



Easter tide

**FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE**

Congregational 1633-1636
United Church of Christ
Garden and Mason Streets
Cambridge, Massachusetts

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC

April 28, 2013

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

VOLUNTARY

Fantasia in C minor

J. S. Bach

*HYMN 407

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*GREETING

John Girash

L: Grace to you and peace, brothers and sisters!

C: We give thanks and praise to God

L: for drawing us together,

C: for welcoming us into this household of faith,

L: for calling us each beloved.

C: We belong here in this place!

L: Then, let us praise God with joyful hearts!

WORDS OF WELCOME

Dan Smith

ANTHEM

Jacob's Ladder

arr. Martin Shaw

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray for healing, pardon and peace.

**All: God of Mercy and Light, God of Love and Truth,
when we are offered a kind word and cannot hear it,
when we are touched by another's hand and cannot feel it,
when we are told we are loved and forgiven and do not already know it,
be present with us, we pray.
Love us and forgive us again. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*HYMN 281

Spirit of the Living God

**You are invited to stand. Hymns preceded by a "C" may be found in the beginning section of the hymnal. The C (Cambridge) - section contains hymns written and composed by current and past members of First Church.*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS AND THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

INVITATION

ADDRESS

THE PROMISES

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*ADDRESS

*COVENANT OF FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

L: United with the church of every time and place,
we covenant with Christ, with these sisters and brothers,
and with one another, saying:

**All: We who are now brought together
and united into one Church
under the Lord Jesus Christ, our Head,
in such sort as becometh all those
whom he hath redeemed and sanctified unto himself,
do solemnly and religiously,
as in His most holy presence,
promise and bind ourselves
to walk in all our ways
according to the rule of the Gospel,
and in all sincere conformity
to His holy ordinances
and in mutual love and respect
each to other,
so near as God shall give us grace.**

*WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL PROMISES

L: And friends, let us welcome these new members
and affirm the ministry we share in Jesus Christ.

**All: We welcome you with joy
into the common life of this church.
We promise you our friendship and prayers.
We will share with you the hope and labor of Christ.
By the power of the Spirit,
we are one family for the glory of God!**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

*HYMN C-20

The Household of God

Children from PreK to 7th grade are now invited to leave for a creative arts project. Teachers will meet children at the side door to accompany them. Parents can meet their children in Margaret Jewett Hall after worship.

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING

Revelation 21:1-6

READING

John 13:31-35

HOMILY

Julie Rogers

*HYMN 386

We Are One in the Spirit

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Know that God Loves You

Carson Cooman

*EASTER DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**O Jesus, risen now to bless,
Do thou thyself our hearts possess;
that we may give thee all our days
the willing tribute of our praise! Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Reebee Girash

L: God be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray (silence, intercessions, Lord's Prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Please pray this prayer and address God in words most meaningful to your heart.)

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

*HYMN 54

For the Beauty of the Earth

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Sending Forth

Paul Sawyer

*We have been gathered from the world to be judged and received.
Now we are sent forth into that world,
to be the scattered church of Jesus Christ,
declaring through our word and deed,
"The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!"*

VOLUNTARY

Fugue in C minor

J. S. Bach

The bulletin cover is an image of a ceramic mosaic created by the children of the church and designed by Perry Neubauer. The sunrise depicted recalls the morning of Jesus' resurrection when the women disciples visited the empty tomb at dawn. The sunrise theme also symbolizes Jesus' life and ministry as the Light of the World.

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, we are thankful that you are with us today, and we hope that you will stay for a bit after worship for refreshments and conversation. First Church is an open and affirming, just peace congregation of the United Church of Christ. If you'd like to know more about us, please introduce yourself to one of the ministers after church and explore our website at **www.firstchurchcambridge.org**.

Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available.

Please ask a greeter for assistance.

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship. Picture books, children's Bibles and activity packets can be found in the Children's Book Corner located by the door to the parish building (to the right of the chancel). Children may visit the Book Corner at any point during worship.

Nursery care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers is located through that door and down the hallway (up four stairs to the door on the right). Fussy babies and their caregivers are invited to the Hastings Room, just across the hall from that same door, where the service is broadcast through speakers.

PREACHING TODAY IS Julie Rogers, Affiliate Minister for Youth & Young Adults. Assisting with worship are Dan Smith, Senior Minister and Reebee Girash, Interim Minister. Our liturgist is John Girash. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is playing the organ and directing the choir.

The **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** section of the bulletin is omitted from this online version to preserve the privacy of those mentioned. If you'd like more information on the people we're praying for this week, please contact the church office at parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org or 617-547-2724 and we'll get the information to you

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

A FORUM ON VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES Today and Sunday, May 6 at 10:00 a.m., Hastings Room Today and next Sunday, we will gather to share in a time of Biblical and spiritual reflection on the reality of violence in our communities. Given the recent Marathon bombings, the shootouts in the streets of Cambridge and Watertown, and the ongoing prevalence of gun violence in our city and nation, we will consider the impact of these and other examples of violence and consider a range of faith-filled responses, from prayers and vigils to social and political action. Rev. Dan Smith will lead these sessions.

SPIRITUALITY AND MENTAL HEALTH GROUP Today at 2:00 p.m., Tower Room How do emotional struggles and mental health difficulties affect your relationship with God? Does your faith change your experience of mental health issues? Join us in the Tower Room each Sunday from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. as we hold these questions and our experiences in the healing light of Christ. The group is open: you may attend as often or as little as you like, and newcomers are always welcome. Talk to or e-mail Terry McKinney (tmckinney@firstchurchcambridge.org) or Carter West (stbosal@arczip.com).

METROPOLITAN BOSTON ASSOCIATION SPRING MEETING: EVANGELISM IN A DIGITAL WORLD Sunday, April 28 2:30 p.m. Plymouth Congregational Church (582 Pleasant St., Belmont, MA 02478) Hear about the ministry of the Honeycomb Collaborative and its engagement of new forms of Christianity for today - led by Suzanne Bossert and Adwoa Lewis - Wilson! Come! Be provoked, share encouragement, envision the future of your church! To register go to <http://www.macucc.org/registrations/register/189> or call 781-890-1444 or email waltham@macucc.org.

CRLS STRONG COMMUNITY GATHERING Today at 2:00 p.m., Joan Lorentz Park, Broadway at Ellery St., Cambridge, MA 02138 (in front of the Cambridge Public Library) A group of Cambridge Rindge & Latin School graduates are organizing a community gathering this afternoon, providing a safe space for members of the CRLS community – and the wider Cambridge community – to come together in the wake of the Boston Marathon bombings and the other tragic events that followed. The event will primarily be a chance for people in the Cambridge community to be together, reconnect, and share with each other – conducted in the spirit of the CRLS school motto: Opportunity, Diversity, Respect.

CAMBRIDGE CONCENTUS PERFORMS BACH WITH PETER SYKES, ORGANIST Today at 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary Cambridge Concentus with soloists Leon Schelhase, Dylan Sauerwald, Marika Holmqvist, and Emily Rideout perform an all-Bach program at 3 p.m. here at First Church. The program features the C-Major Double Harpsichord Concerto, Brandenburg Concerto VI, and the cantata *Wo soll ich fliehen hin?*. First Church's Peter Sykes will perform a masterpiece by J.S. Bach on the magnificent organ. A wine and cheese reception follows the concert. For more information, please visit cambridgeconcentus.org or call (617) 952-4050. \$20 suggested donation at the door.

CONFIRMATION CLASS (8th - 9th graders) Today at 4:00 p.m., Room 204 This year the 8th and 9th graders of the church are walking together on the journey of Confirmation.

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Today at 7 p.m., Sanctuary Bask in the beauty of Renaissance polyphony, Gregorian chant, introspective modal improvisations by jazz musicians, incense and icons. Participation in Night Song, about an hour in length, is through listening and silent prayer. It is not meant to be a performance, but rather a transformance – a medium for achieving inner peace, centering and spiritual renewal. Set apart from the sights, sounds, and values of current culture, Night Song helps participants enter an inner mystical silence. You are invited and encouraged to attend and to tell others about this opportunity at First Church. If you have any interest in singing, ushering or helping with publicity for Night Song, contact Daryl Bichel at 617-312-8328, daryl.bichel@aol.com. *Please note: Starting next Sunday, May 5, and continuing through the end of October, Night Song will begin at 8:30 p.m.*

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

DROP-IN HAVRUTA BIBLE STUDY - SEARCHING FOR WHOLENESS, ALONE AND TOGETHER These past weeks our congregation has been asking ourselves a deep set of questions. How do we sustain ourselves with renewed balance? How do we sustain ourselves toward greater wholeness? How do we do so alone and together? This conversation will continue to unfold in many ways. One place it will continue is in a *havruta* group meeting Thursday mornings at 7:00-8:45 a.m. If there's a text that captures our focus, it comes from John's Gospel: *Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. We invite you to come and sit by the well. Come once. Come twice. Come every week. Come if you've done havruta before. (Havruta is Hebrew for "befriend.") Come if you've never tried it. Simply come and sit with us. We begin with breakfast. Several members of the group will take turns sharing a text, not necessarily Biblical, perhaps a poem or short reading. We explore the text through dialogue and conversation. And we listen for insights, images, common language to recognize more fully the grace of balance and wholeness, alone and together. For more information, contact Brent Coffin at brentbcoffin@gmail.com or Gaylen Morgan at photongm@comcast.net.*

MEN'S BREAKFAST Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 a.m., Hastings Room Gentle men of First Church! Join us for a hearty breakfast and even heartier conversations about topics that connect our faith to our lives and our world. One-time visitors, friends, and newcomers are always welcome. Questions? Contact Paul Efthim, pwefthim@verizon.net. If you'd like to sign up for the Men's Breakfast e-mail list to receive monthly reminders, contact Kirsten Manville, parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org.

FEEDING SUNDAY Sunday, May 5 at 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary First Church's May Communion Sunday is our annual opportunity to lift up the mission and ministry of The Outdoor Church, a church among homeless men and women in Cambridge. For many years, the Church School has engaged in a monthly practice of preparing dozens of brown-bag lunches to be distributed by The Outdoor Church after their 1:00 p.m. worship service on the Cambridge Common. More recently, members of First Church, led by Dave Kidder, have provided meals on the first Saturday of the month as well. In Morning Worship on May 5, we will bring the sandwich-making into the sanctuary and invite the congregation to take part in this good and important work. Led by the children, we will prepare the lunches as our response of faith. May we all find nourishment in Feeding Sunday.

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION Sunday, May 5 at 12:30 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall In March we held a series of congregational conversations on topics ranging from wholeness and sustainability in our congregational life, staff leadership, and "Learning, Living and Sharing" as faith practices. We met Mary and Martha and St. Pauline, and members of the congregation offered thoughtful reflections. Please join us for a follow-up conversation on May 5 after church in Margaret Jewett Hall. A light lunch will be provided. Members of Executive Council will update you on the work of the staff configuration team, and we will explore ways our congregation can develop deeper friendships with one another and continue our faith journey together. Please make sure to come to this session.

GARDENING EVENT RESCHEDULED! Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m. Carpools leave First Church for a gardening opportunity in Dorchester cosponsored by the Sustainability Guild Intl, our Mission and Social Justice Committee and CMM. Bring your lunch, gardening gloves and your love of all of God's creation. Please sign up with Nancy Kilburn at nkkilburn@comcast.net Project ends at 3 p.m. We will be working with neighborhood residents in Dorchester at 278 Blue Hill Avenue A link for more information about the garden project can be found at www.coopmet.org. Thank you so much for participating in this community transformation event.

LIVING FAITH AND FAMILY LIFE 10:00 am in the Hastings Room - May 12, 19 and 26 Our congregation has recently engaged in conversations about "Learning, Living, and Sharing" the way of Jesus. But "Learning, Living and Sharing" are not just for grownups! We invite parents and caregivers of young children to a discussion series on faith formation at home. Topics may include: How should we engage Bible stories? How do our own faith journeys impact our parenting? What are age-appropriate responses to hard theological questions? Is Sabbath something we can practice as a family? Are there table graces beyond "God is great, God is good...?" When can our kids engage in service projects? Don't currently have children at home? We invite uncles and aunts, grandparents and caring grownups to offer wisdom and support in these conversations. Questions? Speak to Sarah Higginbotham (shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org) or Reebee Girash (rgirash@firstchurchcambridge.org).

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING Date and Time TBD Please join First Church friend Arleigh Prelow who will be screening her life-long work, a film, entitled “The Psalm of Howard Thurman” Rev. Howard Thurman (1899 – 1981) was an influential American author, philosopher, theologian, educator and civil rights leader. He was the Dean of Chapel at Howard University and Boston University for more than twenty years. He wrote twenty-one books, and in 1944 helped found a multicultural church. Carolyn Wilkins, Music Director for the Jazz Worship Service, will provide some musical accompaniment.

EARTH STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY RESCHEDULED FOR JUNE 2 As part of our observation of Mission 4/1 Earth, First Church observe a creation-themed Sunday on June 2. You are invited to consider the earth – and your carbon footprint – as you make your way to church on June 2. This is a great day to BIKE, BUS, CARPOOL OR WALK to church. At 10:45 on the walkway to the playground entrance, join us for a Blessing of the Bicycles! During worship, we will celebrate Creation and commit to being Earth Stewards. After church, we’ll have an Earth Stewardship Fair in Margaret Jewett Hall and outside.

SUMMER FAMILY WEEK AT CRAIGVILLE, August 4-10 Spend a week on Cape Cod with your family this August at PACE (Parent and Child Experience) hosted by Craigville Retreat Center. Families of all ages and sizes stay together in the Inn and take advantage of a private beach, programs for children, intergenerational activities, and easy access to all the Cape has to offer. Many First Church families have made this a summer vacation tradition. Scholarship are available to help families attend. Contact Rev. Joanne Hartunian, PACE Director, at familycampvacation@yahoo.com to learn more and to register for this year's program.

GET INVOLVED

EXPLORING GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND IDENTITY Although our culture now recognizes many more types of sexual and gender expression than it did not very long ago, many people, including some at First Church, still have a hard time fitting their experiences into even these expanded categories. The social pressure to do so, and the expectations other people bring to interactions, can raise some tough questions of identity. Who am I when I don't feel like I fit into the basic categories of male or female, of gay or straight? First Church will soon be hosting a small group gathering (date to be arranged based on interest and availability of participants) that will provide a safe, non-judgmental, and confidential setting in which to share the experience of living in a world wherein feelings about one's gender and/or sexuality don't always seem to "fit". If interested, please call or email Rev. Dan Smith who has been working with church members on how to open a safe space for this conversation.

CALLING ALL WALKERS. YOUNG AND OLD (AND IN BETWEEN): THE

ANNUAL WALK FOR HUNGER is just next week, on May 5th. This year our very own First Church Shelter will be fielding its flagship walk team, comprised of shelter guests, staff members, friends and whomever in the congregation would like to sign on. Did you know that The Walk For Hunger, through its parent sponsor, Project Bread, contributes a sizeable grant that helps to fund the shelter's food and meal operating budget? And that they also help to fund upwards of 500 other Emergency Food Programs in greater Massachusetts? The Walk itself is a scenic stroll starting and ending at the Boston Common and traversing Brookline, Newton, Watertown and Cambridge. Also, one needn't trek the entire route - there are multiple checkpoints along the way at which to register. One can walk as far as they are physically comfortable. Shelter Overnight Supervisor Steve Brown will be on the scene after services today and over the upcoming Sundays with pledge materials and to answer any questions. For more information, please visit www.projectbread.org.

BOSTON YOUTH SEEK HELP TO GREEN THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS

Roxbury Environmental Empowerment Project (REEP) is a youth-led community organizing program for environmental justice in Roxbury, Dorchester and across the City of Boston. In their words "Our neighborhoods are full of empty lots that have been unused for years. The existence of so many lots is a result of Boston's history of racism and classism. Neglected and empty land causes problems for our neighborhoods, but we can change that by building gardens. *We need wheelbarrows and power drills. We also need shovels, gloves, art paint and lawn bags. Do you have any of this you could share?"* If so, contact Susan Redlich (617-599-3234).

INTERNATIONAL/INTERFAITH CONCERT FOR REFUGEE IMMIGRATION

MINISTRY (RIM) Wednesday, May 8, 2013 AT 6:00 p.m., St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 26 Washington Street, Malden (Validated parking adjacent) Doors open at 6:00 p.m., Refreshments and Silent Auction until 6:40. Concert begins 6:45. Guest Speaker: Buti Kale, Deputy Director United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees. Diverse participating groups: Brazilian, Rwandan, Jewish, Hindu, Sikh, and Islamic. See Ann Curby (617-876-6255) for tickets or buy on-line at www.r-i-m.net.

PRACTICING HOSPITALITY: PEW CLIP BOARDS Visitor cards/prayer request cards and temporary nametags are on the clipboard at the end of your pew. Please pass the clipboards down the pew so that everyone can view them. Completed visitor cards/prayer cards can be put into the offertory container. And, as always, please wear your name tag. If you have questions, contact Karen McArthur or Reebee Girash.

NEW MEMBER BIOS

Lawrence Kaplan and Jessica Moore Kaplan Larry and Jessica have been attending First Church for around two years and are excited to be joining today. He is a financial planner in Newton, and she is director of Health and Human Rights, a journal based at the Harvard School of Public Health and published by Harvard University Press. They live in Somerville and are happily awaiting the arrival of their first baby.

Emily Morton After having taught middle school in South Carolina for 37 years, Emily retired and is spending quite a bit of time in Lexington with her daughter and grandchildren – in order to help with the children while my daughter completes a degree... a labor of love! Emily's home is in Beaufort, SC, but she is at home with daughter and children here, too! She loves a really good book, collecting unique postcards, and photography on an amateur level. The moment she walked in and heard First Church's welcoming words and message Emily knew this was the church she had been hoping and praying to find. She thanks you for the warm hospitality and genuinely heartfelt words of peace and love.

Julie Palmer and Rebecca (Becky) Moyer Julie and Becky live in Cambridge with their 6 year old daughter Ally. Julie is from upstate NY and Becky is from the Philadelphia area; they both grew up involved in church youth programs, and look forward to sharing some of the same types of experiences with Ally here at First Church. Julie is the President of Charlie Allen Restorations. Becky teaches math at Chenery Middle School in Belmont. They enjoy traveling, blogging and spending time together as a family - playing games and exploring the many parks around the area.

Eric R. Riedel Eric has found that First Church is a warm and welcoming community in which he hopes to learn, grow and serve. He hopes to sing in the wonderful choir and be part of Church social justice activities; the latter being an important part of his faith. His professional life has been spent as a dean of students at five different liberal arts colleges and an itinerant lecturer on a variety of subjects ranging from "Men and Why We Are the Way We Are" to the history of higher education with particular emphasis on the liberal arts. His daughter, Helen, is about to make him a grandfather for the first time and his son, Richard, is completing an M.B.A. at Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University and is employed by Philips Corporation. Born in Hackensack, NJ, Eric has lived, learned and worked in Indiana, New York, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Ohio, where he currently works as Vice President and Dean of Students at Hiram College.

James F. Rissling Jim came to Cambridge twenty years ago to attend graduate school at MIT with the thought of returning to Chicago, the logical destination for someone who grew up in whose family was from "up-north" in Wisconsin. After grad school, needing a job in an architectural firm, he used his connections and found work in the Boston area. He also found he really liked it here and had met his partner Biss. In 2005 his father Steven died suddenly while home recovering from surgery. Seeing how his Mom drew strength from her own faith he realized he needed to find a spiritual home to revisit and rekindle the beautiful lessons learned having been raised Catholic. That summer Jim wandered into healing service at First Church. After some time of regular attendance he was asked about his interests and began work on the Buildings & Grounds Committee, where he has had the pleasure of working alongside many amazing people. He also had an opportunity to try something really different for himself and teach a middle-school church school class. Jim is so grateful for the many opportunities First Church has presented to grow in faith and try things in a safe and truly loving community, that his own love for First Church and its congregational life has grown and he is honored to at last become a member.

mission
M O M E N T S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2013
Revelation 21:1-6

“Praise God from the earth...fulfilling God’s command... fruit trees and all cedars!”
Psalm 148:7-9
“And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’”
Revelation 21:1-6

The Psalmist praises God’s creativity and the glorious diversity evidenced in creation. All elements sing their parts in harmony by fulfilling their distinct vocations. Trees praise the God of Creation simply by being wholly themselves! Roots delve deep into the earth for nutrients, and branches extend boldly up to the heavens, giving back food, oxygen, shelter in a perfect cycle. The 50 Great Days of the Easter Season, celebrated with **Mission 4/1 Earth**, include Arbor Day, an occasion to participate with God in “making all things new” by planting trees. Martin Luther reminds us that “God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees.” Share the Good News and join the effort to plant 100,000 trees!

100,000 LETTERS

The United Church of Christ’s 2013 mission emphasis was launched on Easter Monday. It is called MISSION 4/1 EARTH: 50 Great Days. During this time, you and your congregation can help our church reach three significant goals: one million hours of engaged earth care; 100,000 trees planted; and 100,000 letters of environmental advocacy to elected officials and the media.

If every UCC member devoted only one hour to caring for the earth—through clean-up, advocacy and education—we could reach our first goal. And if every UCC congregation took responsibility for the planting of just fifteen seedlings we could reach the second.

But that third goal—those letters of environmental advocacy—is another matter. It isn’t so easy for a congregation to join in writing to their elected officials and the media on a subject as complex and controversial as the stewardship of our planet.

Here’s where our UCC General Synod’s resolutions can help congregations in their public witness for justice and mercy. In 2009, General Synod called upon all of us to support legislation to cap carbon emissions, set gasoline mileage standards, provide incentives for investing in renewable sources of energy, reduce fossil fuel consumption, develop alternative energy technologies, and ratify international agreements to combat climate change. If you support any of these proposals, write to your elected officials and the media and tell them so!

The Week Ahead

Sunday, April 28

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation for Adults
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Julie Rogers, preaching, Sacrament of Baptism,
Joining Sunday
- 11:20 a.m. Creative Arts (PreK–Grade 7)
- 12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour, MJH
- 2:30 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
Metropolitan Boston Association Spring Meeting, Plymouth Congregational
Church, Belmont, MA
- 3:00 p.m. Cambridge Concentus, Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

Monday, April 29

- 7:00 p.m. Pastor Relations Team for Reebee, Reebee Girash's office

Tuesday, April 30

- 6:30 p.m. Shelter Committee, offsite

Wednesday, May 1

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's office

Thursday, May 2

- 7:00 a.m. *Havruta* Bible Study (drop-in - all welcome), Hastings Room
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

Saturday, May 4

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Hastings Room
- 4:00 PM Saturday Night Sandwiches, Hastings Room

Sunday, May 5

Feeding Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, Margaret Jewett Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation for Adults
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion in Stations, Multi-generational Worship,
Feeding Sunday, Dan Smith preaching
- 12:15 p.m. Light Lunch, Margaret Jewett Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Congregational Conversation: Staff Configuration
- 1:00 p.m. Outdoor Church, Cambridge Common
- 2:00 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary (*note time change*)

First Church Covenant Testimony

Adopted 1990

We believe that our covenant with God and each other calls us:

To love God with all that we are, and our close and distant neighbors as ourselves;
To seek peace with justice and equity for all people;
To engage in non-violent resistance to evil;
To respect and preserve God's earth;
To foster community across every barrier and division;
To attend to God's unfolding and reconciling word;
To support each other in our frailties and strengths, that we may embody that love which overcomes fear and death.

This we testify, confessing always our reliance on God's grace in Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.



The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
Interim Minister	Rev. Reebee Girash, 617-547-2724, ext. 26 rgirash@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister of Mental Health & Healing	Rev. Terry McKinney, 617-299-1617 tmckinney@firstchurchcambridge.org
Affiliate Minister of Stewardship and Finance	Rev. Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 treasurer@firstchurchcambridge.org
Affiliate Minister of Youth & Young Adults	Julie Rogers, 617-547-2724 jrogers@firstchurchcambridge.org
<i>Havruta</i> Scholar-in-Residence	Rev. Brent Coffin
Director of Music	Peter Sykes, 617-661-0570 psykes@aol.com
Director of Creative Worship & Arts	Sarah Higginbotham, 617-547-2724, ext. 42 shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org
Staff Composer	Patricia Van Ness
Shelter Director	Jim Stewart, 617-661-1873 jstewart@firstchurchcambridge.org
Parish Administrator	Kirsten Manville, 617-547-2724, ext. 21 parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org
Administrative Assistant	Jim Tomlinson, 617-547-2724, ext. 41 jtomlinson@firstchurchcambridge.org
Sextons	Ronaldo dos Santos, Tina Quimby, George Williams, Kimmel Williams, 617-642-3980



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL

United Church of Christ

11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

617-547-2724