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## **FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE**

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



*All children from PreK to 7th grade are invited to leave at this time to make sandwiches for today's Outdoor Church offering. The children will make the sandwiches in Margaret Jewett Hall, and return to the service in time for the sandwiches to be blessed with the weekly offering.*

\*HYMN 315

*We Are People on a Journey*

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

A RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 8

L: O God, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

**R: Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

L: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

**R: what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?**

L: Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

**R: You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

L: O God, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

READING

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

SERMON

Karen McArthur

\*HYMN 515

*This is my Song*

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kate Layzer

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Jesu mfumu*

Bantu hymn from Zaire

*Jesus the Lord, said he would return. He will return; let us rejoice!  
Even if you do not believe the Son of God, he will return. Let us rejoice!  
Let us thank the Son of God. He will return. Let us rejoice!*

\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Praise God, the source of life and birth,  
Praise God, the Word, who came to earth,  
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame,  
All glory, honor, to God's name. Amen.**

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION PRAYER

L: God, may this bread connect us more closely with you  
and with our neighbors near and far.

**All: Bless this bread, we pray.**

L: May this fruit of the vine remind us  
of the interconnectedness of people around the world.

**All: Bless this cup, we pray.**

L: May this simple meal bring us into union with you,  
your people and your world united in the One Body of Christ.  
We pray in the name of Jesus,  
who taught us to say:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*(Please pray this prayer and address God in the language 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.**

\*SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*All who seek to follow Jesus' way of compassion, justice and peace are welcome at this table. Today, we will serve communion by intinction, which means that the community will be invited to come to the servers at one of several stations at the front of the sanctuary to receive the bread and dip it into the cup. The cup is filled with grape juice and the bread is gluten free. Persons who for any reason are not able to come forward will be served in the pews. Young and old alike are welcome to share in the gift of holy communion!*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: Let us give thanks  
for what we have received and shared.

**All: Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus,  
for gladness in this bread and cup,  
for love that cannot die,  
for peace the world cannot give,  
for joy in the company of friends,  
for the splendor of creation,  
and for the mission of justice you have made our own.  
Give us the gifts of this holy communion:  
oneness of heart, love for neighbors,  
forgiveness of enemies,  
the will to serve you every day,  
and life that never ends.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN 39 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *Send me, Jesus (Thuma Mina)* Hymn 344

The congregation is invited to join in the singing of this response.

*Send me, Jesus, send me Jesus  
Send me, Jesus, send me Lord*

*Lead me, Jesus...*

*Fill Me, Jesus...*

*Thuma mina...*

*Thuma mina somandla*

VOLUNTARY *Partita on "Sei gegrüset, Jesu gütig"* J. S. Bach

## **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](http://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 and toddlers 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** is Karen McArthur. Assisting with worship is Kate Layzer. Our liturgist is Brian James. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is playing the organ and directing the choir.

The **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** section of the bulletin is omitted in the online version to protect the privacy of those mentioned. To find out who we are praying for this week, please contact the church offices at [parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org) or by calling 617-547-2724.

## **TODAY'S HAPPENINGS**

**BELL CHOIR Today at 10:00, Lindsay Chapel** Bell Choir is starting again, and we are always looking for ringers! No prior experience needed. Reading music a plus but not required. All ages welcome to come to a rehearsal and try it out! We rehearse in the Chapel on the other side of Margaret Jewett Hall from 10:00-10:50 AM on Sunday mornings, and will play in church on October. Or come to rehearsals in November and December and play with us during the Unpageant on December 20. Please email [susielongfield@gmail.com](mailto:susielongfield@gmail.com) for more information.

**FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS COLLECTION Today** Staples are welcome: flour, sugar, cooking oil. Everything must be unopened, unbreakable, unexpired. There is a basket in the narthex. Thanks from folks at Rindge Towers!

**FAITH AND LIFE GROUPS FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO SIGN-UP Today at 12:30, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)** Would you like an opportunity to get to know some new people at First Church? Are you looking for dynamic conversation and meaningful connections? Would you value an opportunity to think about how faith (and what we do at church) is relevant to “the rest of life?” This fall you are invited to join a ***Faith and Life Group***. Each group will focus on a shared interest (such as homeless ministries, parenting, or caring for the earth) and will be led by someone with a passion for the subject. These groups are time-limited. They’re designed to meet for about six sessions on dates and times to be arranged with the group leaders. ***Faith and Life Groups will take place during October and November.*** You can find more information at <http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/faith-life-groups#>

**NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Tonight at 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary** Join us for this contemplative and spiritually transporting candle-lit experience of choral literature, ancient and contemporary chant, and instrumental music. There is no spoken word, no sermon, no coffee hour, no dogma - just the opportunity to experience the Divine through music, being still, and silent meditation.

## FUTURE HAPPENINGS

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR SABBATICAL** First Church Parish Administrator Kirsten Manville is now on sabbatical, until December 31. In addition to resting and recharging, Kirsten will be taking a course on concert venue management, the content of which should aid in her work dealing with outside groups using the church as a concert venue. The staff has done extensive planning for coverage of Kirsten's tasks while she is away. Staff members will take on pieces of her work and Facilities Manager Dan dos Santos's hours will increase during her sabbatical time. To assume the majority of Kirsten's tasks, involving preparation for Sunday worship services and management of building reservations, **Shannon Fuller has been appointed Acting Parish Administrator**. Shannon is working half-time (Tuesday-Friday, 10:00-2:00), through December 31. Shannon has more than 14 years of experience in office coordination and support.

**WELCOME NEWCOMERS!** Interested in learning more about First Church? Whether you're new to the area or simply new to First Church, we're glad you're here! Please take a moment during church to fill out a pew card with your name and contact information, or stop by one of our tables after worship. We'd love to know that you've been here and help you connect with opportunities that interest you at First Church. Here are some ways to get connected:

- Request a nametag (Easy! Just fill out a pew card and we'll have one ready for you next Sunday.)
- Receive *First Glance*, our succinct, weekly e-communication about the events of the week. (Just check the box on your pew card and you'll receive next week's issue on Friday.)
- Receive *EVENT*, our e-newsletter (Also available in paper form) that comes out every couple of months. (Yup, check the box on your pew card to sign up.)
- Check out our web site: <http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org>
- Find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/firstchurchincambridge>
- Watch the Sunday bulletin for information about the many activities and opportunities in our worship and community life.

Please come back and explore the rich worship, spiritual and community life at First Church!

**THE FIRST CHURCH DEACONS FUND** is one of the many ways in which our community cares for one another. Church members in need of financial assistance for a one time or short-term emergency may make a confidential request to one of the deacons or clergy. This fund belongs to us and relies on our contributions. We hope people will take advantage of this aid. *You are also invited to make a gift (beyond your pledge) to the Deacons Fund, if able. Please mark on your check or online contribution "Deacons Fund."*

**CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH** If you haven't yet, please complete the brief online registration ([www.firstchurchcambridge.org/children-youth-program-registration-2015-2016](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/children-youth-program-registration-2015-2016)) for each of your children participating in our Christian Formation programming this year. You'll also provide important info about allergies, permission for photographs, and transportation, as well as contact info so we can stay in touch. You can find a schedule of programs on the Children and Youth pages on our website.

**FAMILY NIGHT This Tuesday, October 6, at 5:30 p.m. in Sage Hall** Families with young children are invited to our biweekly Family Nights. Join us for supper with some free play for kids and conversation for adults every other Tuesday, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., in Sage Hall, our basement play space. Sarah provides pots of pasta and sauce, and you bring a dish to share. Salads, veggies, meatballs, garlic bread, or desserts are most welcome.

**GBIO DELEGATES ASSEMBLY Thursday, October 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m. St. Katharine Drexel Parish** Join Leaders from all over GBIO to hear how we've advanced our 5-issue platform since the May 12th Assembly, to prepare for upcoming actions this fall, and to launch our Impact Fund Campaign. St. Katharine Drexel Parish is located at 517 Blue Hill Avenue, Boston, MA 02121.

**2015 DORIS BEAUVAIS LECTURE AND LUNCHEON Sunday, October 11 at 12:30 p.m. in MJH** A hot hearty lunch will be served immediately after the service. This year, the Rev. Tina Rathbone, Cathedral Missioner of St Paul's Episcopal Cathedral of Boston, will discuss her advocacy work for those displaced by condemnation of the Long Island Bridge. We will also present Mitch Snyder awards to Boston Warm and those at Old South who made it happen, Emmanuel Church, American Friends Service Committee's Material Assistance Program, Boston Homeless Solidarity Committee and Brittany Gravely of Harvard Film Archive.

**FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING PREP SESSIONS Sunday, October 11, at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday, October 18, at 12:30 p.m. in the Hastings Room** Save the date! Our Fall Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 1, at 12:30 p.m., following Morning Worship. The meeting's principal purpose is to review and vote on the proposed 2016 annual budget of the Congregation, as prepared by the Treasurer and Stewardship Committee and reviewed by Executive Council. Our Capital Campaign Planning Team will also give us an important update. In preparation for this meeting, there will be discussions of the draft budget during the 10 O'clock Hour on October 11 and following Morning Worship on October 18, at 12:30 p.m., both in the Hastings Room. Plan to join us!

**ANSWERING THE CALL: AN INTERFAITH GATHERING FOR CLIMATE ACTION Monday, October 12, Welcoming Reception & Sign-in: 6:30 pm, Program: 7:00pm to 9:00 pm, Temple Beth Elohim 10 Bethel Road, Wellesley.** Join this special interfaith event as we share messages of hope, inspiration, and action for healing our world. First Church is a co-sponsor of this event. To RSVP or for more information, visit: [www.tbewellesley.org/climate](http://www.tbewellesley.org/climate). You may sign up for this event at the First Church coffee hour on Sunday, September 27. Also, if interested in car-pooling from First Church at 5:30 p.m on October 12, you may contact Susan Redlich at [susan.redlich@gmail.com](mailto:susan.redlich@gmail.com).

**BRIEFING BY LEW FINFER ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTION Sunday, October 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. in the Library adjacent to Margaret Jewett Hall.** The Mission and Social Justice committee cordially invites you to hear a briefing by Lew Finfer on the proposed amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution, an amendment which would alter the present ban on progressive taxation. The Raise UP Massachusetts Coalition of religious, community, and labor groups is seeking support from congregations to gather signatures for a Constitutional Amendment. The amendment would raise \$1.3 billion in new state revenue annually to go to Education (K-12 schools, early childhood education, state colleges, adult basic education, job training) and Transportation (repair of roads, bridges, and the MBTA). The funds would come from a higher tax on the earnings of millionaires on earnings after their first million in income. Given a decade of budget cuts or level fundings for education and transportation in the budget, we desperately need major new revenue to give students and families the kind of opportunity that our values speak to. Lew Finfer is one of the Co-Chairs of the Raise UP MA Coalition. He is Director of the MA Communities Action Network (MCAN), a faith based community improvement organization working cities across the state.

**MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES OF THE UCC. The Palestine Israel Task Team has planned two sessions, on October 18 and November 22,** on the Middle East. Global Missions is focusing on the Middle East beginning this past August and extending into 2016. For two months, a country will be focused on. There will be webinars with our Global Missions partners, Bible studies, and sermons that one can access at [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org). In the months of August and September, Syria was the focus. On October 18th at the 10 o'clock hour, the task team has invited Razek Siriani to speak with us. Razek, his wife, and two adolescent sons came from Aleppo in the fall of 2013. Razek belongs to the Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch and was ordained a lay deacon in 1999. Since 1985 he has worked with the Middle East Council of Churches coordinating the youth programs of Syria. In 2003, Razek was appointed to direct the MECC Department of International & Ecumenical Relations. In preparation for the 18th, we would encourage you to go to the website [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org) -- select RESOURCES, then MIDDLE EAST, then AUGUST to find Razek's compelling sermon Where is God? You are also invited to listen to the 2 webinars and hear from the religious leaders of Syria.

**SUBVERTING THE GOSPEL OF GUNS: A TWO DAY SUMMIT AT ANDOVER NEWTON THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL October 22 and 23** Andover Newton will host a two-day summit for alumni/ae and friends to participate in an urgent conversation about gun violence in the United States. This gathering will focus on the response by people of faith to the current situation in our country, and will provide action steps for how we can all work together to change the culture of guns and violence in our communities. The event will include keynote speakers, panel discussions, and worship. Boston Mayor Martin J Walsh and Massachusetts Attorney General will offer keynote addresses on Thursday and Friday, respectively. Others speakers will include local police chiefs, policy makers, scholars, activists and clergy, including our own Rev. Dan Smith, who has been a co-convener of the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Vio-

lence and a leader in *Do Not Stand Idly By*, a national campaign that is working with local and state government and law enforcement to demand more of companies they buy guns from. Cost is \$35. Please register for all or part of the event at <http://www.ants.edu/subverting-gospel-of-guns>.

**WEDNESDAY CHRISTIAN MEDITATION** Christian Meditation is the ancient practice of opening the heart in silence to the indwelling presence of God. Join the circle any Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Lindsay Chapel. No experience is required, but all experience is welcome. Reach Kate Layzer at [klayzer@gmail.com](mailto:klayzer@gmail.com) if you'd like to know more.

### **8 REASONS TO VOLUNTEER AT THE FRIDAY CAFÉ**

- It's a little taste of the reign of God, including donuts.
- It's a great excuse to start the weekend early (how can your employer say no?).
- Change the world, Jesus-style: Eat with people you wouldn't normally be seen with.
- High schoolers: Community service credit!
- The food is really good. (Did we mention donuts?)
- It makes you feel good in your soul.
- It's something you can bring a non-church friend to that you can both enjoy.
- It's love in action.

E-mail Kate Layzer at [klayzer@gmail.com](mailto:klayzer@gmail.com) to volunteer.

**REV. MONICA MAHER HONORED BY QUITO MUSEUM** Our First Church Community Minister, Rev. Dr. Mónica Maher, has been selected as one of 16 women spiritual leaders in Quito, Ecuador to be featured in a public exhibit by the Foundation of the Museums of the City of Quito. The exhibit opening on Saturday Oct 17 will launch the Foundation's Spiritualities Project which will highlight throughout 7 months the rich and diverse spiritual life of the traditionally Catholic city. Congratulations to Monica for this wonderful recognition of her important work!

**REFUGEE CRISIS AND UCC RESPONSE** We have all been reading about the refugee crisis in Europe. Not since the Second World War have we seen such high numbers of refugees and displaced persons desperately seeking safety and refuge in lands not their own. Working with partners inside the country of Syria, and in surrounding countries, the UCC is providing emergency assistance to the millions of refugees who are trying to flee the conflict. Food, water, blankets, hygienic items, essential medicines, medical supplies and equipment have been and will continue to be provided. In addition, psychological, emotional, spiritual, and social support is being given, as are clothes, other non-food items, and support aimed at preparing for the winter cold season, just ahead. **How You Can Help:**

- Prayers are always needed. Please pray for all people having to flee their homes for safety.
- Make a gift. 100% of gifts designated to "Syria Humanitarian Crisis" will go directly to help Syrian refugees and those internally displaced in the Middle East and Europe. Checks payable to One Great Hour of Sharing with the above memo line can be placed in the offering plates and will be delivered to our UCC headquarters.

Thank you for your concern and generosity.

**PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR VALUABLES** As the church program year begins, please be reminded that First Church is an open building, and petty theft does occur here. Please make sure to not leave wallets, purses, phones, etc. unattended. And if you see anything suspicious, please contact a sexton immediately. Thank for your vigilance and care.

*Today's bulletin cover was created by Perry Neubauer.*

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, October 4

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, Lindsay Chapel
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion, Karen McArthur, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Outdoor Church Offerings
- 1:00 p.m. Outdoor Church, Cambridge Common
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Room 22
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

### Monday, October 5

- 6:00 p.m. Budget Planning Meeting, Dan Smith's office

### Tuesday, October 6

- 5:30 p.m. Family Night, Sage Hall

### Wednesday, October 7

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's office
- 3:00 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting, Dan Smith's office
- 6:00 p.m. Christian Meditation, Lindsay Chapel

### Thursday, October 8

- 7:00 p.m. GBIO Delegates Assembly, St. Katharine Drexel Parish  
517 Blue Hill Ave. in Boston
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

### Friday, October 9

- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall

### Sunday, October 11

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Budget Review & Preparation Session for Fall Congregational Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Classes for Pre-K-7th Grade
- 12:30 p.m. First Church Shelter's 2015 Doris Beauvais Lecture and Luncheon, MJH
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

## The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister	Rev. Dr. Karin Case 617-547-2724, ext. 26 karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org
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**FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL**

*United Church of Christ*

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