



# NeedhamUCC

FOCUS Newsletter • March 2022

Dear Friends,

The church season of Lent that begins on Ash Wednesday and leads us to Easter is many things: a time to pay closer attention to the life and example of Jesus as he moves through ministry, trials, death, and resurrection; a time for reflection, repentance, and recommitment to the Way of Jesus, the way of justice, peace, and compassion; a time for remembering we are only human *and* God loves us with an unshakeable love; and a time for letting go of unhealthy and unhelpful ways of living and trying on new ways and new practices to help us grow more fully into the people God calls us to be.

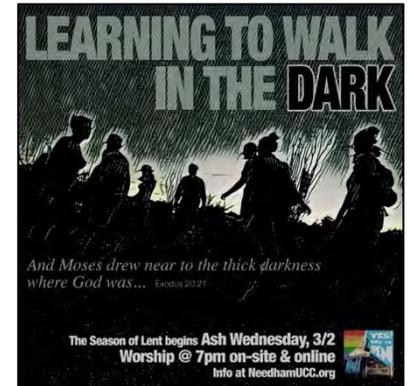
Our Lenten theme this year is “**Learning to Walk in the Dark**,” taken from the title of our Lenten book study, *Learning to Walk in the Dark: Because Sometimes God Shows Up at Night* by Barbara Brown Taylor. We’ll spend this season exploring our relationship with darkness, unpacking the cultural baggage we’ve hidden there, and seeking to join Jesus in his 40-days sojourn with God in the darkness of the wilderness. And when we come at last to Easter Sunday, we’ll remember that, according to the Gospels, *resurrection takes place in the dark, too*.

There are lots of ways to observe Lent in our life together as church, some of which are listed here while others can be found throughout this newsletter:

**Ash Wednesday:** We’ll gather for worship for **Ash Wednesday, 3/2 @ 7pm, on-site and online in our usual Zoom space at <http://zoom.us/j/907548568>**. We’ll share holy communion as well as the *imposition of ashes* and *anointing with oil* to remind us of our humanity and God’s love. The ash crosses remind us that, limited as we are, God is not, for God may be found in daylight and darkness, Easter and Good Friday alike, and God loves us without limit. In addition, you should all have received by mail **temporary tattoo crosses**. We invite you to try putting one on your hand or your wrist, someplace you can see it, and wearing it throughout the day. If you feel so moved, you can text Rev. John a photo of your cross at (781) 786-9689 or email it to him at [revjohn@needhamucc.org](mailto:revjohn@needhamucc.org).

**Book Study:** As individuals and communities, as a nation and a community of nations around the world, we have been through a dark time in the past two years of the COVID pandemic, a time that is not quite over and whose effects we’ll be feeling for a long time to come. That’s why the Deacons enthusiastically chose Barbara Brown Taylor’s *Learning to Walk in the Dark* as our Lenten book study this year the moment they heard the subtitle: *Because Sometimes God Shows Up at Night*. In it, the author confesses that what she calls “solar Christianity,” faith focused on relentless, even toxic positivity, and its flipside, making darkness and “dark feelings” sinful, just doesn’t work for her. So she spends time exploring the dark and our relationship with the dark, only to find that, rather than being the simple, terrible absence of good and God, darkness, while challenging, can be rich, fertile, beautiful, and even holy. She describes a kind of “lunar Christianity” that more honestly accounts for seasons of varying light and dark in our lives.

**We hope you’ll pick up a copy of the book, read along, and join us for a series of conversations about it Thursdays during Lent beginning 3/7 either noon-1pm or 7:30-8:30pm.** Our schedule will be: 3/10 - Intro & Chapter 1; 3/17 - Ch.2 & 3; 3/24 - Ch.4 & 5; 3/31 - Ch.6 & 7; and 4/7 - Ch.8 & 9. We’ll meet in our usual Zoom



space at <http://zoom.us/j/907548568>. Feel free to attend either meeting as fits your schedule week by week.

UPDATE: We'll be joined in these conversations by some of our neighbors from **The Brighton-Allson Congregational Church**.

We've got a few hard copies of the book on hand at the church for \$15. Simply reach out to Rev. John at [revjohn@needhamucc.org](mailto:revjohn@needhamucc.org) or call the church office to reserve one. You can order one from Bookshop.org by [clicking here](#) and support your local independent bookstore at the same time. You can reach out to your local library for a copy or download it from Kindle, where it's currently free for subscribers.

Again, there are more opportunities to observe Lent in the pages that follow for individuals and families, adults and children. **We hope you will embrace this season not as a you-have-to but as a we-get-to, a gift for your heart, mind, body, and spirit.**

Peace,

Rev. John MacIver Gage & Rev. Maddie Foster

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## Add Your Voice to the Building Vision!

Late last year, our church's Board of Directors established the Building Vision Team to look down the road and imagine how we might use our building in the not-so-distant future. Our building was designed for a time and a way of being church that has changed so much, and not just due to COVID. While the Property Team is tending to the needs of our physical plant in the present, the Building Vision Team is planning for the structural changes we need to make in order to help it help us move forward.

Toward that end, we need your input. The Building Vision Team invites you to two after-church conversations in March focused on our three core questions:

**3/13 @ 11:11am: 1. How do we make the building work better for our own internal programming?** *What physical constraints have held us back in the past? What changes would make our programming work better?*

**3/27 @ 11:11am: 2. How do we make the building work better as an instrument of mission in our community beyond the church?** *How can we invest in our building in order to better support local organizations and issues we believe in?* **AND 3. How do we make the building work better to support the life of the church financially?** *What can we do to make our space more appealing to short- and long-term renters?*

These conversations will help us define our needs, identify our objectives, and develop strategies to move forward. **PLEASE JOIN US.** Your voice and your vision are important. *Both sessions will be hybrid, simultaneously on-site and online in our usual Zoom space at <http://zoom.us/j/907548568>.*

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## Bless Our Music Ministry in March

### So It Can Continue to Bless Us

When you ask folks who've been a part of our church community for almost any time at all what stands out to them about our life together, particularly our worship life, they're likely to mention the music: beautiful, moving music that lifts us up and helps us lift our hearts up to God together.

There are so many moving parts of our music ministry—Chancel Choir, Once in a While Choir, Friendly Chimers, Youth Choir, so many volunteer singers and instrumentalists who share their time and talents so generously—and all of them expertly orchestrated by our Music Director, Valerie Becker.

And for many years, a core support for this ministry has been our paid singer program. These professional singers have supported the members of the chancel choir with not only their voices but also their patient teaching of parts; and, of course, they're there in worship even when scheduling conflicts mean our own volunteers can't be.

As you may remember from our last two annual congregational meetings, budget cuts aimed at making our church financial life more sustainable have cut funding for these paid singers. Some moneys were restored this year, but not all. So to help us build a culture of active support for music in our congregation, **the Music Team asks you to make a donation to our supplemental music fund this March.**

Please think about how much the music ministry of our congregation has meant... means... to you, all the ways it enriches our spiritual life as a church, and give generously. You can send a check to the church office with "Supplemental Music Fund" in the memo line or give easily and safely online on our website, [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org). Click on the PayPal link and select "Supplemental Music Fund" from the drop-down menu. Thank you!



## From the Environmental Ministry Team: EARTH JAM

This Lent, instead of *giving something up*, the Environmental Ministry Team invites you to *take on a creation-friendly lifestyle change*. Our hope is that these changes may become permanent and positive for you, your family, and the planet. Grass-root efforts really do make a difference! **Here are some suggestions for changes you can make:**

- Replace liquid soap in plastic containers with bar soap. Replace liquid laundry detergent with laundry sheets.
- Take along your own bamboo straw instead of using paper or plastic.
- Phase out single-use plastics or plastic wrap in the kitchen and use glass jars, silicon lids, and beeswax wraps instead.
- Compost food waste at home and use in the garden or bring to your local recycling center.
- Use LED light bulbs.
- or GO BIG and install a heat pump, an on-demand water heater, or solar panels (or consider using community solar, such as Clearway Community Solar).

In order to help all our members share their changes, we have created a sort of **virtual community white board via Google Jamboard** (see instructions below) where you can "post a sticky" for each change you intend to make. We encourage you to share this opportunity with church friends and family members, including children. **On Earth Day Sunday (April 24) we will celebrate** all these little changes that add up. We'll also award a special book prize for achievement and creativity in each age group (6-11, 12-18, and 19+).

### Now here's how to use our "NeedhamUCC Lenten Earth Jam" Jamboard:

1. **Go to this link:** <http://shorturl.at/ehsR2>
2. Click on the sticky-note icon on the left-hand side tool bar and write your **name, age, and the lifestyle change you intend to make** for Lent. *Parents, we encourage you to work with your child to help them make their own sticky.* You can return to the Jamboard anytime to check out other people's stickies and update yours.
3. **By Easter Sunday, 4/17**, go back to the Jamboard and update your stickies to share how well you've done making those changes.

*If you are not comfortable with computers, you may call-in your change to Diane Dana in the church office at (781) 444-2510.*

If you have any questions please email Carol Brown ([walshbrown1@gmail.com](mailto:walshbrown1@gmail.com)) or Jenni Haynes ([jennihaynes@comast.net](mailto:jennihaynes@comast.net)) or feel free to talk to any other EMT member: Isabel Wells, Carla Verschoor-Kirss, Rick Devereaux, and Anne Hayek.

*the journey begins*  
**IN THE WILD DARK**  
*Luke 4:1-13*

**3/6 @ 10am LIVE! on-site & online**  
 Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)

**THE ONES**  
  
**THE MANY**

Luke 13:31-35  
**3/13 @ 10am, LIVE! On-Site & Online**  
 Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)

What's the difference between just & unjust suffering?

Luke 13:1-9  
**3/20 @ 10am, LIVE! On-Site & Online**  
 Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)

**All Too Familiar**

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32  
**3/27 @ 10am, LIVE! On-Site & Online**  
 Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)

*The Scent of Holiness*

John 12:1-8  
**4/3 @ 10am, LIVE! On-Site & Online**  
 Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)

What would the stones say?

Palm Sunday: Luke 19:28-40  
**4/10 @ 10am, LIVE! On-Site & Online**  
 Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)

**GATHERED ON THE EDGE**

Maunder Thursday  
**4/14 @ 7pm, LIVE! On-Site & Online**  
 Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)

**EXPOSED**

Good Friday  
**4/15 Vigil from Noon, Worship @ 7pm**  
 On-Site @ Online, Connect at [NeedhamUCC.org](http://NeedhamUCC.org)

*While it was still dark*

Easter Sunday  
**4/17 @ 10am, LIVE! On-Site & Online**  
 Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)

## IN WORSHIP: LENT THROUGH EASTER

- 3/6 “The Journey Begins in the Wild Dark” (Luke 4:1-13)** Our Lenten journey begins when we follow Jesus into the wilderness. And as long as his days alone there were, it’s sure the nights were longer. The wild, and especially the wild dark, is a place where all bets are off. It’s where we meet the Devil, God, and ourselves. *Rev. John to preach. We will share holy communion.*
- 3/13 “The Ones and The Many” (Luke 13:31-35)** It’s said that charity is pulling drowning people out of the river, while justice is walking upstream to stop whoever’s throwing them in. The trick, of course, is to do both, to help individuals and change systems; to do just one or the other leaves too many people open to harm. But how, Jesus, how? *Rev. John to preach.*
- 3/20 “What’s the Difference Between Just & Unjust Suffering?” (Luke 13:1-9)** Even in Jesus’ day, people wondered why bad things happened to good people, or when they did, were those people maybe not really all that good in the first place? Maybe they deserved it? But maybe rather than worrying about finding the right people to blame, we should work on finding the right way to live... and die. *Rev. John to preach.*
- 3/27 “All Too Familiar” (Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32)** The Parable of the Prodigal Son: Even if you’ve never read it, you likely know it, this story about a father and his two sons, one dutiful, one wild, one grateful, one resentful. But which is which? The all-too familiar dynamics of this dysfunctional family drama mean we may have to listen extra hard to hear what it has to say to us today. *Rev. Maddie to preach.*
- 4/3 “The Smell of Holiness (John 12:1-8)** As his coming conflict with the authorities looms large, a woman spends the time and the money to anoint Jesus with precious oil in an act of pure devotion. Yet one of the disciples—let’s call him J.I.—objects on the grounds that her money should have been spent on something more productive. But sometimes the very best we can do is stop and smell the holiness. *Rev. John to preach.*
- 4/10 PALM SUNDAY: “What Would the Stones Say?” (Luke 19:28-40)** Luke’s version of Palm Sunday has no palms and no hosannas. What it does have, though, is a particularly prickly interaction between Jesus, his disciples, and the Pharisees, where Jesus says “If these were silent, the stones would shout out.” Leaving us to wonder, What *would* the stones say—about us and our living out of the Gospel? *Rev. John to preach.*
- 4/14 MAUNDY THURSDAY: “Gathered on the Edge” (Luke 22:1-23)** We remember Jesus’ last night with his disciples, and his last supper, where he washed their feet and encourage them in a “new commandment,” that they should love one another. And then, as Jesus lets go of certainty and control to enter into his long, “dark night of the soul,” he leaves them with a powerful, prophetic memory of his purpose: to point us toward the Way and Reign of God on earth, as it is in heaven. *We will share a sign of foot-washing and holy communion.*
- 4/15 GOOD FRIDAY: “Exposed”** In observation of this powerful day in our collective Christian memory, we are invited to keep vigil, to stay near the cross, near Jesus, and pray throughout the day, from noon until 7pm, at which time we will gather on-site and online for a brief service of prayer. Look for more info coming about how to sign up to help keep watch, either in the sanctuary or via Zoom, one hour at time.
- 4/17 EASTER SUNDAY: “While It Was Still Dark” (John 20:1-18)** 1am. 2am 3am. Technically, these are early morning hours, but as anyone who’s woken up then knows, it is still quite dark. Sometimes only the clock tells you it’s the morning and not midnight. The Gospel According to John is clear that, just as a new day is born in the dark, whatever resurrection is, it’s something that begins while it is still dark. Let’s put our “learning to walk in the dark” skills to work and follow the faithful women to the tomb and have a look for ourselves. *Rev. John to preach.*

# CHILDREN & YOUTH



## FAMILY MINISTRIES (PRE-K - GRADE 5)

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will continue to offer Sunday School options for students in Pre-K through Grade 5 both on-site and on-line. Both options follow the same themes so you'll never miss a lesson no matter where you are! In addition, older videos and activities in our Google Drive will be available throughout the unit to go back and visit.

### LENTEN SUNDAY SCHOOL THEME: *DECODING HOPE*

Our Lenten theme for Sunday School is *Decoding Hope*. Together we will learn about hope in lots of different ways, and we will have a special friend to help us learn! Hope is a little bear who wants to help us learn about Lent and what it means to be hopeful even when things feel scary or hard. We have ordered a Hope bear for every student in Sunday School. **Please email [RevMaddie@NeedhamUCC.org](mailto:RevMaddie@NeedhamUCC.org) with your delivery address and the names of children** who will receive the hope bears and we will deliver (in Needham) or mail (outside of Needham) your Hope bears to your family.



#### Online:

Visit our Sunday School-at-Home Google Drive folder for printable activities and short (less than 5 minutes) videos on each week's Bible story or theme. There is a coloring page for each week, as well as additional printable activities that may range from word searches to color-and-cut crafts to print and assemble.

**Sunday School-at-Home: [bit.ly/3rVF4i3](https://bit.ly/3rVF4i3)**

#### On-Site:

Our on-site classroom is a one-room class. Children are seated by household and masks are required. Disposable child-size masks are available in the classroom if needed. Our on-site Sunday school dates for Lent are:

- **Sunday, March 13**
- **Sunday, March 27**
- **Sunday, April 10**

## LENTEN DEVOTIONAL FOR FAMILIES

This printable devotional offers families an easy, at-home activity to do together each week of Lent. Print your own here: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h3YWF\\_fjHanO5uL2lu2ab8zDbiNjoHKP/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h3YWF_fjHanO5uL2lu2ab8zDbiNjoHKP/view?usp=sharing)

Or email Rev. Maddie to have a copy printed and delivered to you.

## VIVE L'EGG HUNT!

### Saturday, April 9 @ 9:00 AM - RSVP REQUIRED

Our Egg Hunt is back! Join us in-person on the church lawn on Saturday, April 9 at 9:00 A.M. to hunt for treat-filled eggs! Egg hunts will be divided by age groups, Pre-K & Kindergarten; Grades 1 & 2; and Grades 3, 4, & 5. Masks are required for all children and adults. RSVP online at [bit.ly/3Bq1ZoF](http://bit.ly/3Bq1ZoF)



## YOUTH MINISTRIES (GRADES 6-12)

### YOUTH GROUP (Grades 6-12)

Youth Group activities are open to both junior and senior high students. During Lent we will have opportunities to meet both on-site and on-line.

#### Online:

We will gather online to share our highs and lows, and to play games via JackBox. Make sure to have two devices (one for zoom and one with a web browser to play games). Email Rev. Maddie for the Zoom link for our online youth group or check your weekly email!

- Sunday, March 6
- Sunday, March 20
- Sunday, April 10

#### On-site:

- **Sunday, March 13: Snow-tubing (off-site)**, Nashoba Valley Snow Tube Park, Time TBA; this outing will cost \$40 per person - if this activity is cost prohibitive, please email Rev. Maddie. Nashoba Valley lists their available times a week in advance. If you are interested in this activity, please hold the whole day until 6 PM and email [RevMaddie@NeedhamUCC.org](mailto:RevMaddie@NeedhamUCC.org) to save your space. Drivers/chaperones are needed. *RSVP deadline is February 28.*
- **Sunday, March 27: Egg Hunt Packing Party! 12:30 - 3PM** with outdoor picnic lunch at 12:30 (if you would like to skip in-person eating, please arrive at 1:00 PM)
- **Saturday, April 9: Volunteer at our Egg Hunt** (volunteers 8:30-10:30 AM)

## CONFIRMATION (Grades 9 & 10)

Are you interested in an in-person Confirmation class experience? Students in grades 9 & 10 are invited to participate in our March Confirmation class. The class will meet every Tuesday in March at 7:00 PM. In the event of inclement weather, we will meet via Zoom. If your student is interested in this opportunity, *please email Rev. Maddie to register:* [RevMaddie@NeedhamUCC.org](mailto:RevMaddie@NeedhamUCC.org).

## From the Guatemala Partnership

### Partner Family Letters Sent on Valentine's Day!

Appropriately, 90 partner-family letters and 24 scholarship student letters arrived via e-mail to SMT's Computer Center on Valentine's Day - a perfect arrival date to communicate the love, connection, and support shared through the exchange of these letters twice a year.

Since the last four delegations have had to be conducted virtually via on-line meetings with village groups, rather than in person, the partner family component of the Partnership has been critical to keeping up the engagement between our families and helping us maintain perspective on the similarities and differences in the challenges we face during this extended pandemic period.

*Thanks to all the letter writers* who share their interest and their lives *and to the translators* who competently convert the letters from English to Spanish. Also, *our special thanks to Carmen Reyes in the SMT Computer Center* who prints out and packages each of your letters for distribution.



*Monument to genocide victims in Santa María Tzejá*

### Memory and Justice After 40 Years

This February 15th marked the 40th anniversary of the massacre committed by the Guatemalan army against our sister community. Santa María commemorated the event with a church service, a public recounting of the tragedy, a special meal, dance performances, and a historical play by the youth.

Fortuitously, on the same day as the commemoration, a Guatemalan court ordered General Mendoza García, former Chief of Military Operations, to stand trial for genocide and crimes against humanity committed against Indigenous Maya civilians. After decades of insisting that their stories be heard and the crimes be prosecuted, genocide survivors are hoping to achieve a measure of justice and closure.

### Educational Update and Covid Concerns

In Santa María Tzejá, the middle school has successfully launched in-person classes for the 2022 school year while the elementary school is set to begin in mid-February, per government scheduling. At latest count, 68% of SMT's eligible population - about half of the community overall - has been vaccinated against Covid. Moderna, Pfizer, Sputnik, and Astra-Zeneca vaccines, including boosters, are widely available across the country, though children under age 12 are currently not eligible. Omicron is now the dominant Covid strain in the country. Currently a number of cases of colds and 'flu' are circulating in the village, but with the closest testing an hour away, one can only assume that at least some of these cases are Covid of the Omicron variety.

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## BAKE or BUY (or Both!)

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### THIS FUNDRAISER IS NOT HALF-BAKED!

#### *Support the Guatemala Partnership at an Easter Bake Sale*

-By Nora Slosser, 10th Grader

As you may know, Needham High School students must complete 60 hours of community service. When I contemplated this requirement, my mind immediately turned to the Guatemala Partnership. For the past seven years, I've held a lemonade stand at the annual Guatemala Yard Sale, and in 8th grade I organized a successful Thanksgiving Bake Sale for the Partnership. I truly enjoy contributing something of my own creation to this beloved organization, and everyone in the Partnership has been so supportive. These projects also have special meaning for me since my family has always had a pen pal family in Santa María Tzejá.

So, fast forward to 2022, when I approached Brenda Metzler to sponsor my NHS community service project to benefit the Guatemala Partnership. She kindly agreed, and together with Reverend Maddie, we are bringing my vision of an on-line Easter Bake Sale auction to life! We hope you will join us in supporting the Guatemala Partnership in one or both of the following ways:



- **DONATE A BAKED GOOD:** Please contact [nora@slosser.net](mailto:nora@slosser.net) with the name of the baked item, a full description of it, and a photo if possible. *Drop-off for baked goods will be on Saturday, April 16, between 3-4 pm at the Noah's Ark/Choir door.*
- **BUY A BAKED GOOD:** Bid (early and often) on the auction site: [https://www.32auctions.com/Easter Bake Sale 2022](https://www.32auctions.com/Easter_Bake_Sale_2022). The auction will go live on April 1st and close on April 15th. *Pickup will be after church at the Noah's Ark/Choir door on Easter Sunday, April 17, from 11 am to noon.* The door is accessible via the parking lot on Linden Street.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Please spread the word (and the frosting!)**

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## SPREAD THE WORD (And the Frosting!)

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## OPEN AND AFFIRMING (ONA) MINISTRY TEAM

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH IS EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR

Most broadcast TV networks (e.g. ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS) carry significant and varied programming for Black History Month. In addition, other networks and streaming services (such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, HBO) and cable services (Xfinity, Verizon, etc.) offer quality Black programming. You can search using words like "Black Experience," "Black Stories" or "Civil Rights Movement." There is an added benefit in that you can access many of these *On Demand* past Black History Month.

### What Else Can I Do?

There are many significant historic places to visit in Boston and the ONA Ministry Team plans to connect you with these opportunities over the next few months.

### TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY MARCH 31

International Transgender Day of Visibility is an annual event occurring on March 31 dedicated to celebrating transgender people and raising awareness of discrimination faced by transgender people worldwide, as well as a celebrating their contributions to society.



### Consider becoming a Sunday worship Greeter!

Are you missing interaction with church friends and acquaintances? The Church Greeter team (formerly "ushers") is looking for two people each week who are available a few Sunday mornings, who are friendly and who want to get involved in church again. No prior experience required.

Use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c44acae2ea31-winter>

Contact Sue Turner with questions: [suegturner1@comcast.net](mailto:suegturner1@comcast.net).

## Rental Income

The lease was signed with Charles River Ballet Academy to rent the chapel for ballet instruction. The very thin dance floor will be installed over the summer and classes will begin in September. CRBA is a proven quality tenant in other churches in town and we look forward to a long, mutually beneficial relationship.

## Fundraisers for the Operating Budget— All Hands On Deck!

Please contact Carol Oberle or Maggie Fieldsteel at [fleamarche@needhamucc.org](mailto:fleamarche@needhamucc.org) if you can assist with **Flea Marché on Saturday, June 11**. We will need folks to organize and price yard sale items, support the craft vendors, and staff the yard sale areas. If you think we should expand the bake sale area or sell hotdogs or another food item, please contact them as well.

## Building Vision Team

The team seeks your input on the use of our building. One area under consideration is increasing our rentals of Linden and Fellowship Halls since social distancing for private events is in demand. What would our parameters be for such use (including our alcohol policy)? Please see the Building Vision Team announcement in this issue regarding after-worship discussion forums in March.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judith Stewart, Moderator

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A promotional graphic for a Flea Marché event. The background is a light-colored wooden plank wall. In the top right corner, there are pink and white hydrangea flowers. In the bottom left corner, there are three glass bottles (one blue, one brown, one clear). The text is arranged as follows: "SAVE THE DATE!" in pink, bold, sans-serif font; "Saturday ♣ June 11, 9am-1pm" in black, sans-serif font; "Flea" in large, black, serif font; "Marché" in large, pink, cursive font; "yard sale treasures, crafts, & treats" in black, sans-serif font; "Itching to help?" in pink, sans-serif font; "We need you. Let's talk." in black, sans-serif font; and "Email revjohn@needhamucc.org" in black, sans-serif font.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Saturday ♣ June 11, 9am-1pm

# Flea *Marché*

yard sale treasures, crafts, & treats

**Itching to help?**  
We need you. Let's talk.  
Email [revjohn@needhamucc.org](mailto:revjohn@needhamucc.org)

The hour we lose  
**March 13** was  
the one when I was  
planning to go  
to church.



*Remember!*

## Daylight Saving Time

### Starts March 13

Make sure to “spring forward” and set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday (or do what Rev. John does and stay up late watching anxiously to make sure they change on their own) so you won’t be late to church, or to whatever else you have planned on Sunday.

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**FOCUS newsletter contributions are always welcome!**

**Our next submission deadline (for the April issue) will be:  
Wednesday, March 23, 2022**

Please submit materials by e-mail to [office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org)

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Rev. John MacIver Gage, *senior minister* .....[revjohn@needhamucc.org](mailto:revjohn@needhamucc.org)  
Rev. Maddie Foster, *minister for Christian education & youth* . [revmaddie@needhamucc.org](mailto:revmaddie@needhamucc.org)  
Valerie Becker, *music director* ..... [musicdirector@needhamucc.org](mailto:musicdirector@needhamucc.org)  
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Judith Stewart, *moderator* ..... [moderator@needhamucc.org](mailto:moderator@needhamucc.org)  
Board of Deacons: Jodie Kuhlman, *chair* ..... [deacons@needhamucc.org](mailto:deacons@needhamucc.org)  
Pastoral Relations Committee ..... [prc@needhamucc.org](mailto:prc@needhamucc.org)

**The Congregational Church of Needham (MA), United Church of Christ**

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