

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NATICK

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



**LOVE IS  
LOUDER**  
Love Your Neighbor **OUT LOUD**

## Land Acknowledgement

We gather, acknowledging the land we are on, the rocks and waters of this land, the plants and animals of this land, the air we share.

We also acknowledge the original people of this land, including the Nipmuc, Pawtucket, and Massa-adchu-es-et People(s), and all those who have walked on this land before us, as well as our own ancestors.

We remember ourselves as part of a web extending back in time, forward in time, and in every direction in time.



# Welcome To Worship at FCC Natick!

It doesn't matter to us if you grew up in a church or never set foot in one before. You matter to us. We welcome you as you are, because we believe that we are all embraced by God's inclusive and extravagant love.

As a congregation, we strive to practice radical inclusivity and extravagant hospitality. When we gather for worship, we want everyone to have access, to be comfortable, and feel welcomed.

If you are new here, we invite you to introduce yourself to the pastor, and fill out the card in the *Welcome Newcomers* brochure and place it in the offering plate so that we can extend a more personal welcome!

To help you worship with comfort and meaning:

- We invite you to change any portion of today's service to language in which you feel included. We welcome all into God's presence and worship God in wholeness.
- **Large Print Bibles and worship bulletins** are available from the ushers. The bulletin is also available in digital form using the weekly QR code.
- **Noise cancelling headphones** are available from the ushers.
- *Listen Everywhere* app is supported. (Download to a smartphone, bring headphones.)

**Childcare for infants through age 3** is available. There is a video link to the sanctuary for parents who wish to stay with their child. There is a changing station in the nursery.

- **Verbal cues** are used along with the bulletin text to direct the congregation. For instance, "Please rise in body or in spirit."
- Our building is **handicap accessible**. This includes handicap parking spaces, a handicap entrance near the lot, an all-floors handicap elevator, and handicap restrooms on 2 floors.
- There is a **gender-neutral bathroom** on the second floor.
- There is an **Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)** on the wall on the ground floor elevator lobby. When turned on, it provides step-by-step instructions.
- **Narcan** doses are available via the ushers or the church office.

We realize that our best intentions and efforts may sometimes fall short. Please let us know if there is anything else we can do. Speak to an usher or drop a note in a collection plate.

Love demands expression.  
It will not stay still, stay silent, be good,  
be modest, be seen and not heard, no.  
It will break out in tongues of praise,  
the high note that smashes the glass and spills the liquid.

*- Jeanette Winterson*

**PRELUDE**

*Largo*  
Thomas Foster, organ

G.F. Handel

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Cindy Worthington-Berry

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Myriam Jennings

One: Fear is loud.

**All: Love is louder!**

One: Oppression is loud.

**All: Love is louder!**

One: Hate is loud.

**All: Love is louder!**

One: Let's let the world know –

**All: Love is louder!**

**\* OPENING HYMN 78      THERE IS LOVE ALL AROUND YOU**

**LOVE**

There is love all around you, there is joy on the wind.  
Stretch your hand to your brother, and new life will begin.  
Stretch your hand to your sister, and new life will begin!

There is peace if we seek it, there is truth that will win.  
There is God in our sister; God is love; let love in.  
There is God in our brother; God is love; let love in! ...

There are tears all around you, there are souls without friend.  
Feel the pain of another, and let love bloom again!  
Feel the pain of another, and let love bloom again!

Like a stream growing stronger, love is shared friend to friend  
and flows on to the Maker, love is life without end.  
Love flows on to the Maker, love is life without end!

**CENTERING PRAYER AND THE PRAYER OF JESUS\*** \* by Penny Nixon

Source of laughter,  
Spirit innocent and pure,  
Holy is your name.  
May love be seen as all that is.  
May earth be seen as heaven is.  
Nourish us this day with your bountiful supply,  
And allow us to receive as  
We give that right to others.  
Restore us from the perils of illusion,  
And renew our perception of truth.  
For truth is the kingdom,  
And love is the power,  
And Yours is the glory forever.

**\* SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

In person we rise to greet each other with a wave, bow or a high five. And we  
send God's peace to those participating from home!

One: God's peace be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

**\* SONG OF CELEBRATION** [Hymn 467: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*, v. 1]

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anytime, Lord, and anywhere.  
I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anytime, Lord, and anywhere.

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

*We Are the Children of Light*  
Intergenerational Choir, Beth Canterbury, director

Hal H. Hopson

## SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 13

## CELEBRATION OF FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

Grace Seiche	Michelle Brewer	Mikal Rosendahl
Robin Clausen	Gretchen DuBois	Alyssa Springer
Amy Corbin	Rick DuBois	Kristine Weddle
Cat Mattera	Amy Foley	Chris Gentry
Maura Shaunessy	Rhonda Mulloy	Mark Dixon
Bill Ramage	Ric Ripley	Mindy Hoge
Gwyn Ramage	Rachel Schmitt	Lane McDonough
Heather Seiche	Sarabeth Guptill	Jessica Treadwell
Pam Weagraff	Sara Hanna	Beth Canterbury
Matt Basiliere	Justin Kear	

## WORD FOR ALL AGES

## MUSICAL RESPONSE

## CELEBRATION OF GRADUATES

Cayla Joyce                      Dylan Weddle                      Andrew Levesque

## CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Reagan Foley    Catherine Mattera    David Seiche    Dylan Weddle

## CELEBRATION OF MEMBERSHIP

### 50 OR MORE YEARS

Laura Gobron (65)	Connie Sullivan (64)	Linda Champion (59)
Lorraine Oakes (57)	Janet Blanchard (54)	Bob Sniffin (51)
Jean Sniffin (51)	<b>Pam Lathwood (50)</b>	

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## **CELEBRATION OF MEMBERSHIP (continued)**

### **25 - 49 YEARS**

Deb Evers (43)	Steve Evers (43)	Brightie DeVincent (41)
Carolyn Cheever (39)	Corky Williams (39)	John Weagraff (39)
Anna Hayes (38)	Jan Abrahamsen (36)	Per Abrahamsen (36)
Gail Martin (36)	Stacie Dowling (34)	John Milton (34)
Rhonda Mulloy (34)	Amy Foley (33)	Neal Foley (33)
Lynn Carriker (33)	Greg Magarie (33)	Kirsten McDonough (33)
Lane McDonough (33)	Jeanette Szretter (32)	Wayne Szretter (32)
Sarallyn Keller (32)	Eric Carriker (31)	Deede Bergeron (31)
Betty Benefito (30)	Doug Hanna (30)	Sara Hanna (30)
Barbara Seddon (29)	Hank Szretter (29)	June Szretter (29)
Georgeanne Bennett (28)	Steve Williams (26)	<b>Tim Lathwood (25)</b>

## **MUSICAL RESPONSE**

### **GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY IN PRAYER**

#### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

#### **ALLELUIA**

### **OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR SUBSTANCE**

#### **OFFERING INVITATION**

#### **OFFERTORY**

#### **\* SONG OF PRAISE**    Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above all heavenly hosts:  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

\* **SENDING HYMN 363**

*In the Midst of New Dimensions*

New Dimensions

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,  
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wand'ring in their sep'rate ways?

**Refrain:**

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
We your people, ours the journey now and ever,  
now and ever, now and evermore. ...

Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,  
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care?

**Refrain:**

Though we reach the highest heavens, holding worlds at our command,  
We are yet a desert people searching for the promised land.

**refrain**

Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,  
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.

**refrain**

now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.

**BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

*Fugue*

Gottlieb Muffat

# Calendar for June 9 - 16, 2024

<b>Sunday, June 9</b>	9:00 AM	<i>Adult Faith Group – Contemplation and Action</i>
<b>Celebration Sunday</b>	10:30 AM	<i>Worship led by Rev. Cindy Worthington-Berry</i>
	10:45 AM	<i>Godly Play and Connect.</i>
	11:30 AM	<i>Post-Worship End of Year BBQ. (Vestry)</i>
<b>Wed., June 12</b>	NOON	<i>Mid-Week Connection, Zoom <a href="http://ucc.fccnatick.org/midweek">ucc.fccnatick.org/midweek</a></i>
<b>Thurs., June 13</b>	7:00 PM	<i>Prayer Circle via Zoom (<a href="http://ucc.fccnatick.org/prayercircle">ucc.fccnatick.org/prayercircle</a>)</i>
<b>Sat., June 15</b>	6:00 AM	<i>Workcampers depart for West Virginia</i>
<b>Sunday, June 16</b>	9:00 AM	<i>Adult Faith Group – Contemplation and Action</i>
	10:30 AM	<i>Worship led by Rev. Dr. John Weagraff</i>
	10:45 AM	<i>Godly Play and Connect.</i>
	11:30 AM	<i>Post-Worship Fellowship: Coffee Hour in Vestry</i>

## Today

### **Celebration Sunday Barbeque**

**Today, June 9<sup>th</sup> after coffee hour in the Tent (and/or Vestry)**

Join us today for a festive cook out after worship. Chef Bob and crew work the magic once again.

### **Sing Together – free intergenerational concert**

**Today, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 4-5 pm at the Common Street Spiritual Center**

Featuring the Golden Tones (w/Lorraine Oakes) and Natick High School Choir. Join the live intergenerational experience on the theme: "Why we need each other."

### **Pride, Trans, and Mental Health Flags “upcycled” into bags!**

**On sale beginning June 9<sup>th</sup>, after worship, while limited supply lasts**

These flags flown at FCCN have been transformed – by stitchers, pinners, and ironers – into bags. Two styles: market tote (\$25) and smaller zippered bag (\$15). Proceeds support FCCN and ONA justice work. Supply is limited! Cash, check or Venmo. Questions? See Carolyn Williams.

## Upcoming

### **Rev. Dr. John Weagraff covering June 15 – 22**

Rev. Cindy and Sarallyn will both be on this year's WV workcamp. Rev. Dr. John Weagraff will lead worship on June 16 and provide coverage for emergency pastoral care in their absence.



## **Parking For Worship on June 16**

**Please park on street or in municipal lots that Sunday**

The FCC Natick parking lot will be closed from Sat. night, June 15, through end of day June 16 for sealcoating and striping by Middlesex Bank. Do not despair! Parking meters in Natick are free on Sundays, with lots of spaces around the church and common. There is also a municipal lot between West Central and Pond Streets with a number of spaces. Thank you for your patience!

## **Scoopapaloosa Ice Cream Festival**

**June 22, 11:30 am - 3 pm on the Common**

All Proceeds benefit Charles River Rotary Club's important Youth Scholarship Programs as well as local and international non-profits! *Volunteers are needed* to help with setup and breakdown and scooping ice cream. Please contact Hank or June Szretter ([hank@crrclub.org](mailto:hank@crrclub.org)).

## **New Website Sneak Peak**

**Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> during coffee hour**

The Communications Team is excited to share a sneak peak of the new FCC Natick website, scheduled to launch in early July. We will display the not-quite-final site on the Vestry monitor and provide a link for viewing on smart phones. This is not a formal presentation, just drop by.

## **On the Horizon**

### **Summer Worship**

**Sunday, June 30, shifts to 9:30 and Vestry**

Starting Sunday, June 30, our worship service will move to 9:30 am and be held in the Vestry. This will help keep us all cool in the summer heat! We will continue to stream via Pegasus when possible, depending on availability of our tech team. *Summer Godly Play* continues thru July 28, after the Word for All Ages. Worship returns to 10:30 am in the sanctuary on Sunday, Sept. 8 **aka** Backpack Sunday! Also, Rev. Cindy and Sarallyn will both take vacation during the summer, and the church office will move to a summer schedule. Stay tuned for those details.

### **UCC WooSox Outing**

**Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4 PM in Worcester**

Central MA Association of UCC has invited member-churches to a WooSox Game on Saturday Aug. 3rd at 4:05 PM at Polar Park in Worcester. Tickets (subsidized) are \$23 ticket, which included admission, group space on the Triple Decker Garden, a 2-hour buffet and more. We have already heard from some FCC folks who want to go. If you are also interested, please contact the church office (or see the [LINK](#) to order tickets directly).

# PRAYER LIST

**Sharing Your Prayer Requests.** Prayer concerns and celebrations to be shared during worship can be done so verbally (raise your hand to be recognized) or in writing (use provided notecards) or emailed to [prayers@fccnatick.org](mailto:prayers@fccnatick.org).

Irene & Walter	Char Hannon	Steve Perry
Joel	Charles	Frankie Notarbartolo
Debbie Collins	John Lilly	Friends and Family of Tony Parkes
Jeanna B.	Aunt Gwen	Melissa and Tiffany Wallace
Aunt Kathy	Robin and Laura	Ann and George Schmidt
The Lewis Family	Tom Hamm	Charles Gobron
Nathan Duarte	Mark Stunkel	Susan Eck and family
Eric	Noah & Jennie Lynch	Richard Conway
Deb Evers	Karin Garcia's fiance	Friends & Family of Michael Connolly
Sarah Kazim	Uncle A1 & Aunt Deb	Abigail Brewer
Joan Person	Jack Mulloy	Hillaree and family
Brian J.	Paul S.	Doug & Barbara Shirley
Beverly Newell	Don & Heather C.	Mary Connolly
Anna Hayes	Mary Cerreto	Audra, Nate & Rowan Mackey
John Sullivan	Connie Sullivan	Alice Bridinger
Ronnie	Phil Jennings	Pat & Jane Conaway
Jane Hall	Faye Bishop	
Jenna Hayes	Tommy Hannon	
Abby Robbins	Paul	Peace for the world and in everyone's day
Natalie Friend	Anne	Victims of war in the Middle East and D.R. Congo
Jayne Hayes	Molly	All immigrant families seeking justice
Myriam's Mom	Johnson Family	The people of Ukraine & Russia
Robbins Family	Evelyn and Family	The people of Santa Maria Tzeja
Jackie Snizek	Mike McCormick	Angels of Hope in Uganda
Mark Sullivan	Malfrid Abrahamsen	Overdose victims

The prayer list is updated periodically. If you find a name has been rotated off the list for whom you would like continuing prayers, please contact Prayer List Coordinator Linda Champion at [lchampion17@gmail.com](mailto:lchampion17@gmail.com) or the office at 508-653-0971. Also, if a known issue has been resolved, please let us know. Thank you to all for your care and prayers.

# Welcome To Worship at FCC Natick!

**Offering.** Every week we practice the spiritual discipline of generosity by sharing our financial resources. We call this the Offering. We offer multiple ways to give. In person we pass the plate through the congregation, where donations by cash and check are welcome. By mail, checks may be sent to the church office. Online (get there using the *QR code* or by visiting [ucc.fccnatick.org/give](http://ucc.fccnatick.org/give)), you may give using a credit card. But if this is your first time with us, please consider yourself our guest and just pass the plate along. If you'd like to learn more about money at FCCN, please see the pastor.



**Communion.** We usually celebrate communion on the first Sunday of the month. Folks online are invited to have a bit of food and drink handy. In person, we serve communion in several different ways, so the worship leader will instruct you. Our communion table is open to all who find meaning there, regardless of age, membership, or belief.

**Photography/Videography Policy.** Sunday worship is livestreamed via local cable access. In addition, we occasionally take video or photography during worship and elsewhere on the church property. By your presence, you grant FCCN unrestricted rights to use and publish, transmit, or telecast images that may be taken of you for use in communication related to the church. Please contact the church office (508-653-0971 or [admin@fccnatick.org](mailto:admin@fccnatick.org)) with questions or concerns.

**Name Tags.** Please consider wearing a **name tag** – and a pronoun pin! Nametags are on the board in the elevator lobby (ground floor) and upper vestibule of the Sanctuary. If you don't yet have a nametag or are missing yours, make a note on the sheet and one will be on the lobby board next week. We want our church to be a place where everyone knows your name!

**The LINK e-Newsletter.** The LINK is emailed to subscribers every Tuesday and Friday. Please subscribe to the LINK, to stay in the loop. The Community LINK goes out Tuesdays (with happenings in Natick beyond the church). The Worship LINK goes out Fridays (and is more focused on the goings on in the congregation and that Sunday's service). It's free to subscribe: use the QR code or go to [ucc.fccnatick.org/subscribe](http://ucc.fccnatick.org/subscribe).



**Hybrid Worship.** Many folks worship from home, at least from time to time. Join us live online ([ucc.fccnatick.org/livestream](http://ucc.fccnatick.org/livestream)). Natick residents can join us through local access cable (Comcast Xfinity 22, Verizon Fios 29, RCN 03). You can also find worship recordings on our website: ([ucc.fccnatick.org/worship-video](http://ucc.fccnatick.org/worship-video)).

# Welcome To Worship at FCC Natick!

**Open and Affirming.** FCCN is an Open and Affirming (ONA) congregation, affirming the dignity and worth of every person. We welcome everyone into full participation, including people of every ability, race, culture, gender, economic circumstance, gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation.

**Denominational Affiliation:** FCCN is a member of the **United Church of Christ**, a liberal Protestant denomination within the Christian tradition. It offers for reflection a traditional Statement of Faith, yet values the individual's right and ability to prayerfully and thoughtfully determine what to believe regarding the Bible, God, creation, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, etc. The UCC values outreach and justice work. It seeks to be inclusive. Authority is held by members of the local congregation, not the church's pastor or national staff.

**Children and youth.** Children and youth are always welcome in our worship services. The *Playground* down front has a great view and quiet activities. Midway through worship, children ages 3 through grade six are invited to join in for Sunday School: preschoolers through kids in grade 3 explore sacred story through the *Godly Play* curriculum, and youth in grades 4 through 6 participate in our *Connect* program. If they wish, parents may accompany their child to the classroom, then return to the Sanctuary. Parents are encouraged to attend coffee hour after worship, then pick up their child from their classroom at 11:45 am. (Staffed *nursery care* is also available near the sanctuary throughout the service: ask an usher for directions or information.)

## First Congregational Church of Natick Staff

### **Pastor**

Rev. Cindy Worthington-Berry  
revcindyfccn@gmail.com  
508-653-0971

### **Director of Spiritual Vitality and Congregational Care**

Sarallyn Keller  
sarallyn@fccnatick.org  
508-740-3134

### **Church Office**

Randal Divinski, Office Administrator  
admin@fccnatick.org  
508-653-0971

### **Minister of Music**

Thomas Foster

### **Sunday Nursery Staff**

Grace Seiche

### **Outreach Minister**

Rev. Dr. John Weagraff

### **Financial Assistant**

Cynthia Hamwey

### **Custodians**

Galba & Marlene Carvalho