



THE SPIRE

EDWARDS CHURCH *of* NORTHAMPTON
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

297 Main Street, Northampton, Massachusetts 01060

Vol. 37 No. 6 June 2026

Dear Church,

I've been thinking about children. Recently, I was part of several conversations where one of the participants said something along the line of, "Why do people act like that?" And it got me thinking about how we raise children. When we are running a business or organization we work together to create mission and vision statements. What if we did that in relationship to children? What would be our vision of a well-developed adult? And once we have that vision, what would be the mission, the work, to raise children to be those adults? What is the role of the church community in doing that work? After all, it takes a village to raise a child. I think this could be a good topic of conversation for the congregation – what is our responsibility in creating a society of well-adjusted, caring, nurturing adults? Something to think about as you go about your summer plans. As we move into summer, I wish you safe travels and safe work around your home. I wish you companionship and just enough heat and just enough cool through the months ahead. And, I look forward to hearing your thoughts on how we, as a church, raise children.

In God's grace,

Jennifer



Worship in June

June 7 – Ecumenical Pride Services at First Churches
No services at Edwards.



June 14

Matthew 9:35-10:8

Flowers Sally Griggs

Greeter: Mark Dion

Usher: Carolyn Dion

Liturgist: Justin Chick

Reader:

Fellowship: Sarah Briggs & Michele Whiting

June 21 – Father's Day

Matthew 10:24-31

Greeter:

Usher: Jon Dietrich

Liturgist: Hazel Waller

Reader: Justin Chick

Fellowship: Susan Anderson & Michele Whiting

June 28

Matthew 10:40-42

Flowers: Mark Dion

Greeter:

Usher: Justin Chick

Liturgist: Debbie Davis

Reader: Floyd Cheung

Fellowship: Sandra Rossi & Michele Whiting

Looking ahead:

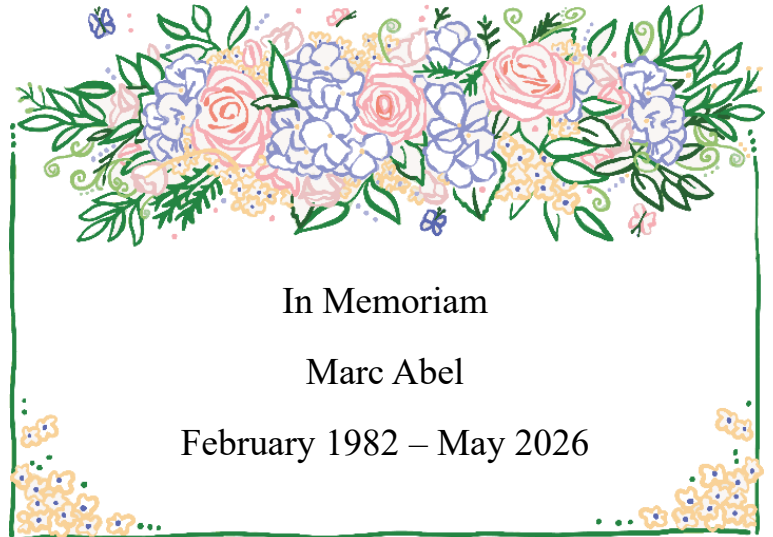
- Combined worship with First Churches during the summer months
 - July at Edwards Church
 - August at First Churches

Pastoral Care & Office Hours

Please Feel free to contact me at any time. Messages left at the church phone (413) 584-5500 x2 will be emailed to me. You can send an email to minister@edwardschurchnorthampton.org or call or text my cell phone. My open office hours for the month of June are Tuesdays 10:00-11:30 AM and Thursdays 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM. – Rev. Geary

Team Meetings in June

- 6/3 3PM Investments Team (Zoom)
- 6/10 7PM Building & Grounds (Zoom)
- 6/11 4PM Care & Visitation (Zoom)
- 6/14 11AM Outreach (Heritage Room)



Bible Study

Wednesdays 11 AM– via Zoom

Join us every Wednesday as we read together the passages for the upcoming Sunday. Every day is a stand-alone event so come when you can and join our lively discussion. Scripture for each meeting is listed in the worship section of the Spire and in the previous week's bulletin. Let the church office know if you would like to have your name added to the weekly Zoom invitation. Or simply join at the appropriate time [here](#).

Youth Service Project

Our teens will join with the teens from First Churches to support our volunteers who provide food for Cathedral in the Night, **June 7, 3-5:30 PM**. Youth will meet with Pastor Steph to learn about her congregation of the Cathedral and will help prepare and serve Sunday's evening meal. Please let the church office know if you will be participating.

Annual Meeting of the Hampshire Association

The Hampshire Association of the United Church of Christ is holding its Annual Meeting on Sunday June 7th at 3:00 PM at the Plainfield Congregational Church, 356 West Main Street, Plainfield, MA. Our guest speaker will Mark Longhurst, author of The Holy Ordinary and host of the Holy Ordinary podcast.

The Plainfield Church is preparing to close its doors so this will be the last Association event to happen there before that official ceremony.

Memorial Service for Jane Thurber

Edwards Church member Janie Thurber died in February 2026. Her obituary with the details regarding her memorial service, scheduled for June 26, was recently [published in the Gazette](#).

Faith Formation Classes

We will continue to offer Faith Formation classes for children throughout the summer months. And as always, children are welcome to be in the sanctuary for the entire service.

Northampton Juneteenth Festival

Saturday June 6th 2026 at the E.J. Gare Plaza, (2 Brewster Ct, Northampton) - A Celebration of Black Freedom, Art, and Community. The [Northampton Juneteenth Festival](#) is a vital community gathering dedicated to honoring Black liberation and excellence. By centering Black artists, business owners, and community leaders, we create a space for joy, education, and connection that is free and open to all.



Scholarships/Camperships Available

The Edwards Church Scholarship Team is currently accepting scholarship/campership applications on a rolling basis. Applications are welcome throughout the year and decisions will be made quarterly with awards to follow. To access the application form, please click [here](#).

Please sign and date your application. If you have previously applied please include a new essay/update for the team. This fund is open to all regardless of age, religion, national origin, sexual or gender expression.

GET A MULE FORTY ACRES OR SO...

self-evident education PRESENTS: A FILM PREMIERE + LIVE PODCAST

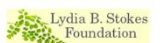
BLACK LEADERS ASKED FOR LAND...

THIS REQUEST LED TO "40 ACRES AND A MULE..."

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 4-6 PM

NORTHAMPTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS,
33 HAWLEY ST

selfevidenteducation.com to register



Northampton Parents Center Updates

NORTHAMPTON PARENTS CENTER

ANNUAL

TAG SALE FUNDRAISER!

220 MAIN STREET NORTHAMPTON
**SATURDAY
JUNE 13
9-2**

**DONATION
COLLECTION
STARTS
SATURDAY 5/9!***

**SPRING
CLEANING?
DONATE TO THE
TAG SALE!**

Email npctagsale@gmail.com for info re: donation drop-off guidelines or to volunteer!

*Drop-off guidelines are different from past years

Northampton Parents Center

SUMMER PLAYGROUPS

Weekly on Tuesdays
6/30-8/11

9:30am-11:30am
@ Edwards Church
in Northampton!

FREE & ALL WELCOME!



Northampton Parents Center is located in the lower level of Edwards Church 297 Main Street. Please use public parking and the backdoor entrance. We are wheelchair accessible!

Friends of NPC



**YOUR MONTHLY
DONATION PROVIDES THE
SUSTAINABLE FUNDING
THAT NPC NEEDS!**

**THE FIRST 50 FRIENDS
RECEIVE A SUPER CUTE
NPC TOTE!**



**SCAN HERE TO SUPPORT
NPC FOR GENERATIONS
TO COME FOR AS LITTLE
AS \$5/MONTH.**



2026 Hampshire Pride Parade



Gratitude Corner

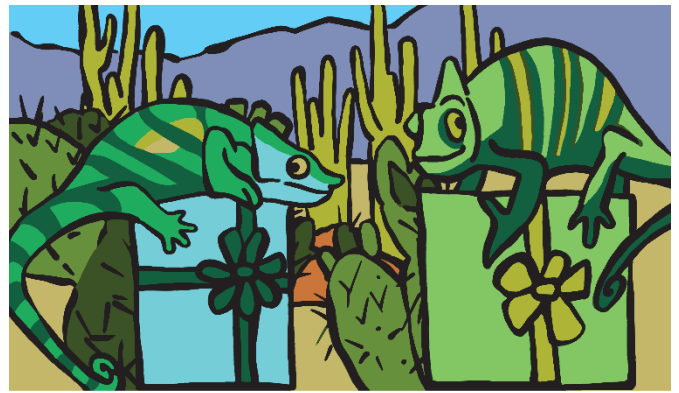
*If you see someone doing something nice,
share a gratitude here.*

Thank you to:

- The Tuckers for planting flowers in front of the church.
- Adam, the Music Team and the Choir for the beautiful music this spring.
- The Transition Team for walking the congregation through a thoughtful discernment process and passing the baton to the Search Team.
- All the wonderful volunteers that make this church such a vital ministry.

Sexton Haiku:

A stranger with bags
shifts to make room — we nod. This
is a kind of prayer



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Flynn Bos

Bradyn Boucher

Grace DelVecchio

Jennifer Korza

Mary Lyons

Kristen Rivers

Matthew Teague

Kelly Tice

Jonathan Tucker

Volunteer Updates

The QR code that was previously shared with the congregation does not work to sign up to volunteer for Sunday morning. If you sign up via the QR code, it signs up Rev. Geary instead of you. If you want to volunteer for Sunday morning, you must use the link that was emailed from the church office. If you need to receive that link, please contact [Keith](#). He will happily send it as often as needed.

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Puzzle!

In spring and summer, we remember mothers and fathers with special days. Find the parents of these Biblical children. Check the verse given for help.



Joash (2 Kings 11:2)

A _____

Obed (Matthew 1:5)

B _____

Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24)

_____ C _____

John the disciple (Matthew 4:21)

_____ D _____

John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)

_____ E _____

Lo-Ruhamah (Hosea 1:6)

G _____

Jezreel (Hosea 1:4)

H _____

Esau (Genesis 25:28)

I _____

David (1 Samuel 16:19)

J _____

Jacob (Genesis 25:28)

_____ K _____

Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)

_____ L _____

Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)

M _____

Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)

_____ N _____

Jesse (Matthew 1:5)

O _____

Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)

_____ P _____

Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24)

R _____

Isaac (Genesis 21:3)

S _____

John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)

_____ T _____

Jonathan (1 Samuel 14:1)

_____ U _____

Solomon (1 Kings 2:1)

_____ V _____

Jesus (Matthew 1:18)

_____ Y _____

James (Matthew 4:21)

Z _____

IN MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Make this keepsake to express love for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.

What you need:

- White construction paper (11" x 13" sheet)
- Pencil
- Black permanent marker
- Crayons or paint

What you do:

1. In the center of the paper, trace your foot in pencil. Darken the outline with marker.
2. Color or paint the footprint. Let it dry.
3. Trace your father's foot (same side) on top of your footprint (with yours in the middle of his).
4. Color or paint his footprint. Let it dry.
5. Sign your names and the date at the bottom.

MUSIC AT THE CROSSROADS

presents

valley jazz voices

Springtime is Swingtime!

Friday, June 5 at 7:00 pm

NO TICKET REQUIRED

Suggested donation: \$10-\$30

100% of donations benefit
Tapestry Health



June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	9:30AM NPC	9:30AM NPC 10:00AM POH 7:00 PM GA	9:30AM NPC 11AM Bible 3:00 PM Investments 7:00PM AA	8:30 Infant Group 9:30AM NPC 5:00 PM POH 6:30 PM AA	5:00PM YWCA 7:00 PM Valley Jazz Voices 7:00PM AA	8:30AM YWCA
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10AM Pride Worship (First Churches)	9:30AM NPC 6:00 PM Meditation	9:30AM NPC 10:00AM POH 7:00 PM GA	9:30AM NPC 11AM Bible 7:00PM B&G 7:00PM AA	8:30 Infant Group 9:30AM NPC 4:00PM C&V 5:00 PM POH 6:30 PM AA	5:00PM YWCA 7:00PM AA	8:30AM YWCA
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10AM Worship 11:15AM Fellowship 11:30 AM Outreach	9:30AM NPC 6:00 PM Meditation	9:30AM NPC 10:00AM POH 7:00 PM GA	9:30AM NPC 11AM Bible 7:00PM AA	8:30 Infant Group 9:30AM NPC 5:00 PM POH 6:30 PM AA	Juneteenth 5:00PM YWCA 7:00PM AA	8:30AM YWCA
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Father's Day 10AM Worship 11:15AM Fellowship	9:30AM NPC 6:00 PM Meditation	9:30AM NPC 10:00AM POH 7:00 PM GA	9:30AM NPC 11AM Bible 7:00PM AA	8:30 Infant Group 9:30AM NPC 5:00 PM POH 6:30 PM AA	5:00PM YWCA 7:00PM AA	8:30AM YWCA
28	29	30				
10AM Worship 11:15AM Fellowship	9:30AM NPC 6:00 PM Meditation	9:30AM NPC 10:00AM POH 7:00 PM GA				

NOTES:

NPC – Northampton Parents Center

ECM – Elected Core Ministry

POH – Pastor Office Hours

TT- Transition Team

Bible – Bible Study

C&V – Care & Visitation

B&G – Building & Grounds

IT – Investments team

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Northampton,
Massachusetts

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Adam Simon, *Director of Music*
Sabra Aquadro, *Treasurer*
Keith Barnicle, *Office Manager*
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