



# THE SPIRE

THE SECOND CHURCH IN NEWTON  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Sharing life's journey in Christian faith, love, and service.*



60 Highland St. West Newton, MA • [www.2ndchurch.org](http://www.2ndchurch.org) • (617) 244-2690

## Calendar Highlights

Worship each Sunday morning, 10 o'clock, followed by coffee hour

3/1 Friday – 2030's Pub Night, 6:30 p.m.

3/6 Wednesday – Ash Wednesday Dinner Church, 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall  
A Quiet Service of Prayer and Ashes, 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary  
Deacons/Board of Worship Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

3/9 Saturday – Solo Harpsichord Recital, 7:30 p.m. Fuller Chapel

3/10 Sunday – Installation of The Rev. Dr. Carla Bailey, 3:00 p.m. Sanctuary;  
Stand-up Supper, 4:30 pm; Bluegrass Concert by Lantern Light, 5:30 p.m.

3/13 Wednesday – All-Boards, 7:30 p.m.

3/16 Saturday – Super Saturday, 8 - 3:30 Wilbraham, MA – registration required

3/17 Sunday – The Rev. Leah Rumsey preaching, 10:00 a.m.

3/20 Wednesday – Church Council, 7:30 p.m., Room 111

3/24 Sunday – Brahms *Requiem* Lenten Cantata, 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary  
Racial Justice Training, 2 – 8 p.m. Brandeis, Waltham

3/25 Monday – Racial Justice Training, 7 – 9 p.m. Brandeis, Waltham

3/31 Sunday – Youth Group Prayer Vigil at ICE Detention Center, Boston 1:00 p.m.  
2030's also invited (CORI required)

See Faith Formation page for All-Church Lenten Book Read and Conversations  
Dinner Church meets Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Carla Jean Bailey, Senior Minister

Barbara Cancellieri, Administrator

Andrus Madsen, Minister of Music

Mary Ayotte, Bookkeeper

Rev. Leah Rumsey, Minister of Faith Formation

Alan Bubba Sooho and Sally Anderson, Co-moderators

Susan Benes, Nursery School Director

Molly Doris-Pierce, Faith Formation Assistant

Henry Loftus, Marion and Gwen Carter, Sunday Sextons

Frank Neal, Property Manager

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**Next Spire Deadline: Monday, March 18, 10 a.m.**

**Next Spire Mailing: Wednesday, March 27, 9 a.m.**

## My Bailiwick

When I was growing up in northern Wisconsin, my closest friends were Catholic. I was so envious of them during Lent. They got to be released early from school on Wednesdays for church activities, and on Ash Wednesday, they came to school with a dark smudge on their foreheads – very dramatic. They spent considerable time and much deliberation as to what they would give up for Lent – almost always having to do with food. One sassy friend figured out that she could create an impressively long list if she included every vegetable she could think of! Most often however, childhood Lenten sacrifices were things like Hershey bars and potato chips. In my Congregational Church, we scarcely even noticed the season of Lent.

Now, as an adult whose job it is to help people deepen their relationship to God and commit more completely to their Christian discipleship, I'm still a little envious of Catholics. For us UCCers, there's no obligation attached to this season. Few of us look at these weeks leading to Christ's Passion as anything other than winter's last blast. If I were to try to make Lenten observance mandatory, I would have a massive rebellion on my hands!

So, instead, consider this an invitation. I don't care if you give up one food or another, but I do care that you dig deeper within yourselves to understand and accept the demands of discipleship. I hope you take notice of the world's frustrations, sorrows, and animosities. Don't avoid the news. I would like you to commit to something you don't ordinarily do for these next six weeks. Take some time to read the entire Gospel of Luke – he's our lectionary partner this year. If you would like a purple candle (purple being the liturgical color for Lent), let me know and I'll make one for you. Come to Ash Wednesday dinner church and stay for a quiet service of prayer in the sanctuary following. Join the All-Church-Read of Emily Heath's book *Courageous Faith* and participate in the facilitated small group conversations about it.

Elsewhere in this Spire, you'll find more information about the opportunities we are offering during this Season of Lent. My constant prayer for you is that you will look for and discover new ways to be faithful to God. May this Season of Lent help you do just that.

**Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>:** At 6:00 p.m. we will gather in Fellowship Hall for Supper – please bring some food to share. Together we will read and wonder about the texts, Psalm 51:1-17; and Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21. We will share a communion meal at our tables.

At 7:00, those who choose, may process to the sanctuary for a quiet service of music, prayer, and the distribution of ashes. The service will conclude by 7:30.

**Each Wednesday during Lent**, you will receive a week of devotional readings, based on Scripture and the poetry of Mary Oliver. These will come to you via Constant Contact. If you are not on the email list to receive the Wednesday Constant Contact messages, please send your email contact information to our church office, [office@2ndchurch.org](mailto:office@2ndchurch.org)

The Metropolitan Boston Association  
Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ

Invites You to

The Service of Installation  
Of The Reverend Doctor Carla J. Bailey

As Pastor and Teacher  
The Second Church in Newton  
United Church of Christ  
60 Highland Street  
West Newton, MA 02465

Sunday, March 10, 2019

Worship Begins at 3:00 PM  
Reverend Doctor J. Bennett Guess,  
Executive Director Ohio ACLU, preaching  
With Special Music

Supper/Reception Following Worship  
Celebration Music and Singing with  
Lantern Light

Childcare provided during worship  
A special offering will be received  
for the Scholarship Fund of the Association

# Faith Formation

## **MASSACHUSETTS CONFERENCE RACIAL JUSTICE TRAINING**

Facilitators from the Mass Conference (Revs. Liz Magill and TJ Harper) will offer their eight-hour, level one racial justice training for members of Second Church and the Agape Spiritual Community. The training will take place at Brandeis Intercultural Center Sunday (415 South St., Waltham) March 24 from 2-8 pm and Monday, March 25 from 7-9 pm. There is no cost, but **space is limited** and participants should be able to attend both sessions, which will include small group discussions, videos, and various articles. Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to engage with one of America's most pressing spiritual and moral issues. **To sign up, or for more details, write Betty Chan at [bettychanmsw@gmail.com](mailto:bettychanmsw@gmail.com).**

## **FOR OUR ALL-CHURCH LENTEN READ**

**We have chosen the book Courageous Faith**, written by Emily Heath. We have purchased 22 paperback copies, which you may purchase from the church for \$20. If you have a Kindle, you can buy the book from Amazon for \$10.

**You may come to dinner church on Wednesdays, March 13, 20, 27, April 3 and 10 from 6-7 p.m. to discuss Courageous Faith.**

If you are able to bring food to share for dinner, that is wonderful. If not, there's always enough. The conversations about Courageous Faith will be led by Leah Rumsey on Wednesday evenings.

**You may come to church on Thursday mornings, March 14, 21, 28, April 4, and 11 for coffee and conversation about Courageous Faith.**

These Thursday morning conversations will be held from 10-11:15, and they will be led by Carla Bailey.

**You may join conversations about Courageous Faith on Sunday mornings, from 11:15 to 12:30**

These conversations will be on March 17, 24, 31, and April 7, and will be led by Carla Bailey.

## **Youth Group Schedule March**

**3/10: Brunch after Worship**

**3/24: Brunch after Worship**

## **Sunday, March 31 Prayer Vigil at ICE Detention Center, Boston**

Meet at 1:00 pm at SCN, Vigil at 2:00 pm, return to SCN by 5:00 pm. This is a gathering specifically for prayer, witness, and solidarity, organized by Boston area faith communities on a rotating basis. **2030's also invited (CORI required)** RSVP by Wednesday, March 27.

## **2030's Schedule March**

### **Friday, March 1 Theology on Tap (Pub Night)**

Meet at SCN at 6:30 pm. Please note that we'll be at a quiet pub and that there is no pressure to buy an alcoholic drink. Plan to cover your own drinks. Appetizers provided.

A Belated Thank You  
with  
Apology

While leaving church following yesterday's Annual Meeting, a sleeping neuron in my gray head woke up and delivered a not-so-subtle jab to my consciousness: "How in the world could we forget to thank the people who worked behind the scenes preparing the final Annual Report, and those in the kitchen who fed us so well? You must be losing it!" YIKES! And oh my embarrassment!

So here, dear Barbara and Mary, and all of you on (officially and unofficially) the Board of Parish Life, from all of us, we offer this belated and deeply felt thanks for once again taking such good care of us with information and with a delicious and wonderfully presented lunch, including the two very special cakes honoring Shirley and Tom .

Pat Bonnet

### A Few Words from Your New Co-Moderator....

When I was first asked to accept the nomination for this position, I was a bit hesitant to say yes. Even though I have always participated in Board work and singing in the choir, I have never taken on this much of a challenge. Then I began to think that maybe I should look at this as an *opportunity* rather than a *challenge*.

As a 40+ year member of Second Church, I have lived through many of life's "passages," surrounded by the love, encouragement, and support of the church community. Maybe it's time for me to show my appreciation for all of that love and support by taking on this position. I am also very appreciative of the trust you have put in me, especially in these times when the integrity and competency of higher levels of leadership is in question on a daily (hourly?) basis!

We are very fortunate to have found a "settled" pastor who shares our vision and is eager to take us beyond that vision to more action; something, I think, we have been striving to do for a long time. I look forward to being involved in and contributing to that action.

Over the holidays, I read Michelle Obama's book, *BECOMING*. In it she says, "becoming is never giving up on the ideas that there's more growing to be done." I am eager to join the rest of our leadership team - Carla, Andrus, Leah, Bubba, Board chairs and members, and the congregation as a whole - in our process of becoming.

Thanks for the opportunity!  
Sally Anderson, Co-Moderator

### Super Saturday, March 16, 2019, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

What's your super power? Simplify church structure? Create a vacation Bible school? Prevent bullying? Raise funds?

Find out at Super Saturday, March 16, 2019, Minnechaug Regional High School, Wilbraham, Massachusetts, 70 miles west of Newton. During this all-day event sponsored by the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ, there will be worship, forums and networking.

Register at: <https://www.macucc.org> Second Church will cover the cost of registration.

Alan Bubba Sooho, Co-Moderator

## Potluck Dinner Church - Wednesdays at 6 o'clock

Dinner Church will continue this winter. We'll meet at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays, and instead of signing up to provide dinner, we'll bring food potluck-style. There is no sign up – just bring whatever you wish, ideally enough to feed five or more people – think cookies, veggies from your garden, or a new recipe you've been wanting to try. We know that this may mean there are nights when we do not have a traditional “balanced meal” and we accept this as part of the fun. If you are unable to bring something, don't let this prevent you from joining us. Come anyway! Write Leah with questions: [leahrumsey@g.harvard.edu](mailto:leahrumsey@g.harvard.edu)

## From the Board of Mission and Advocacy

**The Newton Food Pantry** is the only food pantry in Newton that delivers to clients who are homebound. The items most needed are: Oil, Canned Beets, Ground Coffee, Soy Sauce, Spices, Soup and Chicken Broth, Shampoo and Conditioner, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes, Dish Soap, Body Lotion, Laundry Detergent, Bar Soap, and All Purpose Household Cleaner.

**Straight Ahead Ministries:** Last Spring we presented a forum with Jason Ludwig, from Straight Ahead Ministries, who talked with us about their work helping incarcerated youth. Since June a small group of us have been visiting a women's facility in the Westborough area. This has been a very rewarding experience for us. Now we have the opportunity to receive training from Straight Ahead to enhance our ability to interact with the girls and the staff. We will be holding this training session after worship Sunday, April 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Light snacks will be provided. If you think you might be interested in becoming involved, please join us for this session. Please let Lissa Gilbert know if you plan to attend or if you have any questions, [emgilbert22@gmail.com](mailto:emgilbert22@gmail.com).

## From the Music Desk of Andrus Madsen

Lent starts late this year, but it is coming soon. This year's Lenten Cantata will happen on March 24<sup>th</sup> at the Sunday morning service. The choir will be singing excerpts from the German *Requiem* by Johannes Brahms joined by a full symphony orchestra. The work is most certainly Brahms' greatest choral masterpiece. While it is a bit too long to do the entire work in a service, we will perform four of the seven of its movements. The work is unusual as a requiem, as it is not a setting of the traditional requiem text, but rather a collection of favorite passages Brahms assembled himself from both the Old and New Testament. Brahms wrote the work between 1865 and 1868 in reaction to his mother's death.

The choir will also be joined by Newton Baroque on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 3 p.m., as we sing Gounod's *Sanctus*, and *Righteousness and Equity* by Frederick Handel at Carla's Installation Service.

Also on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm Andrus Madsen will play, “The Suitest Thing,” a solo harpsichord recital in Fuller Chapel, including Suites by J. S. Bach, J. K. F. Fischer, A. Madsen, and J. J. Froberger.

## A Few Words about the Taylors, focusing on Shirley

How does anyone say “a few words” about the countless ways the Taylors have shared their unique talents and love with Second Church for 44 years? The list would be endless and, heaven only knows, how many “behind-the-scenes” things they have done just because they needed doing.

I’ll focus on a few Shirley words-- the attributes Shirley possesses that have enriched our church lives all these years and made her the “go-to” person when there were church celebrations to plan, teams to build, projects to orchestrate or problems to solve. Let’s call this your farewell report card, Shirley.

**Teambuilding:** Shirley, you have a knack for gathering folks for a project, event or social occasion. You are an inspiring leader—thoughtful, savvy, inclusive, and enthusiastic, with a sense of humor. You encourage participation; it’s difficult to ignore your tap on the shoulder!

**Capturing:** Shirley, your camera has snapped the faces and events in the life of Second Church making sure our picture directories (printed and on-line), website, and the beauty of our sanctuary are captured for today and tomorrow. Who hasn’t wanted to duck Shirley’s lens on occasion?

**Problem Solving:** Need a Big Blue Whale for a church production of Noah’s Flood? Need a website for Second Church? Need to save our treasure trove of historical material from the ravages of mold and update our process of item preservation? You will create that beast; research and learn the proper web software to create an appealing website, and get the historical material sorted and relocated to our drier Church “attic” where the re-organization and filing has begun. Not at the same time, of course, but you **can** multitask.

**Historian:** Shirley, your intellectual curiosity led to detailed research of the art and architecture of our sanctuary, in particular, our stained glass windows and woodcarvings, adding a new layer to our documented history. With new information and photos, you created an updated full-color guide to Second Church in honor of this building’s 100th birthday. You resurrected sanctuary tours, both as leader and docent educator, and wrote new tour materials. Your last tour is next Sunday after church and who could resist “Hooker and Handel and Church Mice-Oh My!”?

**Generosity:** Shirley, your passions are infectious. “Isn’t this cool?” “Yes, way cool,” and thank you for sharing them with us. You have left this church with a renewed appreciation of the treasure that is our sanctuary and much more.

**Shirley and Tom,** thank you both for your generous gift of time and talent all these years, for reminding us of our treasures to maintain, and for your love and stewardship of Second Church and our community of faith. You both have shared your hospitality and friendship in so many ways. Thanks again.

You will leave a big hole behind as you take away your many Taylor gifts to a new church and living community. Lucky them. We will miss you and hope you have many “Isn’t this cool” moments ahead of you.



## A Few Words about the Taylors, focusing on Tom

I grew up in the Evangelical and Reformed tradition of the U.C.C., in which churches were named for saints. That's not part of the Congregational tradition, but I think it's fair to say that Second Church has had more than its share of saints. Saint Shirley and Saint Thomas are prime examples.

Donna has already enumerated a few of the many big ways in which Shirley has graced our church with her selfless gifts of time and talent. Fortunately for us, Tom's contribution goes well beyond being married to Shirley. His commitment and willingness to take on really big projects has saved the day several times over the years.

Let's start with the great flood -- no not Noah's flood, although I think Tom would have willingly taken that one on as well. This time, in 1996, it only rained for one day, but that was sufficient to turn our basement toilets into spouting geysers that left the Nursery School classrooms under several inches of water. For the next month or so, Tom tirelessly orchestrated the cleaning up, rebuilding and re-furnishing of the Nursery School. It was truly a superhuman effort for which he was the deserving recipient of one of Second Church's highest honors, the Golden Mop award.

Tom was there for a couple of later and lesser Nursery School floods as well before we finally, we hope, solved the problem.

In the summer of 2004, Tom played a huge role in our Stone Summer project, which involved extensive masonry and roofing repairs. It was Tom who, almost daily it seemed, scrambled up the scaffolding to inspect the work in progress and ensure that all the leaks would be sealed for another generation.

This past year, Tom took on what turned out to be an even bigger task -- the renovation of our parsonage. In addition to recruiting an army of volunteers who cleaned and painted, he tirelessly oversaw the work of the contractors who remodeled the kitchen and bathrooms, replaced the old lead plumbing, and sanded and refinished the floors.

Those are just a few of the big ways in which Tom has served our congregation. Among other big jobs, he has served as Moderator, and he also chaired the Board of Resources for many years. He helped to modernize our telephone and computer systems and installed our first wireless network in the office area.

I can sum up Tom's and Shirley's many contributions in a phrase: No job too big. These big-hearted individuals have done far more than their share to make Second Church a vital and thriving community of worship and service, both as tireless leaders and behind-the-scenes toilers. We will miss them in a big way, even as we wish them the very best as they set out on their new journey.

Thank you, Tom and Shirley.

– Ced Paine

The Taylor's address  
after March 13<sup>th</sup>:

Tom and Shirley Taylor  
45 Kendal Drive  
Oberlin, OH 44074



The Annual Second Church  
Women's Retreat  
May 10 - 12, 2019

Join other Second Church women and their friends as we take some time to get away for a weekend to reflect on our lives. Our time together will include opportunities to rest and be creative, to walk on the beach and sing with the Spirit, to join others in conversation and meditate in private. We always return home refreshed and revitalized. Women of all ages are encouraged to attend.

- Date/Time: Friday, May 10 – arrival time 3 p.m.; dinner 5:45 p.m. - Sunday, May 12 after lunch, 1 p.m.
- Place: Craigville Retreat Center, Craigville, Cape Cod
- Cost: \$182.00 includes 2 nights, 6 meals, and program

We are also accepting contributions for scholarships this year, so that those who would like to go but are unable to afford to pay the full price are able to attend. Please speak with Barbara Cancellieri if you would like to contribute or if you need financial assistance. Please speak up sooner rather than later.



Return to Church Office with a \$90 deposit as soon as possible  
Please be prompt – Second Church has already paid the deposit.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Can provide a ride \_\_\_\_\_ Need a ride \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Linen Service at \$12 \_\_\_\_\_

Will not be there for Friday night dinner \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please include dietary restrictions above.

## **Board and Committee Membership**

2019 – 2020

### **Church Council**

Co-Moderators: Alan Sooho, Sally Anderson

Clerk: Mary Ann Donaldson

Treasurer: Dale Bengtson

Senior Deacon (1): Kathy Lucey or Dorothea Mautner

Deacon Emeritus (1): James Loftus or Ed Keenan

Board Representatives (1 each board): Faith Formation, Mission and Advocacy,  
Parish Life, Resources, Worship

Nursery School Committee (1): Kathy Lucey (or designee)

Members-at-Large: Donna Johnson, Bruce Macdonald

Carla Bailey, Leah Rumsey, *ex officio*

#### **Committees of the Church Council:**

**Nominating:** to be appointed by Church Council

**Personnel:** Sally Anderson, Pat Bonnet, Alfredo Kniazze, Alan Sooho, Chip West, Gail Wiegner

**Space Usage *ad hoc*:** Pat Bonnet, Jeff Davis, Betsy Howes, Karen Levy, James Loftus, Joy Paine, Bubba Sooho, Tom Taylor, Ron Walsworth, Gail Wiegner  
Carla Bailey, Frank Neal, *ex officio*

**Stewardship:** to be appointed by Church Council

### **Board of Deacons**

Kathryn Huse, Barbara Joseph, Kathy Lucey, Jody Mahr, Dorothea Mautner, Ron Walsworth

Carla Bailey, Leah Rumsey, *ex officio*

### **Board of Faith Formation**

Gwen Carter, Betty Chan, Martha Comfort, Joy Paine, Alex Richter, Gail Wiegner

Carla Bailey, Leah Rumsey, *ex officio*

### **Board of Mission and Advocacy**

Barbara Cancellieri, Martha Felch, Lissa Gilbert, Kim Gluck, Lee Hardaway,  
Frances West

Carla Bailey, *ex officio*

### **Board of Parish Life**

Nancy Brown, Dana Davis, Margaret Doris-Pierce, Louise Kittredge, Debby Laubinger, Joanne Svenson, Jacquie Van Haelst, Allen Wiegner

Carla Bailey, *ex officio*

## **Board of Resources**

Matt Carter, Jeff Davis, Richard Hardaway, Alfredo Kniazzezh, Karen Levy, Ced Paine, George Withington

Carla Bailey, Dale Bengtson, and Frank Neal *ex officio*

### Committees of the Board of Resources

Financial Review Committee: Martha Felch, Laura Foote, Eric Pape

Investment Committee: Jeff Davis, Kim Gluck, Nick Moser, Eric Pape

## **Board of Worship**

Rob Dobson, Quindara Dodge, Mary-Ellen Efferen, Kathryn Huse, Jody Mahr

Carla Bailey, Andrus Madsen, Dorothea Mautner, Leah Rumsey *ex officio*

### Committee of the Board of Worship

Altar Committee:

Sacristans: Dale Bengtson, Mary-Ellen Efferen, Donna Johnson, Kathy Lucey, Dorothea Mautner, Debbie O'Hare, Joy Paine, Dorothea Rudorf

Communion Curators: Rachel Bradford, Andy Gluck, Lee Longman, Joanne Svenson, Gail Wiegner

The Second Church in Newton  
60 Highland Street,  
West Newton, MA 02465-2405

*The Second Church in Newton is an inclusive community of curious and creative spiritual seekers, committed to learning, teaching, social justice and embodying a progressive practice of Christianity through loving kindness, engagement and joyful worship.*

