



Acts 2:1-21 | Pentecost

5/19 @ 10AM, LIVE ON-SITE & ONLINE

Connect @ www.NeedhamUCC.com

The Congregational Church of Needham, *United Church of Christ*

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Rev. John Gage, *senior minister*
Rev. Maddie Foster, *acting senior minister*
Valerie Becker, *director of music*
Robin Bevilacqua, *church administrator*
Cindy Sullivan, *financial administrator*
Tom Mollerus, *moderator*
Pastor-Parish Relations Committee

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May 19, 2024: Pentecost

PRELUDE *Tocatta in d minor* Pachelbel Valerie Becker, Organ

WELCOME Rev. Maddie Foster

CALL TO WORSHIP *Adapted from Lectionary Liturgies*

Kiersten: The Day of Pentecost is here!

Miles: God's children have gathered in this place:

**Many: We are transformed into God's family
by God's Spirit joining with ours.**

Kiersten: Come, Spirit of welcome and celebration,

Miles: open our hearts to our sisters and brothers:

Many: Come, Holy Spirit!

Kiersten: Come, Spirit of peace,

Miles and calm our trembling hearts:

Many: Come, Holy Spirit!

Kiersten: Come, Breath of God,

Miles: and overturn our conventional lives:

Many: Come, Holy Spirit!

**ALL: *Let us worship God together, in spirit and in truth, in
word and in deed.***

HYMN **Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us** (*see below*) NCH 264

CELEBRATING CONFIRMATION

Kiersten Blume and Miles Salerno confirm their baptismal vows

READING FROM SCRIPTURE Acts 2:1-21

SERMON "All Together in One Place" Rev. Maddie Foster

HYMN **On Pentecost They Gathered**(*see below*) NCH 272

SHARING OUR PRAYERS ("O God, hear our prayer")

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(using these or whichever words are closest to your own heart)

Our Father/Mother in heaven, holy is your name. Your reign come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANTHEM *Spirit, I Have Heard You Calling* Thew Eliot Chancel Choir

*Spirit, I have heard you calling, like a mem'ry long grown dim,
Crying from creation's moment, seeking voice from deep within.*

*I have heard you in my longing, I have heard you in my pain,
Now I feel your like within me, feel you burning like a flame.*

*Now I see you all around me, now I hear you call mu name,
Now I speak the words you give me, Now I feed creation's flame,*

*You are speaking though my longing, You are speaking through my pain,
Now I feel your life within me, and I'll never be the same.*

*Since you moved upon my waters, since you spoke and set me free,
I have yearned for this communion, for your fire inside of me!*

*Now your love defines my longing, Now your love shines through my pain.
Now we dance in endless union, singing out creation's name.*

PARTNERING IN THE GOOD NEWS

SINGING OUR THANKS AND PRAISE

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, you heavenly hosts

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

*Would you like to make this congregation your church home?
Would you like to know more about what it means to be a member here?
Reach out to Rev. Maddie at revmaddie@needhamucc.org*



Kids'N'Church

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship!

Quiet books and pew pals (soft toys) are available in our **family room**, just outside the sanctuary, where you'll also find a cozy couch, big toy box, and a speaker that broadcasts the service. All bathrooms have **changing tables**. Our **Nursery** is available for infants & toddlers when volunteers are available. **Sunday School** (for children in older Pre-K through Grade 5) and **Youth Group** (grades 6-12) are both offered during our 10am worship service, typically on the 2nd & 4th Sundays. All children and youth remain in the sanctuary with their families to share **communion** (as parents decide), usually on the first Sunday of the month.

Have questions about our Children's and Youth Ministries?

Check in with Rev. Maddie after the service or email

[**RevMaddie@NeedhamUCC.org**](mailto:RevMaddie@NeedhamUCC.org)



Your offering makes a difference.

There are many ways to give if you feel called to participate in the ministry of this congregation financially. You can leave a cash or check offering in the collection plate in the foyer outside the sanctuary. Paypal, credit, or debit card donations can be made online at:

[**www.NeedhamUCC.org/giving**](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org/giving)

Thank you for your generous contributions to support the work of our congregation and our ministry partners in our community and around the world.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS: May 19, 2024



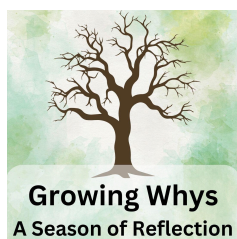
We Need YOU to Teach Sunday School & Youth Group!

We strive to offer Sunday School, Youth Group, and a Nursery at least twice a month. We rely on the time and talents of volunteers to hold classes. If volunteers are not available, a one-room-schoolhouse may be offered instead, with no nursery care.

Sign up at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/CEYouth2324>

Sunday, June 9: SS - Needs 2 volunteers YG - Needs 1-2 Nursery - Needs 2

Sunday, June 16: SS - Needs 2 volunteers YG - Needs 1-2 Nursery - Needs 2



Growing Whys: A Season of Reflection

Contribute your intention to our “Growing Whys” beginning April 21!

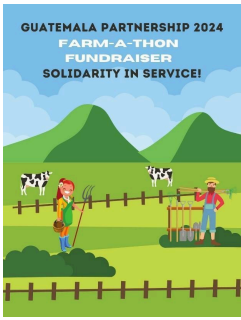
Our preaching teams have reflected on the “whys” of their ministries within our church community. Now you are invited to set an intention for yourself and the ways you hope to grow in relationship and engage in the life and ministry of the church. Write your intention on the leaf post-its provided during worship and add it to our tree or message the Zoom greeter and they can add one for you. *In the fall, you’ll be invited to reflect on the ways you’ve lived into that intention, or ways you understand your intention in a new way. You may wish to hold on to some symbol, photo, or small token of your intention from your summer months to bring back and share.*



TODAY: Welcome Back BBQ for Rev. John!

Sunday, May 19 @ 11:11, Fellowship Hall

Join us for worship and fellowship on Sunday, May 19 when we welcome Rev. John back from sabbatical (and celebrate Confirmation and Pentecost!) with a big BBQ! Salad and vegetarian sides available as well as cake (and gluten free cake!). Need a peanut-safe sandwich or cupcake? See Rev. Maddie and McCoy 😊



Guatemala 'Farm-a-Thon' Fundraiser

Saturday, June 1st, 9am-Noon

ALL are invited to join our third annual 'Farm-a-thon' fundraiser at the Natick Community Organic Farm. We are seeking volunteers from both the Congregational Church of Needham and the First Congregational Church of Natick to collaborate in this event. ALL funds raised by participants will support education and development in Santa María Tzejá. Participants will raise pledges from family and friends to support their day of volunteering. As we approach the summer, this is a great way to celebrate our earth and support our friends both globally and locally.

TO REGISTER for this event: Contact Brenda Metzler at bmetzler7@verizon.net. TO DONATE to the Needham Team: 1) Send in a check payable to the Congregational Church of Needham, memo: "Guatemala Farm-a-thon"; or 2) Donate online via PayPal at www.NeedhamUCC.org; Select 'Guatemala Farm-a-thon' from the drop-down menu. Thank you.



Looking for Grocery Shoppers:

The Outreach Committee works with Baby Basics in supplying protein grocery items on a bimonthly basis. When the families come to pick up their diapers, we also give them 8 cans of tuna, 2 large cans of chicken, 2 large jars of peanut butter and 2 bags of dried beans. We usually provide for 10-13 families. Could you help us every other month or whatever time works for you to help us gather these items? Please reach out to Sue Cotton at mscotton59@gmail.com to be added to the list of shoppers. Thank you.



NEEDHAM HAS PRIDE: Join us for a "family-sized" RALLY! MARCH! & PARTY!

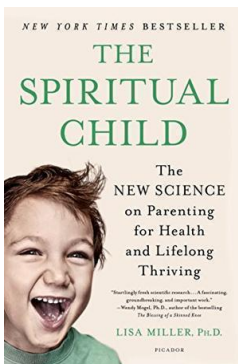
Sunday, June 16 @ 2-4pm

beginning at First Parish in Needham, UU,
23 Dedham Ave

ending at The Congregational Church of
Needham, UCC, 1154 Great Plain Ave,

Needham gathers for a "family-sized"
celebration to show love for, support of, and
pride in our LGBTQ+ neighbors, especially

queer families and the youngest among us. Please wear your favorite all-ages-friendly Pride outfit and bring your signs of support!

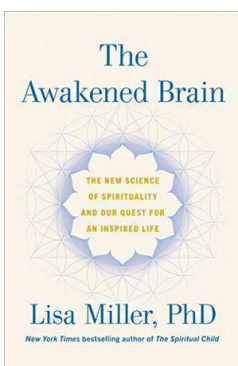


Summer Reading Groups: **The Spiritual Child & The Awakened Brain**

You're invited to join the Christian Education committee and our friends at Wellesley Hills Congregational Church in two reads this summer. *The Spiritual Child* will be offered to parents of young children, while *The Awakened Brain* is offered to folks across the lifespan. Both groups will have

the opportunity to meet via Zoom to chat about what you've uncovered in your reading.

Parents reading *The Spiritual Child* will meet on the second Tuesdays at 7pm (June 11, July 9, August 13) and folks reading *The Awakened Brain* will meet with Rev. Maddie on the third Tuesdays at 7pm (June 18, July 16, August 20). Dr. Miller will join us in Wellesley (and on Zoom) in September to discuss her work.



“Hundreds of books discuss parenting issues, but *The Spiritual Child* is a special resource with a focus on fostering children’s spiritual lives. Perceptive, thought-provoking, and heavily researched, this is a valuable book for anyone interested in spiritual development in children, adolescents, and families.” – Gretchen Rubin, #1 NYT best selling author of *The Happiness Project*

“Dr. Miller is a consummate scientist who refuses to accept one of our culture’s most pervasive and damaging assumptions: that science and spirituality are at odds. She unequivocally shows that spirituality heals.”—Larry Dossey, MD, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Healing Words*



Annual Ministerial Review Survey Coming Soon

The Ministerial Review Team is preparing to send out its annual surveys for both ministers. Rev. Maddie's will be available on Sunday May 19, and Rev. John's will come out shortly after his return. Links to the surveys will be provided in weekly emails and Sunday bulletins, and hard copies will be available in the church office. Your feedback is very important to the ongoing growth and well-being of our Ministers and our Congregation, so we highly encourage you to participate.

HOLY SPIRIT, COME, CONFIRM US

Holy Spirit, come, confirm us
in the truth that Christ makes known;
We have faith and understanding
through your helping gifts alone.

Holy Spirit, come, console us,
come as advocate to plead;
Loving Spirit stand beside us,
grant in Christ the help we need.

Holy Spirit, come, renew us,
come yourself to make us live;
Make us holy through your presence,
holy through the gifts you give.

Holy Spirit, come, fulfill us,
you the love of Three in One;
Bring our lives to full completion
through your work in us begun.

ON PENTECOST THEY GATHERED

On Pentecost they gathered quite early in the day,
a band of Christ's disciples to worship, sing and pray,
A mighty wind came flowing, filled all the swirling air,
and tongues of fire a glowing inspired each person there.

The people all around them were startled and amazed
to understand their language, as God in Christ they praised.
What universal message, what great good news was here?
That Christ, once dead, is risen to vanquish all our fear.

God pours the Holy Spirit on all who would believe,
on women, men, and children who would God's grace receive.

That Spirit knows no limit, be stowing life and power.
The church, formed and reforming, responds in every hour.

O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago,
rekindle faith among us in all life's ebb and flow.
O give us hearts to listen and tongues a flame with praise,
so folk of every nation glad songs of joy shall raise.