



**The Congregational Church
of West Medford**

An Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ

Worship with Holy Communion
at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Medford

April 5, 2014



4:00 o'clock pm

WELCOME

The Congregational Church of West Medford, United Church of Christ is in a time of transformation as we seek God's direction for our future. We appreciate your patience with our experimentation and exploration and we thank you for making your way to a different space and a different time.

We want you to know that we extravagantly welcome all people; believers, non-believers, doubters, questioners, no matter who they love, their gender identity or expression, their race, culture, ability, or economic circumstance. All are a blessing to our journey of faith and we seek to share God's love and grace with all.

*We pray that you might meet God here today—and connect with another seeking the same.
We invite you to participate in the acts of worship that work for you and encourage you should you choose not to participate in others.*

Prayers: Joys and concerns are often offered openly as an act of worship. Our pastor and deacons pray these requests through the week. You are also welcome to request prayer via the blue sheet in your bulletin, leaving it in the offering plate or with the pastor or a deacon.

GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Bruce Roberts

One: Return, people of God, for rest and renewal;
Come to the source of life for new breath.

**All: *God has heard our voices and listened to us,
God's mercy saves and preserves us.***

One: Celebrate this time of worship and remembrance.
Rejoice in the Spirit of God which dwells in you.

**All: *When the snares of death bring distress and anguish,
God keeps our feet from stumbling.***

One: Give thanks to God, who is gracious and righteous;
Walk before God in the land of the living.

**All: *We bring our doubts and fears, our work and worries,
To this time of reflection and refreshment.***

*Opening Song

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

Insert # 286

* Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

-2-

Sharing Ourselves with God and Each Other

Invitation—*Imagine a time when you felt totally weary and believed that you just could not go on. Take a moment to write a few words, draw a picture or make a mental picture that recalls that experience for you. (page 5)*

Silence

Confession

***The Good News of God’s Grace and Presence**

***Passing of the Peace**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

***Sung Response**

“Down at the Cross”

Insert

Time with Young Christians

Church Life and Mission

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

You are invited to name your prayers or write your prayers on the blue prayer sheet.

The Lord’s Prayer (You are welcome to pray in the language most familiar to you)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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

**“Breathe on Me Breath of God”
Stanzas 1—2**

Insert # 292

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

Spirit, we are preparing to open the Scriptures. We want to hear from you as we read. We want to understand these living words and apply them to our lives. We believe that you can give us insight and understanding. Move in us and give us hearts that are open to the truth we will encounter. Let us be changed because we have engaged in the word of the Lord. Amen.

From the Bible

Ezekiel 37:1—14

Bruce Roberts

Response—*think about some of the expressions of hope you have received from someone in the past. What words or phrases were offered to you in a time of despair? Write, draw or imagine these words or phrases and in just a moment we will read out these expressions of hope. (Page 5)*

Hymn

**“Breathe on Me Breath of God”
Stanzas 3—4**

Insert # 292

Sermon

SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL

Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade

Affirmation of faith

One: We affirm our faith together.

**All: *We believe in the steadfast love of God,
whose willingness to hear is greater than our despair;
whose power to forgive is greater than our sin;
we trust in this God to save us.***

***We believe in Jesus Christ, who wept in anger and grief;
who faced life with hope and death with courage;
at his command the bonds of death are untied/unloosed/broken;
in him we find life and resurrection.***

***We believe in the Spirit of God, who breathes new life into dead bones;
who dwells in us and brings us hope; who forms us into the people of God,
always alive to new possibilities; this is the Spirit who dwells in us.***

Offering

Invitation to Joyful Stewardship

Bruce Roberts

Offertory

***Procession of Gifts**

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, comforter; One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Closing Song**

“I Want To Be Ready”

Insert # 616

Blessing

One: Stirred, encouraged and called out by the Spirit of Life, go into this new week
attuned to new possibilities for the making of love and justice within the world.

**All: *We go in the peace of God, the love of Christ and the renewing grace
of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

Benediction

Postlude

* Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Imagine a time when you felt totally weary and believed that you just could not go on. Take a moment to write a few words, draw a picture or make a mental picture that recalls that experience for you.

Think about some of the expressions of hope you have received from someone in the past. What words or phrases were offered to you in a time of despair? Write, draw or imagine these words or phrases and in just a moment we will read out these expressions of hope.

WORSHIP AT THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WEST MEDFORD

Everyone is encouraged to join in a time of community building and refreshments, immediately after worship—through the door to the right of the chancel.

Today, Saturday, April 5, Celebrating the Fifth Sunday in Lent
Worship at 4:00 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Medford

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The Liturgists today Bruce Roberts.

The Deacon of the Month for April is Julie Roberts.

Leadership for Fellowship Hour for April is the Stewardship, Building & Grounds.
with special thanks to those who brought goodies &
Karen McCune Barca for this week's refreshments.

Welcome back and thanks to Rad Yarjian for leading us in music today,

Sunday, April 6, 2014, Fifth Sunday in Lent

No 10:00 am Worship Service at CCWM

Confirmation Class and Mentors Field Trip to Myrtle Baptist Church, Newton (10 am depart)

NO Faith Formation/Confirmation Class @ 4:00 pm

Kindhearted Woman Film and Discussion— 4:00 pm (FH & Sanctuary)

April 9, 2014 CCWM Joint Ministry Meeting (LR)

Worship 7:00—7:30 pm

Meeting 7:30—9:00 pm

Sunday, April 13, 2014, Palm Sunday

Palms for Passersby—8:00-9:00 am & 12:30-1:00 pm (after worship/meeting)

Cleaning The Closets—9:30 am-10:00 am; 11:00 am--12:00 pm

Palm Sunday Worship Service—10 am (Sanctuary)

All Church Meeting—Presenting “The Bold Decision” Recommendation (Barnes)

Palms for Passersby—8:00-9:00 am & 12:30-1:00 pm (after worship/meeting)

*Please join Rev. Wendy in Passing out Eco-Palms
to our neighbors and passersby! Let's offer the gift of this
symbol of our faith to all!*

Invite a friend to Easter Breakfast and Worship.



**We are on the move.
Here are the changes in our worship
plans for the next few months!!**

**If you need help with transportation or
keeping track of what is happening,
please ask a deacon for help.**



Upcoming Schedule for Worship Please note these changes in our plans for worship as our Exploration continues:		
Saturday	4/5/2014	4 pm: Worship w. Communion at UU Church, Medford
Sunday	4/6/2014	No Worship at 10 am Confirmation Class Field Trip to Myrtle Baptist Worship
Sunday	4/13/2014	8:00—9:00 am: Palms for Passersby 10 am: Palm Sunday Worship in Sanctuary; 11: 30 am: All Church Meeting re: Bold Decision Recommendation 12:30-1:00 pm: Palms for Passersby
Sunday	4/20/2014	8:30 am: Easter Pot Luck Breakfast w/Egg Hunt 10:00 am: Easter Worship in Sanctuary
Sunday	4/27/2014	10 am: Wendy Vander Hart Preaching, Worship in Sanctuary
Sunday	5/4/2014	No Worship at CCWM 10 am: Worship w/Communion, Non sanctuary space TBD
Sunday	5/11/2014	10 am: Worship in Sanctuary, Mother's Day and Baptism
Sunday	5/18/2014	10 am: Worship in Sanctuary, Confirmation Sunday
Sunday	5/25/2014	10 am: Worship in Sanctuary
Sunday	6/1/2014	10 am: Worship at CCWM Congregational Decision Making Meeting —Bold Decision

THIS WEEK AT YOUR CHURCH

Saturday, April 5, 2024: Worship (UUMedford) 4:00 pm

Sunday, April 6, 2014, Fifth Sunday in Lent

No Sunday Worship Service at The Congregation

Confirmation Class Field Trip to Myrtle Baptist Newton (leave church @ 10:00 am)
Tibetan Sunday School (Lower Level) 12:00 pm Church of Redemption (Bean Chapel) 11:30 pm
Goodland Church Worship (in Korean) (Sanctuary) 12:30 pm
Kindhearted Woman Film and Discussion— 4:00 pm (FH & Sanctuary)

Monday

(3) Boot Camp Sessions: 5:45 am--6:15 am;
8:15 am--9:00 am; 5:30 pm--6:15 pm (FH)
Yoga— 6:30 pm (FH)
Mother's Club—7:30 pm (LR)

Tuesday

Gamblers Anonymous—7:30 pm (BC)
Gam-Anon—7:30 pm (YR)

Wednesday

(3) Boot Camp Sessions: 5:45 am--6:15 am;
8:15 am--9:00 am; 5:30 pm--6:15 pm (FH)
CCWM Joint Ministry Team Meeting —7:00 pm (Bean)
Alcoholics Anonymous— 8:00 pm (YR)

Thursday

Food Addicts—6:00 pm (YR)

Friday

(3) Boot Camp Sessions: 5:45 am--6:15 am;
8:15 am--9:00 am; 5:30 pm--6:15 pm (FH)
Strategic Planning—9:30 am (LR)
Church of God of Redemption—7:00 pm (Bean)
Girl Scouts Mom and Me Dance — 7:00 pm (FH)

Saturday

Alanon— 9:00 am (YR)
Yoga—9:00 am (FH)
Boot Camp—12:15 pm (FH)

Sunday, April 13, 2014, Palm Sunday

Palms for Passersby—8:00-9:00 am (High & Allston)
Cleaning The Closets—9:30 am-10:00 am; 11:00 am--12:00 pm
Palm Sunday Worship Service 10 am (Sanctuary)
All Church Meeting 11:30 am (Barnes)
Palms for Passersby—12:30-1:00 pm (High & Allston)
Tibetan Sunday School (Lower Level) 12:00 pm Church of Redemption (Bean Chapel) 11:30 pm
Goodland Church Worship (in Korean) (Sanctuary) 12:30 pm

Room Legend: (BC) Barnes Chapel; (Bean) Bean Chapel; (DR) Dining Room; (LR) Living Room; (YR) Youth Room

The Congregational Church of West Medford, United Church of Christ

Ministers: All of us!

Organist and Choir Director: Dr. Herman Weiss

Co- Moderators: Paul Roberts & Rich Carle

Treasurer: Beverly Roche

Pastor and Teacher: Reverend Wendy Miller Olapade

Church Administrator: Diane Petrelis

Deacon of the Month: Julie Roberts

Clerk: Karen McCune Barca

400 High St. Medford, MA 02155, www.medfordchurch.org

office@medfordchurch.org, 781-395-3360

Rev. Wendy—pastor@medfordchurch.org