



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

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.

September 18, 2016

*Childcare for infants, toddlers, & preschoolers is available in the preschool room downstairs during the service.
After Children's Time, students are dismissed to their classrooms for Bible Village.*

PRELUDE

Ave Verum
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

INVOCATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN # 12 (NCH)

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jim and Rev. Heike

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

PRAYER

“Love Beyond God”
From *Love Beyond God—Meditations* by Adam Lawrence Dyer

What if every time you woke
Your sigh was felt
By every being on Earth?

What if every time you spoke
Your words were heard
By every ear on Earth?

What if when you told a joke
You tickled the senses
Of every smile on Earth?

What if with each tender strike
You share your touch
With every hand on Earth?

What if when your heart broke
You tasted the tears
Running down every cheek on Earth?

No bond or brand or “guilted” yoke,
Surely this is love that reaches beyond,
That holds one to another
And every other to one.
No matter the color
Or where we’re from.

This is now.
This is we.
This is Love.
This is God.

And this is love beyond God.

Silent Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

(please pray whatever form is familiar to you; many choose to pray Our Father and Mother....debts/debtors or trespasses/those who trespass...)

Prayer Response

Sevenfold Amen
John Stainer

RESPONSIVE READING

Still, We Rise (Inspired by Maya Angelou's Poem, Still, I Rise)

by Rev. Dr. Sheila Guillaume for UCC Just Peace Sunday

At times, life's unjust and tumultuous circumstances
can shrink our faith into becoming the size of a tiny mustard seed,
and yet, God's faithfulness helps us to say...
Still, we rise!

Even in the wake of violence and hatred that has plagued our nation,
it is our trust in God that gives us the courage to say with love...
Still, we rise!

As Christ taught us how to love,
which disarms hate when joining together as neighbors
alongside those living in cities and towns near and far
who are mourning the loss of loved ones,
and offering to us the wisdom to say with hope...
Still, we rise!

For it is by faith that we believe peace is possible
and can be attained as God's kingdom here on earth,
by opening our hearts to love our neighbor with acts of justice and mercy,
and believing that we are all equally children of God by saying...
We rise! We rise! We rise!

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children leave for Bible Village after Time for Children.

CHILDREN'S HYMN # 349 (NCH)

I Come with Joy
(verses 1 and 5)

WITNESS OF THE GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP

Caryl Johnson

ANTHEM

Teach Me, O Lord
Thomas Attwood

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 16: 1-13

NT p. 75

HYMN

The peace of the earth be with you
Guatemalan Folksong

77 The peace of the earth be with you

LA PAZ DE LA TIERRA 87. 97. 76

Am F G Esus E

The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the heav-ens too; the

Am F G Esus E

peace of the riv - ers be with you, the peace of the o - ceans too.

C G Am Em Am

Deep peace fall - ing o - ver you.

C G Am Em A

God's peace grow - ing in you.

Text: Guatemalan traditional; translated by Christine Carson
Music: Guatemalan folk melody

SERMON

“Jesus did what...?”
Heike Werder

HYMN

The peace of the earth be with you
Guatemalan Folk Song

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Concerns and Celebrations

Call to Prayer

Leader: God is with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: O God, show your mercy upon us.

People: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

People: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

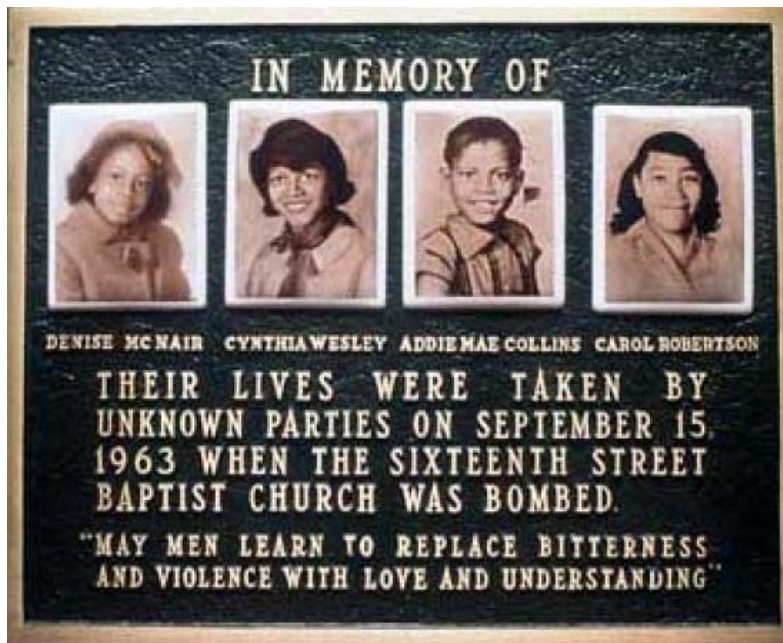
Leader: Let us pray!

A Prayer of Remembrance for the Rev. Richard Unsworth



Rest Eternal grant to Richard, O Lord;
And let light perpetually shine upon him.
May Richard's soul and the souls of all the departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

A Prayer of Remembrance for the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church Bombing September 15, 1963



Congregational Response

The peace of the earth be with you
Guatemalan Folk Song

OFFERTORY

AFFIRMATION OF MINISTRY for Howie Sesso and Ken Allen

Anthem

Lord, for thy Tender Mercies' Sake
Richard Farrant

***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.**

Offertory Prayer

***CLOSING HYMN # 542 (NCH)**

Born of God, Eternal Savior

BENEDICTION

Rev. Heike and Rev. Jim

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go in Love
Don Besig (b. 1936)

POSTLUDE

Recessional
J.L. Battman

**You are invited to stand*

- Welcome to all who are here for the first time.
- Please silence your cell phone before attending the service.
- Please Check In on Facebook and let people know you are here.
- You can Tweet or Instagram during the service.
- Please ask an usher if you would like or need a hearing device.

Worship Assistant: Mike Normile

Deacons: Rick Devereux, Dibby Moder

Altar Guild: Denice Koljonen

Ushers: Mike Normile, Janet Jankowiak, Bob Everts, Jim Conroy

Flowers: Marie Puffer

Flower Delivery: Martha Lamb

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my sister, Gayle Hoshour, by Marie Puffer.

A special thank you to the many Guatemala Partner Families who contributed such a bountiful and varied array of goodies to the Welcome Back Brunch last Sunday and to those who helped set up and clean up. Your generosity made the congregation's homecoming a truly festive occasion. 'Muchas gracias' to all!

Worship Schedule Through October 2, 2016

September 25

Guest preacher, the Rev. Martha M. Cruz, a minister in the United Church of Christ and the American Baptist Church, is a doctoral student at Andover Newton and a former staff member of Church Women United. She is on twitter @CubanMatriarch, where she describes herself as Immigrant, Preacher, Spiritual Director, Writer, Mother, Spouse, Grandmother, Student, Autism Advocate, Cuban-Born New Yorker, Musical Theater Lover..

October 2

We will observe World Communion Sunday, the Feast of Francis of Assisi and acknowledge with the beginning of the Jewish High Holy Days and Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New year 5777).



Ride for Food September 25, 2016

Your "Ride for Food" Team is getting ready!

16 people will ride more than 600 miles together for a good cause.

You can still support our team through your sponsorship.

Please see Lynn Gotwals after church during coffee hour to make your donation.

All monies raised will go to the Needham Food Pantry!

The Board is responsible for the overall administrative life of the church including buildings, finances, personnel and the overall health of the church.

Moderator - Jackie Allen
Clerk - Keith McClelland

<u>Term Ends 2017</u>	<u>Term Ends 2018</u>	<u>Term Ends 2019</u>
Christine Weitzel	Blair Wentworth	Jim Conroy
Ken Allen	Sharmon Priaulx	Diane Rees
Carl Madsen		Kristin Mollerus
Michael Normile		
Howard Sesso		

The Deacons are responsible for the spiritual life and well-being of the church.

Chair - Frank Luppino
Vice Chair - Susan Lively

<u>Term Ends 2017</u>	<u>Term Ends 2018</u>	<u>Term Ends 2019</u>
Stephanie Oddleifson	Charlie Baker	Rick Devereux
Sunu Yeh	Kirby Salerno	Dibby Moder
Joanne Seiden	Claudia Darmofal	Scott Stewart
Lee McNally		Carol Miller
Sally Fitzgerald		Jean Veigas

9/11/2016 Worship Attendance = 143 people

9/11/2016 Collection & Pledges = \$5,959

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

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

*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
Cindy Sullivan
Office2@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 100

Bookkeeper
Suzanne Leslie
Finance@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 113

Handyman
Bill Donovan

Housekeeper
Sanira Alchaar

The Congregational Church of Needham
1154 & 1180 Great Plain Avenue
Needham, Massachusetts 02492
www.needhamucc.org

Facebook: Congregational Church of Needham UCC
Twitter @needhamucc Instagram: needhamucc
781-444-2510 office@needhamucc.org
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY: August Delegation 'Reportback', Sunday, Sept. 18, 11:30 am, Linden Hall

All are invited to attend this presentation by the August travelers, including several of our high school youth, who will share highlights of their visit to our sister community of Santa María Tzejá. If you are considering joining a delegation, don't miss this opportunity to see what it's all about! Light refreshments will be served.

Breakfast with Rev. Jim October 2 & October 23, 8:30-9:30am in the Church Library: Come have breakfast with our new Interim Minister, Rev. Jim Mitulski. No need to sign up – everyone is welcome. No need to bring anything but your questions, and your vision as we look ahead to the Interim Ministerial Period.

Invitation from the Board: For everyone who was unable to attend the June 26 Capital Campaign Forum, the Forum will be repeated on **Sunday, October 16, at 8:30 AM (before worship)**. Together with our Treasurer, Jen Connors, Board Members will update you on the Capital Campaign, the future use of 1180 Great Plain Avenue and plans for capital improvements at 1154 Great Plain Avenue.

(Spoiler alert: These are all related!) We plan to review where we are, how we got here, and options for the future- short and long term. We are interested in hearing from you as we move forward together. I hope you can join us.
Jackie Allen, Moderator

Let's Read Together!

"The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead September 21 @ 7:00pm

Join us in reading Colson Whitehead's timely new novel "The Underground Railroad." We'll gather on **September 21 at 7:00pm** in the 1180 Living Room to discuss the book. See Jim Mitulski or email with questions RevJim@needhamucc.org. Books are available for purchase in the book store shelves next to the Chapel.

"The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays, Fusion Politics, and the Rise of a New Justice Movement" by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove September 28 @ 7:00pm

We'll gather on **September 28 at 7:00pm** in the 1180 Living Room to discuss the book. See Jim Mitulski or email with questions RevJim@needhamucc.org. Books are available for purchase in the book store shelves next to the Chapel.

Poetry Lovers! Sunday Sept 25th at Noon: Join us for a joint program at First Parish UU that we are co-sponsoring featuring Adam Lawrence Dyer author of "Love Beyond God" (Skinner House books 2016). We are using Adam's poetry this Sunday and next Sunday in Worship. He will be reading some of it in Worship next Sunday, 9/25. Adam is a UU seminary student at Pacific School of Religion and a former student of Rev. Jim's.

Last Call -- February 2017 Delegation to Guatemala: We are seeking more adults and youth travelers to join the church's February 15-26, 2017 delegation to Guatemala. Please speak with co-leader Fred Moder today after church or contact him at fmoder@verizon.net. Tickets must be purchased very soon, due to competition with school vacation travelers. The cost is approximately \$1,500.

Parent's Brunch – Sunday October 2 @ 11:30am: In order to not compete with the Ride for Food, The Parents Brunch has been rescheduled to Sunday October 2nd. Rev. Jim, Rev Heike and Maddie invite anyone to who are parents a child or youth ages 0-19 to join them in a discussion on how our youth and CE program can work with your family. It takes a village and we are a part of yours.

Friendly Chimers: One of the choirs of our church, begins its year on October 2 and continues rehearsing every Sunday through December 4, after church from 11:30-12:15 in the Sanctuary. If you'd like to join us making music, please contact Joanne Seiden (781-449-6535, jseiden@basiclink.com).

Bible Study: Interested in joining a small group which will support your own faith journey? Join us for weekly Bible Study immediately after church from 11:30-12:30 in the Reception Room. Each week we meet to discuss a few chapters of the Bible. This fall we will be reading the gospel of Matthew together. Everyone is welcome to drop in and try us out! For more information or to be on the mailing list to receive weekly summaries, please contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com.

Attic Treasures: Now is the time to sort through your Former Favorites and White Elephant gifts that have never been used! The Attic Treasures will be back at the Village Fair this year. To donate your new or gently used items or to help out on the day of the fair contact Diana Conroy (781-449-3350) or conroyjd@rcn.com.

The Auction is going UPSCALE! We are looking for high-end donations valued at \$100.00 or more. . . for example, garden center gift certificates, restaurant gift certificates, spa days, massages or vacation homes. Items valued between \$50.00 and \$100 will go in our raffle. Please consider donating! Thank you so much! Your Auction Team! Caryl Johnson and Fabienne Madsen. Contact us via email: carylgjohnson@gmail.com or fabienne@fabienmadsendesign.com.

CALENDAR September 18th—October 2nd

Sunday, September 18th	8:15 am 10:00am 11:30am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Guatemala Report Back, <i>Linden Hall</i> Senior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i> Junior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i>
Monday, September 19th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Wednesday, September 21st	7:00 pm	The Underground Railroad Book Discussion, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, September 22nd	7:30 pm	Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, September 25th	10:00am 11:30am 5:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Junior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i>
Monday, September 26th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Tuesday, September 27th	7:00 pm	CE Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Outreach Meeting
Wednesday, September 28th	7:00 pm	The Third Reconstruction Book Discussion, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, September 29th	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Holy Homework, <i>Youth Room</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, October 2nd	8:30 am 10:00am 11:30am 4:00 pm 7:00 pm	Breakfast with Rev. Jim, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Village Open House Parents Brunch Friendly Chimers, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Blessing of Animals Junior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i>