



Summer 2026

The TIDINGS

Covenant Congregational Church

Dare to Be a Daniel

The classic children's challenge rings out each summer: I DARE you! (or the even more serious "I DOUBLE-DOG dare you!") It stands as a challenge to do something brave and courageous: jump from the high dive, pick up the lizard, or eat the giant pile of ice cream. The question sits before each of the children: will they take up the challenge? Will they be brave and do the thing which few others are willing to do?

Most of us know the basics of the Old Testament book of Daniel. Some of us know the children's song: "Dare to be a Daniel" or have seen the Veggie Tale videos. The book's stories and their dangerous locations feature prominently in Sunday School: Daniel in the lion's den and the three people in the fiery furnace. These are places and stories that demand bravery and courage.

The book of Daniel follows the people of God as they are brought to a foreign land. The nation of Israel has been defeated in war, individuals have been taken into exile in a foreign land and now God's followers are seeking to follow him in a nation (Babylon) and among people who do not know or respect the God of Israel and his ways. For these God followers to even pray to God or not to worship the Emperor means putting their very lives on the line. As the song says:

Dare to be a Daniel

Dare to stand alone

Dare to have a purpose firm

Dare to make it known

It is Daniel's faithfulness to God's call and commands which we seek to emulate with our own lives.

We are grateful to live in a country where we are free to worship (and grateful to celebrate 250 years of that freedom this month!) We think of our sisters and brothers in Christ around the world who face similar challenges to Daniel as they seek to stand for faith. May the Lord bless those who sacrifice so much to serve him.

Nevertheless, we, too, are called to be courageous as we seek to follow and serve Jesus. Our courage faces different challenges than Daniel, but they are challenges nonetheless: the challenge to follow Christ when others would seek their own self-interest, dehumanizing actions and comfort. We embody the full and faithful way of Christ which causes us to do challenging things which show forth his love, justice and peace to the world around us. We love and care for those who are ignored, we advocate for those who are silenced, we use our resources in ways that seem reckless, we spend our focus and time on the things of Christ.

So will you take the dare to live a different sort of life? Will you take the dare to demand we look to God and his priorities as first in our lives? Will you take the dare to look out for the little people around you? Will you dare to be a Daniel?

Join us from July 12 to August 9 as we explore these stories and these themes. Have a great summer!

– Pastor Ryan

Summer Memory Verse:

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. - Joshua 1:9

Help Needed with Watering the Gardens



Now that Summer is here - we'd like to keep our flowers blooming! Help is needed with watering. If you can commit to taking a week to keep things watered it would help so much.

Please take a look at the sign up for more details, thank you!

<https://tinyurl.com/cccwatering>



Thank you to everyone that donated and helped out with our recent Shoe Drive.

We collected 1059 lbs. of shoes and received \$334.40 in funds!



stephen
MINISTRY®

Stephen Ministers Care

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who receive special training to provide one-to-one Christian care to people in our congregation and community experiencing challenges in life - grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization, disability, job loss, and many other life difficulties.

To learn how to receive care from a Stephen Minister - or how to become one - contact a pastor or Stephen Leader.

Cheryl Opper: 781-254-2490
CherylStephenMinistry@ecovchurch.org

Emie Ortega: 508-654-5042
EmieStephenMinistry@ecovchurch.org

New Training Class starts this fall

FRIENDSHIP CLUB Potluck Lunch Noon to 2:00

Wednesday, July 22

David Clifton speaks about the Easton 300th Anniversary which he chaired last year.

Wednesday, August 26

Dave Sproul will present about the history of our church with lots of photos from the church on Main Street.

The Friendship Club is open to all, no age restrictions, though many are retired.

Any questions or suggestions, call Sue Plante 508-944-8781

HELP
HOPE
HEALING

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

GALATIANS 6:2

The New England Seafarers Mission has revamped their website. Please check it out, especially the volunteer portion of the site. They need volunteers for a day to fill the open shifts for their Cruise Ship Ministry.

<https://neseafarers.org/volunteer/> under Cruise Ship Ministry select Sign up for a shift

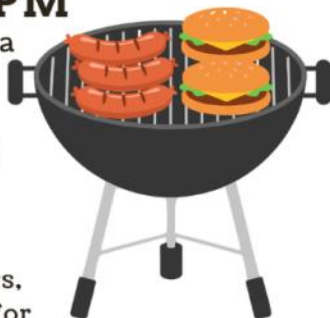
Our own church Missions & Service team is already scheduled to volunteer in September.

If there are any questions, contact the Missions and Service team members (Sandy Willette, Sally Poirier, Sara Papetti, Lou Ann Falls or Lita Kuipers). Thank you.

SUMMER COOKOUT & MOVIE NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15
5:30PM

Join us at the church for a summer cookout filled with great food, lawn games, a movie and good company.



GRILL IS ON!

We will provide the burgers, dogs, and dessert. We ask for you to bring a side dish, salad, or chips.

LAWN GAMES!

We'll have some but feel free to bring your favorite.



MOVIE NIGHT!

7:00PM movie in the gym, Popcorn and water provided. Please bring a lawn chair, blanket or anything you'd like to be comfy for the movie



PICNIC & GAMES IN THE PARK

**TUESDAY
AUGUST 4
6PM TO 8PM**

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DINNER, DRINK, AND LAWN
CHAIR - WE'LL EAT TOGETHER AND PLAY GAMES

**FROTHINGHAM PARK
15 PARK STREET
NORTH EASTON**

MINI GOLF OUTING

JULY 26
3:00PM

Prisco's
8 Romney Road
Bridgewater, MA 02324

\$10 per golfer
Cash Only



AUGUST 19

Meet outside the stadium at 6:30pm to all enter together. Bring a canned good (or a few) in exchange for a free ticket. If you plan to come please text Joyce Nelson by August 15 508-941-4510

Campanelli Stadium
1 Feinberg Way, Brockton, MA 02301



Decorating Preparations: 7:00pm, every Thursday in July. We would love your help to work on crafting the decorations for this summer's VBS. Meeting in the downstairs classrooms. All are welcome to join us.

School Supply Drive

for students impacted by homelessness & poverty

Saturday, July 18, 2026 9:00AM to Noon

**Covenant Congregational Church
204 Center St, N. Easton MA 02356**

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

Most Needed

- Quality backpacks for boys & girls K-12 (size 17" or larger to fit needed supplies and a lunchbox)
- Pocket Folders
- Single Subject Notebooks (wide ruled)
- Plastic Pencil Boxes (preferred size 8.4" x 5.6")
- Zippered Pencil Pouches (preferred size 9.5" x 5.6")
- Ear Phones or Ear Buds
- New books for all grade levels (pre-k through grade 12)
- Square Root Calculators
- Scientific Calculators
- Jumbo Pencils
- Washable Markers Broad Tip (8 or 10 pack) (must be washable)
- 3-Holed, Lined Paper (wide ruled)
- 1" Binders

Always Needed

- Glue Sticks
- Blunt Children's Scissors (must be blunt)
- Composition Notebooks
- Large Pencil Sharpeners (with cover)
- Pens (blue or black)
- Colored Pencils (12 pack)
- Highlighters
- Flexible Plastic Rulers
- Index Cards (100 pack)
- Binder Dividers
- Dry Erase Markers & "sock" for erasing

Other Supplies

- Crayola Crayons -- 24 box
- Dixon Ticonderoga Pencils

**Adult Sunday School
Continues this
Summer!**

**Sunday mornings,
9:15 - 10:15am in the
youth lounge
downstairs**

Join us this summer for an informal Adult Sunday School gathering.

Everyone is welcome, invite a friend!

It's a great way to stay connected to each other and to Jesus' love and grace!

Coffee and a treat will be served.

For more information contact Cheryl Opper at 781-254-2490 or Cheryl@sowma.org

The Average Age of a Homeless Person in Massachusetts is **8**

Last year Massachusetts public schools identified **33,000** students impacted by homelessness.



Every school year **10,000+ Students** receive quality, grade-level customized backpacks and **Tools for School**

SCHOOL on WHEELS MASSACHUSETTS
100 Laurel Street
E. Bridgewater, MA 02335
508-587-9091

The Mission of School on Wheels of Massachusetts is to promote the academic, social and emotional growth of students impacted by homelessness and poverty.

To Volunteer or Stage a Drive scan the QR code



Skills, Talents & Interests Survey

Please take a moment to complete our Skills, Talents & Interests Survey –it is quick and easy to complete, with check-box responses. Having this information will help us connect members with opportunities that match their interests and strengthen the ministries and programs of our congregation. Completing the survey does not commit you to volunteering or participating in any particular activity. Rather, it provides us with a better understanding of the many gifts and interests that make up our church community.

Printed copies will be available in the Narthex for those who prefer to complete the survey by hand.

Please place completed surveys in the designated box.

If you have any questions, please contact the Whole Life Stewardship Committee.

Thank you.



<https://forms.gle/L5m2LXW4AQh33K7d8>

July Birthdays

1 Cheyenne Buck	20 Neil Linehan
2 Karl-Erik Nelson	23 Gail Hayes
3 Rich Cudmore	24 Payton Gill
6 Russell Williams	25 Robert McIlhatten
8 Jessica Wilson	25 Jean Williams
9 Susanna Johnson	25 Edward Willis
12 Janice Marsan	26 Charlie Long
13 Virginia Elson	28 William Evans
15 Paula Bobbitt	28 Sara Papetti
15 Janice Kaplan	30 Courtney Lake
18 Jerry Marsan	31 Doris Hayward
19 Robin Knowlton	



August Birthdays

1 Haleigh Knowlton Tainter	16 Tom McCormick
1 Joshua Wainwright	16 Judith Towne
2 Hazel Hayes	19 Larry Abreu
2 Janie Hayes	19 Savannah Mulholland
2 Clara Long	23 James Carlson
6 Antonio Gomes	23 Joan MacLeod
6 Beverly Hanson	25 Kym Silva
9 Todd Cudmore	28 Stephanie Hight
10 Robert Carroll	29 Dave Wallace
15 John-Erik Nelson	30 Erin McNeil
15 Cheryl Opper	30 Evan Whitelaw

Happy Summer!!

☀️🕶️ The Care Team is always “open for business” and just 🕶️☀️ because the season has moved into “vacation mode” doesn’t mean we stop caring for our church family. We are always ready to help during a time of need with meals, driving needs and errands after an illness or other incapacity.

We were excited to add two new members to our team this year, with Doug Falls and Sue Plante who round out our ranks with their skills for visitations and the “personal touch”. This is an element we were sorely missing and we certainly welcome them to our ministry, what a bonus!

Please remember we may not always hear of illness or surgery through “word of mouth”. It is important to contact the office or pastors so they can convey to us any issues as they arise.

Blessings from your Care Ministry!

Galatians 6:2: “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”

*Melissa Gallinaro, Gallinaro4@comcast.net, 508241-2708

*Dianne Sproul, Priscilla Driscoll, Sara Papetti, Douglas Falls, Sue Plante, Heather Willis, Karen Bassett

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Celebration

- Thanksgiving for the baptisms of Aiden Ivaldi, Allison Ivaldi, and Pierre Clark.
- For our faithful Children & Youth Ministry Volunteers!
- For a celebratory Children’s Sunday and for all the children who used their gifts to lead us in Worship.
- For our choir and worship/music volunteers who lead us in worship every week.
- Grateful for the faith journeys of our confirmation students: Gunnar McNeil, Pierre Clark, Luke Malasi, Antonio Gomes and Rosie Johnson.

Prayers of Petition

- Prayers for our high school graduates as they celebrate their accomplishments but also prepare for their next steps in life. May God continue to be near to them and guide them.
- For the Vacation Bible School preparations and needed volunteers.
- For the conflict in Israel and Gaza, Ukraine, Iran and South Sudan. May God bring peace!
- Please pray for our missionaries abroad: Grant & Miho Buccholtz (Japan), Rev. James Tang (Africa- South Sudan/Ethiopia) and for their families.
- Continued prayers for those with health challenges: Karen Bassett, Rebecca Carroll, Kym Silva, Ginny & Jim Elson, Andrea Siciliano, Dana Morse, Bob Carroll, Gordon Mears, Sara Papetti, Lyn Carroll, Bob McIlhatten and Pastor Devyn's father Jay Chambers.
- Those dealing with addiction, isolation, financial trouble, and loss.
- Would we read and pray the Bible and trust that the Lord is with us.
- 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.
- The health of marriages in the church and for those who long to be married.

Over the summer we know many of you will be traveling and enjoying time with family and friends. In this season please remember to reach out to the office or a pastor if you need a visit or have a pastoral care concern. In addition, if you'd like a church wide prayer email to be sent please contact the office directly. office@ecovchurch.org

The Great Bible GIVEAWAY!

We're having a Great Bible Giveaway and it starts now! The Covenant Congregational Church is giving out Bibles to anyone who requests one, so please share with friends, neighbors, co-workers - everyone! We have:

- a Jesus Calling Bible Storybook for families with young children
- an NIV Adventure Bible for elementary students
- a softcover NIV Outreach Bible for adults.

All one needs to do to get their very own Bible is to ask and then pick it up.
Requests can be emailed to Bibles@ecovchurch.org, or see Judy Buck.

There is no charge, but donations will be accepted.

If you want to be a part of our Great Bible Giveaway, talk to Judy.

Easton Food Pantry "Stuff the Truck" at Shaw's in Easton

Saturday, September 12
10am to 2pm

Join in the fun that day
receiving donations
from the shoppers at
Shaw's and loading
the truck.

You may bring your food donations to
Shaw's that day, or to the church any time.



SAVE THE DATE

Common cathedral

www.commoncathedral.org

Sandwich Making
Saturday, September 19
9am-12pm
at church in the
downstairs kitchen

Worship & Serve Lunch
Sunday, September 20
Meet at church, leaving at 9am
to go to Common Cathedral
in Boston

Youth volunteers must be accompanied by a parent.
Please contact Laura Slomba (415-722-6793) with questions and to sign-up.

JULY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			01	02 7:00pm VBS Decorating Prep (classrooms)	03 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	04 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
05 9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45am Summer Choir Practice (sanctuary) 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym)	06 6:30pm Missions + Service Meeting (zoom) 7:00pm Knitting (fireside) Stephens Minister Training (youth lounge)	07 5:00pm Worship + Music Meeting (zoom) <u>reserved</u> 5:30p-6:30 Gym	08	09 7:00pm VBS Decorating Prep (classrooms) 7:30pm Prayer Hour (chapel) <u>reserved</u> 5:30p-7 Classroom	10 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	11 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
12 9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45am Summer Choir Practice (sanctuary) 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym)	13 7:00pm Knitting (fireside)	14 7:00pm Church Council Meeting (Fireside) VBS Meeting (youth lounge) <u>reserved</u> 5:30p-6:30 Gym	15 5:30pm Cookout (outside) 7:00pm Movie (gym)	16 7:00pm VBS Decorating Prep (classrooms) <u>reserved</u> 9a-11:30 Fireside	17 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	18 9:00am School Supply Drive for School on Wheels (parking lot) 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
19 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Summer Choir Practice (sanctuary) 10:30am Worship 6:00pm Preaching Class (fireside) 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym)	20 7:00pm Knitting (fireside) Stephens Minister Training (youth lounge)	21 <u>reserved</u> 5:30p-6:30 Gym	22 12:00pm Friendship Club (fireside)	23 7:00pm VBS Decorating Prep (classrooms) 7:30pm Prayer Hour (chapel) <u>reserved</u> 9a-11:30 Fireside	24 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	25 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
26 9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 3:00pm Mini golf (off-site) 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym)	27 7:00pm Knitting (fireside)	28 <u>reserved</u> 5:30p-6:30 Gym	29	30 7:00pm VBS Decorating Prep (classrooms) <u>reserved</u> 9a-11:30 Fireside	31 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	

AUGUST 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						01 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
02 9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 6:00pm Preaching Class (fireside) 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym)	03 6:30pm Missions + Service Meeting (zoom) 7:00pm Knitting (fireside) Stephens Minister Training (youth lounge)	04 5:00pm Worship + Music Meeting (zoom) 6:00pm Picnic + Games at Frothingham	05 7:00pm VBS Meeting (fireside)	06 7:30pm Prayer Hour (chapel)	07 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	08 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
09 9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship VBS Decorating 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym)	10 9am-12pm VBS 7:00pm Knitting (fireside)	11 9am-12pm VBS 7:00pm Church Council Meeting (Fireside + Narthex)	12 9am-12pm VBS	13 9am-12pm VBS <u>reserved</u> 5:30p-7 Classroom	14 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside) <u>reserved</u> 9a-11:30 Fireside	15 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
16 9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym)	17 7:00pm Knitting (fireside) Stephens Minister Training (youth lounge)	18	19 6:30pm Brockton Rox Game	20 7:30pm Prayer Hour (chapel) <u>reserved</u> 9a-11:30 Fireside	21 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	22 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
23 9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym) <u>reserved</u> 1:00pm Front Lawn	24 7:00pm Knitting (fireside)	25	26 12:00pm Friendship Club (fireside)	27	28 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	29 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
30 9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 7:30pm Men's Basketball (gym)	31 7:00pm Knitting (fireside)					

Please note: Tiny Tots is holding summer sessions, Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm. If you need access to the downstairs of the church during those hours, contact the church office.



204 Center Street
North Easton, MA 02356



Covenant Congregational Church exists to build a welcoming community
so that all generations can know God, participate freely, and grow in faith together.

Sunday Mornings

10:30am Worship Service
(Online and In-person)

www.ecovchurch.org
508-238-6423

Staff

Co-Pastor: Rev. Ryan Chambers Johnson
Co-Pastor: Rev. Dr. Devyn Chambers Johnson
Choir Director: Alice Fu
Office Administrator: Erin Gomes
Custodian & IT Wizard: Nick Zelinski

Dare to be a **DANIEL**

JULY 12 - AUGUST 9

Sundays, 10:30AM

Special Sermon Series and Children's Programming