

The TIDINGS

Covenant Congregational Church

Celebrating 140 years of ministry

There is a prayer that Devyn and I read our girls when they were younger, it goes like this:

What is a blessing? What is it like? Is it a flower, a puppy, a bike?

A blessing is something that brings you joy It might be a pet and it could be a toy.

A blessing is something good for you And often it will teach you too.

The Shepherd will send them, bundled with care [ust look! His blessings are everywhere!

We see "blessings" everywhere: a word on the back of my co-workers coffee mug, on a sweatshirt at Starbucks, on a bumper sticker. "Blessings!", I've noticed, is the second most common way I sign my emails after "Thanks-Exclamation Point".

I've seen blessings this week elsewhere, too, of course. In our new puppy we got this summer, in the warmth of my house in the autumn, randomly bumping into a church member at the library.

But, the poem asks us something else. It asks: what is a blessing? What is it like? Is it like the things I mentioned?

And what of those days and weeks (and maybe, for some of us) those years...what of those moments which don't feel very blessed? Periods of illness or unemployment or national strife. I just had to walk our puppy in the pouring rain this morning. I'm not bitter, but am I blessed?

What is a blessing? What is it like?

When Jesus is talking about coming into the Lord's blessing, about coming into the Kingdom of God, he provides several examples:

Become like a little child

Be born again

Come through a narrow gate

Sell everything you own or leave everything you have and follow Jesus

Dramatically change the way you live

The Christian way of following Jesus seems to say something about blessings. We want our blessings showered down from above, we want to hold open our hands without letting anything go. We want God to fulfill us without us being emptied. But Jesus says, to be blessed be less.

We have been blessed as a congregation in this season with many wonderful events, ministries and people. May we commit our lives and community to follow him and hold open our hands to receive his gracious blessings.





fellowship

fellowship@ecovchurch.org





Friendship

Friendship Club: "Happy Memories"

The Friendship Club will be holding its next meeting on Wednesday, October 23rd in the fireside room at 12 noon.

There will be a pot luck lunch and guests are encouraged to bring along a dish to share.

The theme for this meeting is Happy Memories. Attendees are invited to bring an item—a photo, an article or any small memento—that represents a happy memory in their lives. Sharing is optional, but the hope is that these memories will bring smiles and spark conversation.

The Friendship Club is open to all, no age restrictions, though many members are retired. Whether you are new to the area or a long time resident, you'll find a warm welcome and plenty of laughter.

Come and enjoy good company, delicious food and a cheerful afternoon. We look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions please contact Carol Schigg (508) 238-6333, Judy Davis (508) 238-6110 or Sue Plante (508) 944-8781

Missions & Service Ministry

Winter Coat Drive

We will be holding a Winter Coat Drive during the month of October. Please set aside your gently used winter coats for all ages. We will be collecting them in the Narthex and delivering them to the "L Street Mission". Thank you for your help!





Help Build a Bridge

We are hosting a *Life Skills Workshop* for High School and College students in the Bridge Mentoring Program with School on Wheels

October 18, 2025

Homelessness and unstable housing and families, makes learning basic life skills like cooking, budgeting, care of clothing, and so much more almost impossible. Please help me in gathering some supplies that will help me teach some Life Skills for students in the *Bridge Program from School on Wheels of MA*. It will be "hands on" and very interactive.

Donations of the following new items are needed:

Measuring cups
Mini First Aid Kits
Flour—5 lbs.
Baking Powder—1 Can
Bisquick—1 Box
Hershey's Baking Cocoa—1
Plastic Wrap—1 box

Measuring Spoons
Reusable food shopping bags
Sugar—5 lbs.
Cooking Oil—10-12oz
Chocolate Chips—3 Bags
Confectionary Sugar—2 boxes
Aluminum Foil—1 Box

Spatulas
Baking Soda—1 Box
Butter—1 lb.
Peanut Butter—16 oz
Vegetable Peeler

Grocery store Gift Card or cash to purchase lunch and snack supplies. Kindly drop off items in the Narthex in the Bridge Box by 10/13/2025 Many thanks, Ruth Porter





Michael Fiore	2	Megan Plante	11	Scott Finlayson	16	Sharon Finlayson	24
Myles Johnson	4	David Hayes	12	Marcia Johnson	16	Linda Cohen	25
Susan Santry	Susan Santry 7 Beth		14	Emilee Medeiros	16	Peter Burch	26
Alex McIlhatten	8	Ava Anderson	14	Samuel Wheeler	16	Sarah Bean	28
Kameron Burton	9	Robert Driscoll	14	Marlena Silva	19	Cathy Zelinski	28
David Sproul	10	Thomas Wheeler	14	Meredith Whitelaw	22	Thomas McCormick	30
David Cudmore	11	Nora Wallace	15	Grace Driscoll	23	Priscilla Driscoll	31

Care Ministry

Prayers of Petition

- Those dealing with addiction, isolation, financial trouble, and loss.
- The health of marriages in the church and for those who long to be married.
- Continued prayers for those with health challenges: Karen Bassett, Rebecca Carroll, Carole DesLauriers, Lynda Valenzuela, Kym Silva, Ginny & Jim Elson, Elmore Dyer, Andrea Siciliano, Dana Morse, Marilyn Mears and Marcia Johnson
- Please pray for our missionaries abroad, Grant & Miho Buccholtz (Japan) & Rev. James Tang (Africa- South Sudan/Ethiopia) & their families.
- For the war in Israel and Gaza. May God bring peace!
- That God would continue to provide the resources and volunteers needed to do his work at CCC.
- For individuals struggling with mental health challenges, domestic abuse and addiction.
- Please give parents wisdom and strength.
- Would we read and pray the Bible and trust that the Lord is with us
- For all the ministries that are restarting this fall.
- For wisdom as we seek to fill two staff positions: Administrative Assistant and Music Director.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Celebration

- For God's provision for both finances and volunteers at CCC!
- For Alice Fu and Susan Santry who have stepped in to lead the choir in this interim season.
- For a great start to Confirmation and Trailblazers this fall.
- For the Wiggle Room renovations. Grateful for Vicky Papetti's design and for the Memorial Funds that are making it possible.
- For the Summer Eagle Scout projects: outside landscaping and the relocation of the library.
- For Owen & Hazel Hayes celebrating their 76th wedding anniversary.

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	Saturday	4 10:00a Women's Bible Study (fireside)	II 10:00a Women's Bible Study (fireside)	18 10:00a Women's Bible Study (fireside)	10:00a Women's Bible Study (fireside) 2:00p Trunk or Treat (parking lot)	
	Friday	3	10	17	24	31 Halloween
2025	Thursday	2 7:30p Prayer Hour (chapel)	9 7:30p Prayer Hour (chapel)	16 7:30p Prayer Hour (chapel) *Tidings Deadline*	23 7:30p Prayer Hour (chapel)	30 7:30p Prayer Hour (chapel)
\geq	Wednesday	1 7:00p Worship & Music Ministry Meeting (zoom)	∞	7:00p Children & Youth Ministry Meeting (fireside)	12:00p Friendship Club (fireside) 6:30p Tupperware BINGO (fireside)	29
	Tuesday		7 6:30p Mission & Service Ministry Meeting (200m)	14 7:00p Council Meeting (fireside)	21	28
	Monday		6 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Community Men's Bible Study (offsite) 7:00p Stephen Minister Training (youth lounge)	13 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Community Men's Bible Study (offsite)	7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Community Men's Bible Study (offsite) 7:00p Stephen Minister Training (youth lounge)	77 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Community Men's Bible Study (offsite)
	Sunday		5 9:00a Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 9:15a Adult Sunday School (youth lounge) 10:30a Worship & Communion (sanctuary) 5:00p Confirmation (fireside) 6:00p Youth Group/ Trailblazers (gym) 7:30p Men's Basketball (gym)	9:00a Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 9:15a Adult Sunday School (youth lounge) 10:30a Worship (sanctuary) 7:30p Men's Basketball (gym)	9:00a Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 9:15a Adult Sunday School (youth lounge) 10:30a Worship (sanctuary) 4:00p Second Nurture (gym & youth lounge) 5:00p Confirmation (fireside) 6:00p Youth Group/ Trailblazers (gym) 7:30p Men's Basketball (gym)	26 9:00a Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 9:15a Adult Sunday School (youth lounge) 10:30a Worship (sanctuary) 5:00p Confirmation (fireside) 6:00p Youth Group/ Trailblazers (gym) 7:30p Men's Basketball (gym)





204 Center Street North Easton, MA 02356

CCC AT A GLANCE

Sunday Mornings

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

(Online and In-person)

Staff:

Pastor Ryan & Pastor Devyn Chambers Johnson

Co-Pastors

Nick Zelinski

Church Custodian & IT Wizard

www.ecovchurch.org

508.238.6423



Our Mission

To Connect the generations to Christ, to

Grow in our love for His Church, and to

Serve God in the greater Community