are in a position to pay anytime, this summer would be a good time to pay any or all of the amount. Some families are paying on a monthly or yearly schedule. If you have any flexibility in your ability to pay your pledge, this would be a helpful time to make your contribution. As always, the church remains very grateful for your generosity.

CALENDAR August 31—September 14

Sunday, August 31st	10:00 am 2:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Doris Cook Celebration, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Monday, September 1st		Labor Day—Office Closed
Tuesday, September 2nd	6:00 pm	Community Dinner
Thursday, September 4th	12:00 pm 1:00 pm	Lunch with Heike, <i>Library</i> Friendly Meeting
Sunday, September 7th <i>Welcome Back and Communion Sunday</i>	10:00 am 11:30 am 7:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Backpack Blessing, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Monday, September 8th	9:00 am 7:15 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Tuesday, September 9th	7:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting
Wednesday, September 10th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thursday, September 11th	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir, <i>Choir Room</i>
Sunday, September 14th	10:00 am 11:30 am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Guatemala Report Back, <i>Linden Hall</i>



**WELCOME
BACK
SUNDAY
is**

SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

**Join us for a new year at
Church!**

- * Communion Sunday
in the Sanctuary**
- * First Day of Sunday
School**
- * Choir to sing**



BACKPACK BLESSING



SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 7, 2014
11:30 AM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Rev. Susan Cartmell and Rev. Jamie Klopotoski will be blessing backpacks. Please drop your backpacks off at the stage in Fellowship Hall upon arrival at church.