

Franklin Interfaith Council's Annual Thanksgiving Service

Pianist Amy Byerly
Chorister Mary Diehl

Welcome The Rev. Kathy McAdams, Rector
St. John's Episcopal Church

Congregational Hymn "We Gather Together"

Invocation Father Bob Poitras
St. Mary's Parish

Responsive Reading (*see insert*) Rabbi Tom Alpert
Temple Etz Chaim

Anthem Franklin Interfaith Choir
"Hinei Ma Tov"
Music: Hebrew Folk Song, Words: Psalm 133:1
"How good and pleasant it is for everyone to live together as one."

Reading Rev. Bev Waring, Interim Minister
First Universalist Society in Franklin
"Choose to Bless the World" by Rev. Rebecca Parker

Message Rev. Doreen Oughton
Franklin Federated Church
"Thanksgiving – A Path to Wholeness"

Anthem Franklin Interfaith Choir
"I Think the World is Glorious"
Music: Alexander Schreiner, Words: Anna Johnson
Arranged: Marianne Axman, adapted by Mary Diehl

A Call to Generosity Rev. Jacob Juncker, FIC President
Franklin United Methodist Church

Offertory Michele Kelly, pianist
"Always" by Lindy Kirby

Congregational Hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Benediction Bishop Karl Meredith
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

GRATEFUL THANKS ARE EXTENDED TO:

- Franklin Interfaith Choir, directed by Mary Diehl, accompanied by Amy Byerly, glockenspiel by Tommy Diehl, from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Hospitality: members of St. John's Episcopal Church

Comprising many of the houses of worship in Franklin, the Interfaith Council addresses the various needs of Franklin by recognizing the power of faith as defined by our individual spiritual traditions. However, it is these same traditions that unite us in the common goal to initiate and sponsor activities that enrich and challenge the citizens of Franklin. The intent of the council is to sensitize the Franklin community to issues of deprivation and social injustice, and to promote tolerance and understanding through programs, performances and publications and to bring the understanding of our faith traditions to bear on these issues. Additionally, through these same devices, the council seeks to both acknowledge and

celebrate the diversity and the common values existing within Franklin. The council is a nonprofit organization that has as its primary purpose the betterment of the community it serves. We typically meet 9-10 times each year to discuss how to implement these ideals.

Here are some examples of ways we have contributed in 2023:

- Sponsor of 2023 Turkey Trot www.franklinturkeytrot.org
- Due to efforts of the Interfaith Council, 275 Holiday Meals were provided to our neighbors in Franklin
- Held "Voices of Faith" Spring Concert to raise funds for Franklin Farmer's Market "SNAP match" from Food Pantry
- Participated in Overdose Awareness Day
- Provided Emergency Shelter Donation collection sites for food, supplies and clothing including ongoing sorting, distribution & storage.
- Organized an After School Program for the children at the Emergency Shelter in Franklin
- Issued Statement on Hamas' Attack on Israel
- Providing local fuel assistance

Current members of the FIC include:



Franklin Federated Church



Franklin United Methodist Church



Temple Etz Chaim



St. John's Episcopal Church



St. Mary Parish



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



First Universalist Society in Franklin

Franklin Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Service



Thanksgiving - A Path to Wholeness

Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 7:00pm

St. John's Episcopal Church
237 Pleasant Street, Franklin, MA 02038