

New or Visiting Our Church

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.

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, but rather to help those people who need advice and assistance in talking to the pastors. Congregants who wish to communicate with this committee may send an email to pprc@needhamucc.org.

Please do not use email to discuss sensitive or confidential matters; just use the email to establish contact with the committee, and 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 Prialux

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

10:00 a.m. – 5

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 1998, reflects the welcome of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people and their friends and families.)

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

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

Development Consultant
 Irma Bauer-Levesque

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

10:00 a.m. – 6



An open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

April 16, 2017 10:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday

Seven stanzas at Easter by John Updike

Make no mistake: if He rose at all
 It was as His body;
 If the cell's dissolution did not reverse, the molecules
 reknit, the amino acids rekindle,
 The Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,
 each soft spring recurrent;
 It was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled
 eyes of the eleven apostles;
 It was as His flesh; ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes
 the same valved heart
 that—pierced—died, withered, paused, and then
 Regathered out of enduring Might
 new strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,
 analogy, sidestepping, transcendence;
 making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the
 Faded credulity of earlier ages:
 let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mâché,
 not a stone in a story,
 but the vast rock of materiality that in the slow
 grinding of time will eclipse for each of us
 the wide light of day.

And if we have an angel at the tomb,
 make it a real angel,
 weighty with Max Planck's quanta, vivid with hair,
 opaque in the dawn light, robed in real linen
 spun on a definite loom.

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,
 for our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,
 lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are
 embarrassed by the miracle,
 and crushed by remonstrance.

10:00 a.m. – 1

Easter Hymn Booklets are located in each of the pews today.

PRELUDE Trombone Concerto
Rimsky Korsakov (1844-1908)
Joseph Rondeau, Euphonium

INTROIT Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
Beethoven arr Lloyd Larsen
The Friendly Chimers, Conductor - Crosby Goshgarian

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Jim and Rev. Heike

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

OPENING PRAYER Rev. Heike

Christ is Risen, Alleluia!
Christ Is Risen Indeed, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Let us pray

ALL: O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Christ is Risen, Alleluia
Christ Is Risen Indeed, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN **Jesus Christ Is Risen Today**

TIME FOR CHILDREN Rev. Heike
Children may return to their seats after the Children's Hymn

CHILDREN'S HYMN #236(Black, New Century) **Halleluja**

ANTHEM Christ the Lord is Risen Again
Philip Stopford (b. 1977)
Stanley Normile, Trumpet

SELECTION OF READINGS

Epistle Colossians 3:1-14
So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Christ in glory.

Gospel John 20: 1-18
Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken Jesus out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, Rabbouni! (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the One who sent me. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to the One who sent me and who sends you too, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen Jesus'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

HYMN **The Strife is O'er**

SERMON "From Resistance to Resurrection" Jim Mitulski

HYMN **I Come to the Garden Alone**

COMMUNITY PRAYERS Rev. Heike
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 Easter Anthem *William Billings(1746 - 1800)*

***Doxology** tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN **The Day of Resurrection**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION This Joyful Eastertide
Hymn Tune- VRUECHTEN

POSTLUDE "Toccata" from Organ Symphony No. 5 in F Major, Op. 42 No. 1
Charles-Marie Widow

Thank you to Stanley Normile for sharing his gift of music today.

Worship Assistant: Gretchen Lanka Allen
Deacons: Paul Brown, Jean Veigas
Altar Guild: Denice Koljonen
Ushers: Mike Normile, Janet Jankowiak, Bob Everts, Jim Conroy
Flowers: Jan Drake

Please join us after the Service in Fellowship Hall for Coffee Hour or for our annual celebratory Easter Egg Hunt.

If you are attending the Easter Egg Hunt, parents and children should meet Maddie in the Chapel immediately following Worship.

School.

We are in need of 2 male chaperones who can stay overnight from 9p - 7a. Rutland is about an hour away from Needham. Please talk to Maddie if you're available - even for one night! We have lots of High School boys interested in this trip!

Please email Maddie at youth@needhamucc.org if you have any questions or can support our students by chaperoning this trip. If you have not been getting the youth ministry weekly emails, please let Maddie know and you will be added to the distribution list.

Communion Workshop Open to students in grades 2 and above
Would your student like to learn more about Communion? Why is it bread and grape juice? Why do the ministers say what they do before we eat it? Find out at the Communion Workshop!

The next workshop will be held from 6-8 p.m. on April 23rd at 11:30 a.m. If your child would like to participate, send Maddie an email at youth@needhamucc.org.

SPRING VBS Sign up for Spring VBS: Kids of the Kingdom!
Our storybook-themed VBS will offer kids the chance to be brave princesses, adventurous knights, and to explore the continuing story of God's people through arts and crafts, theater, singing, and games. Vacation Bible School is open to students in Pre-K (toilet trained) through grade 5. Tuesday, April 18 - Friday, April 21
9:30 AM - Noon; Lunch Bunch extended program, pick up by 1:00 PM
Scholarships are available. If cost would prevent your student from participating in VBS, please reach out to Maddie at youth@needhamucc.org.

Junior High Youth Group meets most Sundays from 5:00 - 6:30 PM.
Senior High Youth Group meetings are Sunday night.
Please join us from 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Stewardship & Attendance

4/9/2017 Collections* = \$ 20,030
4/2/2017 Worship Attendance = 159 People
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.

Sunday April 16th Easter	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:15 am	Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Easter Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Easter Egg Hunt
Monday April 17th Patriot's Day		Office Closed
Tuesday, April 18th	8:30 am	Vacation Bible School
Wednesday April 19th	8:30 am	Vacation Bible School
Thursday April 20th	8:30 am	Vacation Bible School
Friday April 21st	8:30 am	Vacation Bible School
Sunday April 23rd	8:15 am 8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 11:45 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:30 pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Mindfulness w/ Sue Findlay, <i>Linden Hall</i> Communion Workshop Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Youth Committee Meeting Death Café Junior High Youth Group Senior High Youth Group Interfaith Dinner Dialogues, <i>Presbyterian Church in Needham</i>
Monday April 24th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Library</i>
Tuesday April 25th	7:00 pm	Book Discussion—March Book 3, <i>1154 GPA</i> Outreach Meeting
Wednesday April 26th	7:00 pm	Book Discussion—Men and Feminism, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Sunday April 30th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 5:00 pm 6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> "She's Beautiful When She's Angry" Film, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Junior High Youth Group Senior High Youth Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

April 16, 2017



The Congregational
Church of Needham

Events & Announcements

New Directory 2017

We will be issuing a new member directory this year. If you happen to take any family pictures this Easter or during the vacation week, please send them into the church office so it can be used in the directory.

Pastoral Review Committee

If you would like to participate in the annual review of the ministers, please contact Danielle in the church office and request an electronic or paper copy of the interim senior minister survey and/or the associate minister survey. In order to have your answers considered, you must submit your signed survey(s) by May 1. If you have questions, please contact a member of the Pastoral Review Committee: Charlie Baker, Sue Cotton, Claudia Darmofal, Susan Lively, Carol Miller, Kristin Mollerus and Scott Stewart.

Interfaith Potluck Dinner at 6:30 pm on April 23, 2017

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH CONVERSATIONS AND SHARING OUR STORIES ON RACE AND RACISM POTLUCK DIALOGUE DINNER

Co-sponsored by the Needham Clergy Association & the CMM Ruah Interfaith Spirituality Program, and held at the Presbyterian Church of Needham, MA.

As we share our own stories in small groups and listen closely to others, we will work to bridge gaps in understanding and developing empathy. The program will be facilitated by Karlene Griffiths Sekou, an upcoming graduate with a M.Div. from Harvard Divinity School. She has worked at Judson Memorial Church in NYC, an active leader with Black Lives Matter, and a nationally sought after speaker and panelist. We welcome you & friends, associates and family members! Please let us know what you would like to bring for the vegetarian potluck meal: appetizer, main dish, salad, beverage, dessert.
Please RSVP to: info@coopmet.org

Interfaith, Intergenerational Common Read

You are invited to join the Congregational Church of Needham, UCC, First Baptist Church in Needham, and First Parish of Needham Unitarian Universalist for a joint book reading of *March*, by Representative John Lewis. *March* is the story of the Civil Rights Movement. You have plenty of time to read it even if you have never read a graphic novel. Be adventurous! Take a risk! The date for Book Three is as follows: **Book Three, April 25th at 7 pm** (Congregational Church of Needham)

Men and Feminism Book Discussion April 26 @ 7:00 p.m.

Many men describe themselves as feminists because they affirm the equality of women. Come join Rev. Jim in a discussion for men about feminism on Wednesday **April 26 @ 7:00 p.m.** Pick up a copy of Men and Feminism by the Chapel which we will also be using and start it, but you don't have to have finished it.

Faith Circle Book Group Meets in the Reception Room at 1154.

We will be reading Faithful by Alice Hoffman and will meet on Thursday, April 27 from 10:30-12:00 to discuss.

If you have any questions or concerns or need help obtaining a copy of the book, please email Christine Weitzel at cweitzel@verizon.net. Thanks so much and look forward to seeing you soon.

Join the August 2017 Delegation To Guatemala

Adults and youth who are interested in joining the 60th delegation to Santa Maria Tzeja (August 2-13) should contact Alan Clayton-Matthews: a.clayton-matthews@neu.edu or Bill Garrett: wgarrett@MIT.EDU by MAY 1st.

Interfaith Book Read: May 3, 2017 7:00PM

Toxic Charity—How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help

by Robert D. Lupton

This read is for Mission/Outreach/Benevolence groups of churches, temples, religious communities and anyone interested in giving to those in need in meaningful, uplifting and caring ways while minimizing any unintended negative effects of heartfelt charity. Join us on May 3, 2017 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Congregational Church of Needham.

Please come to the group having read the book. This event is free and open to the public, but we ask you to RSVP to the office at the Congregational Church of Needham (office@needhamucc.org or at 781-444-2510) to allow us to plan for seating and snacks. Books are available in the church library and at Amazon.com.

SAVE THE DATE! May 21

CELEBRATION OF FRIENDLY SOCIETY

FRIENDLY SOCIETY, as current members have known it, will close this chapter of its remarkable history after the May 21 meeting. Plans are being considered to continue the spirit and some activities of Friendly by

other church women and Reverend Heike. *Stay tuned.*

May 21, Sunday, 10 am and 11:30 am – Everyone-- Friendly members, church members and friends-- is invited to join in a celebration of Friendly Society at church. Come hear the Friendly Chimers play during the service (Be sure you're here by 10 am.), be part of the recognition of Friendly Society during church and afterwards join us for lunch and our well-loved strawberry shortcake for dessert. Music tributes will also be a part of this festive occasion.

Flower Team Opportunity

The Flower Team is looking for a special someone to take responsibility for our altar flowers for a month during the year. This person will coordinate the donation of these arrangements. In addition we decorate the church for Easter and Christmas - the most festive seasons of the year. This is a great time of fun and fellowship. If you think you might be interested contact Debbie Wentworth at bmwfac@comcast.net to find out more.

Chancel Choir

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

Volunteer Opportunities for Baby Basics

Back up Driver(s) needed to pick up/drop off diapers

When: Pick up diapers first Monday of every month and have them delivered into South Boston by 5 pm as needed.

Where: Pick up at a warehouse in Needham and deliver them to the South Boston Community Health Center in South Boston.

How often: Once a month (may be alternate months for back up drivers depending on # of diapers needed that month)

What's needed: A car/truck/van large enough to fit 15+# of cases of diapers. (If you're not sure how many you can fit, reach out and we can talk about it.) The staff @ the warehouse and the SBCHC usually help w/ loading/unloading of diapers but volunteers should be able to move them independently if needed.

Why: We rely on our diaper drivers to pick up/deliver the diapers so that we can provide these free diapers to our working, low-income families.

Interested in helping? Contact Baby Basics at info@babybasicsinc.org for more details. For more information on our program, visit www.babybasicsinc.org. Thanks!

PS – We are also looking for help with pr/social media, database management & more. Not sure how you can help? Take your skills + diapers. Email us and let's talk. Thanks!

Baby Basics—Get Involved with the Welcome Baby Bag Program at Circle of Hope

Through the Welcome Baby Program, Circle of Hope packs and delivers "Welcome Baby Bags" to Moms with newborn babies living in one of the shelters we serve. For those interested in supporting the Welcome Baby Bag program at Circle of Hope, they are hosting a collection drive to gather the contents of the Welcome Baby Bags. It is a great place to start. See below for a list of items you can collect. For more information on supporting the Welcome Baby Program, contact Carolyn at Carolyn@circleofhopeonline.org.

Each Welcome Baby Bag contains the following items:

2 Sleepers	3 Onesies	3 Socks
1 Crib Blanket	1 Receiving Blanket	1 Hat
1 Bib	2 Face Cloths	1 Towel
1 Container Baby Wash	1 Tube Diaper Cream	1-2 Baby Bottles
1 Container Baby Wipes	1 Card	

Youth Music

Sensational Summer Singing!

Opportunities to learn and perform outstanding choral music all in the span of one week don't come along very often but they will this summer in Needham. What better way to end an enjoyable summer than by spending time with other kids who also enjoy making music? That's what we'll do at the Congregational Church of Needham! This choir which is open to children ages 7 – 14 will run from 9am – 2pm from August 21 – 25. The program will include choral singing, music literacy, movement and percussion. Please contact Valerie Becker, Program Director, at musicdirector@needhamucc.org if you're interested!

Christian Education & Youth Ministries

Summer 2017 Mission Trip

Global Getaway at Heifer Farm, Rutland, MA

The High School Youth Group's annual Summer Mission Trip is heading to Heifer Farm in Rutland, MA beginning Wednesday, June 21 through Friday, June 23. This trip is open to those currently in grades 9-12.

A deposit of \$50 is due by Tuesday, April 18 to hold your students' place. Checks should be made out to "Congregational Church of Needham" with "SR High Youth Fund" in the memo line. A registration form will need to be completed along with Heifer's waivers and forms. We have space for 12 students total and need at least 8 confirmed by Tuesday, April 18.

This trip will count for 15 hours of community service learning which can be combined with other Needham UCC Youth Ministries service opportunities to fulfill your 30 hour requirement for Needham High