



The Spire

A publication of the Original Congregational Church

May 2024

Happy Mother's Day

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*As a mother
comforts her
child, so will I
comfort you.*

Isaiah 66:13

Happy Mothers Day



The Ladies Breakfast Club, is meeting on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month, and 5th when there is. We meet at 9:30am at the Village Griddle in Plainville. Contact Emmie Foster or Sue Schwarm if you plan to attend.

The Kitchen Elves, meet the first Wednesday of each month to prepare and deliver meals to members in need. Preparers and drivers are always welcome.

Rehearsal for choir are Thursday evenings at 7:15pm with Justin Kisch.

Join Pastor Ken and friends for Bible Study in person and by Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 10am in our beautiful parlor.

Lunch Bunch meets at noon in Fellowship Hall the 3rd Wednesday of each month for a light lunch of soup, sandwich, desserts and beverages. There's always an element of fun with friends.

Rehearsals for Bells are now Thursday evenings at 6:00pm with Martha Goodman

Highlight Dates



All are welcome! **The SPIRE is available on our website!!**

May 5. Shoreline Ringers Handbell Concert 4:00pm

Go to the OCC page at www.occhurch.net.

May 8. Food, Fun & Faith 5-7pm

“Today’s flowers are dedicated”

Any given Sunday you can dedicate the altar flowers to anyone in your life. Notify the office of your chosen day and you can make a donation to the Flower Fund, or bring in an arrangement yourself. For further information contact AnnMarie in the office.

May 11. Spring Yard Sale 8am-12pm

May 15. Lunch Bunch 12pm

May 23 Red Cross Blood Drive 12:00 - 5:00pm



If you need to contact the office to submit anything for the bulletin or Spire, please e-mail the office at office@occhurch.net or call

NEWCOMERS WELCOME

If you would like to become a member of our church, which affirms your regular participation in our worship life and support of our work and service to the wider community, please be sure to contact Pastor Ken or AnnMarie in the office at anytime. We have a few families and individuals who are interested in being a part of our next service of Reception of New Members. See details at the worship hour and in the worship bulletin. We look forward to growing along with you in your spirit journey!

the office at 508-384-3110. Every effort is made to accommodate your needs.

Facebook is used for information purposes. Messages are checked randomly and it is not a recommended way to connect for anything important.

Thank you for your cooperation.



**THE ORIGINAL CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF WRENTHAM**

**SPRING YARD SALE
MAY 11 8 AM- 12 PM**



**1 EAST ST. WRENTHAM MA 02093
LOCATED IN THE CHURCH VESTRY
WWW.OCCHURCH.NET 508-384-3110**



Food, Fun, & Faith Nights
May 8th Mother's Day crafts
June 12th Father's Day crafts

**Join us for faith and fellowship as we create
gifts for the mothers and fathers in our lives!**



5- 7 PM, stop by or stay for a while
All are welcome to participate
Original Congregational Church Wrentham
1 East St, Wrentham MA 02093

Love Sunday
June 2nd, 2024
Join us for a celebration of Pride
in our church community!

Coffee Hour Activities:

- Cupcake Decorating
- Friendship Bracelets
- Special take home treat

Church Service
Sunday
10:00 AM

**The Original Congregational Church
of Wrentham**
 1 East St, Wrentham MA 02093


**RED CROSS
BLOOD DRIVE**

**ORIGINAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1 EAST ST WRENTHAM MA
THURSDAY MAY 23
12:00 - 5:00 PM**

To schedule a donation visit the website
www.redcross.org
or call 1-800-RED-CROSS
or contact joanmello99@comcast.net
or use the American Red Cross Blood Donor app

**LET'S MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER
PLACE, ONE DONATION AT A TIME!**

Mark those calendars for the annual OCC Church Fair to be held on Saturday, November 16, 2024 from 9 am - 2 pm! This year the fair will have a tree/forest theme to be announced. Many things will be needed closer to fair time but over the summer folks can start to collect items needed for our many tables and areas including: Gifts (non-used items), Jewelry, Attic Treasures (still needed for our upcoming Spring Yard Sale on May 11!), Christmas Decor, Plants (start cuttings), and Books in excellent condition. Thanks in advance for helping us plan ahead for our largest

We Need YOU!

Are you organized? (Do you alphabetize your spices?)

Do you enjoy designing different seasonal looks? (Is your Easter table a wonder to behold?)

If so, the 2024 OCC Christmas fair needs YOU.

Our jewelry section is currently without a leader. We need someone to take charge: to set up displays of donated jewelry; to recruit fellow salespeople to help on the day of the fair, Saturday, 16 November; to make sure that leftover baubles are packed away at the end of the fair. This table is always a busy, happy corner and there's no heavy lifting involved!

During the summer Pam Donlan and Barbara Ligon will hold a "Sort Out the Trinkets" iced tea and cookies party to organize the piles of jewelry already on hand. We'll announce details for this session in June. This should make the fair time set-up easy-peasy for our new table leader. If you are interested in becoming that person, please contact Barbara at bvligon@gmail.com or speak to her on Sunday at church fundraising event!

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OUTREACH MINUTE



Lynette Beaudro was an important part of our participation in the Prison Book Program. She showed us how to visit the Annie Book Store and stock up on new and used paperback books to contribute to the Lucy Parson Book Store in Quincy. Since then we have contributed financially as well as in-person visits to that organization, providing reading material to inmates serving their prison sentences throughout the United States. On Wednesday May 29th the Outreach Team will be making another visit to Quincy to aid them in getting books ready for mailing to a variety of prisons. We will be bringing with us a large donation of books from our church. Thank you for your continuing support of this vital mission and thank you Lynette for bringing this opportunity to us!

Music “Notes”

Justin Kisch

We have several special events planned (both musical and not-specifically musical) as we wind up our season at the OCC.

Spring Concert and Potluck on Sunday April 28. The concert is at **4:00** and the potluck will be at 5:00. Performers will include the Chancel Choir, Monica Yohn, Ben and Blake Blakesley, and the Wrentham wRingers.

Sunday, May 5th at 4:00, we have a performance by the **Shoreline Ringers**, an acclaimed handbell choir from Connecticut. Tickets are available in the church office and at the door.

Wednesday May 8: Food, Fun and Friends, 5 p.m. with Monica and Pastor Ken.

The **Wrentham wRingers** are playing on **Mother’s Day, May 12.**

June 2: Love Sunday activities after worship (during coffee hour).

Our **Music Season ends Sunday June 8.** The Choir and the Wrentham wRingers will provide music for worship, to wrap up the “school year” for these two ensembles.

Wednesday June 12, Food, Fun and Friends, 5 p.m. with Monica and Pastor Ken.

I especially encourage **members of the congregation** (kids and adults) to **play music for worship in the summer months.** Do you (or your children or grandchildren) sing or play an instrument?



Photos from last year's spring concert.

May 2024

You Gave Me Room

Blessed Friends,

In Eastertide we recall our great commission as followers of our Lord. We are sent to be witnesses of all we have received by faith, to continually be at prayer in worship, and to bless others in our mission and service. The church creates safe space to grow in the Spirit.

Psalm 4:1 has us pray to God, “You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.” The church welcomes everyone in to a relationship with God who shines upon us, lightens our hearts, and grants us to be in a place of safety and rest.

It is amazing to learn that in many estimates over 25% of Americans suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder. And yet, so many, for a variety of reasons, may not be able to find a place of safety and rest to let their souls be restored.

In our last “Lunch and Learn” conversation for this spring season, I will introduce us to a resource called “Becoming a W.I.S.E Congregation for Mental Health.” On Sunday, May 5, we will gather in the parlor about 11:20-noon to learn about this important ministry of grace.

WISE means “Welcoming/Inclusive/Supportive/Engaged.” The object of the resource is assist congregations in becoming more welcoming to those living with mental health challenges. There are so many forms of mental wellness issues, every family is impacted.

And yet, are we equipped to support and share our faith gifts in a way that can mean so much?

Acceptance, openness, being free from fear and negative expressions, are some of our faith gifts that may return peace to a person in a way the world does not.

Our WISE introduction will focus on some of the ways congregations can practice and live into being a safe space and a supportive space for those who have mental health conditions. These elements of welcoming and honoring people would enhance all our relationships. And, we will be sure to provide more information about these resources through the year. And guided by the Spirit we will continue to grow together in our outreach, service, and worship!

The Psalm tells us that when in distress, our faith life puts gladness in the heart, we experience safety and rest, and we will join in God’s gracious work of welcoming in those in need of a little TLC in God’s House of Prayer!

May the Lord increase our strength of soul as we love and bless any who are in distress!

Pastor Ken