

# THE TIDINGS

## Covenant Congregational Church

*Celebrating over 135 years of ministry*

Many years ago now, I traveled to Seattle Washington to visit the family of a young woman I had begun dating (and would eventually marry!). The region is a breathtaking part of our great country with lush green hills and wild running rivers. There is a reason, however, that it is the city famous for its coffee: it is nearly always cloudy and wet.

I flew in for that first visit on a rare, partly-sunny day. When I got to my future in-laws' home, they asked me a perplexing question: "On the drive down," they asked, "was the mountain out?"

The mountain they were referring to was Mount Rainier: the towering, 14,000 foot snow capped mountain which looms over the Seattle metro area. It is visible from all around the region and is a breathtaking sight to behold. Due to how cloudy the area is, you can easily go an entire week without seeing it. When the sun shines and the clouds clear, however, the locals quickly announce: the mountain is out!

This spring it has felt like the clouds are breaking and the sun is beginning to shine. We have been blessed in countless ways by the working of the Holy Spirit among us. It is rare for Pastor Devyn and I to go more than a few days without hearing a praise of God's work in one of your lives. What better time then to take in the sight of God at work and to begin to look forward to how God might be calling and leading our congregation into the future.

On Saturday, May 21st, we will have a chance to do this work together with a conversation and workshop entitled "**Higher Elevations: Managing Momentum, Mission and Ministry.**" Everyone is encouraged to attend; it runs from 9:00 a.m. until Noon in the church sanctuary. Rev. Doug Bixby, lead pastor of the Covenant Church in Attleboro, will guide our time. He will help us consider the potential for mission and ministry, how to avoid pitfalls which block growth, and lean into our strengths as a congregation. It promises to be an engaging time.

"The mountain is out!" Instead of walking with our heads down in the cloudy valleys, let's join in the hike up the mountain to "higher elevations". Like the disciples who joined Jesus on the mountain and saw his glory in the transfiguration; we can join in our journey with Jesus and gaze on his glorious work in our midst. If you cannot join us, pray for our time together; if you can, please plan on attending. And in all of this season, let us give thanks to Christ who clears the skies and the way for us.

Amen.



## Look what's happening May 1st!

### *Trailblazers Lunch*

Join the Trailblazers on May 1 for a Cinco de Mayo lunch in the gym. Parents and children in 3rd through 5th grade are invited to join! RSVP to Juliana Anderson or Ernie Ortega.



### *Praying Like Jesus Prayed*

Lord, teach us to pray! May 1 is our final adult Sunday school class of the spring. Join us as we conclude! New class offerings are coming this fall.

### *Youth Hang Out*

Senior and junior high students are invited to a time of volleyball, games, food and more this Sunday, May 1st, from 6.30 p.m. until 8 p.m. in the gym and youth lounge. For more information contact Pastor Ryan (pastorryan@ecovchurch.org) or Laura Slomba (laura.slomba23@gmail.com).



## And now for the rest of the month...

### *Baptisms in May*

Covenant will celebrate two baptisms during worship in the month of May!

Emma Ruth Gill will be baptized on May 8th and Aimee Slomba will be baptized on May 15. Join us as we celebrate the public declaration of this inward working of the Holy Spirit.

### *Worship with All Ages*

Worship will include the many generations of our congregation on the 2nd Sunday of each month until June.

There will be no Junior Church or Tween Worship on these Sundays (the 2nd of the month).

We look forward to worshipping together as a church body!



### *New Member*

Covenant welcomes Laura Slomba as a new church member this April. Laura and her children, Aimee and Alex, have been attending for several years and Laura is active in the Children and Youth ministry.

### *Youth Clothing Drive*

Our clothing drive is back! We have a collection bin next to the front doors of the church. Drop off your gently used clothing, home textiles, shoes and clothing accessories.

Reach out to Joyce Nelson: 508-941-4510 if you need donations to be picked up.

**CLEAN OUT  
YOUR CLOSET  
&  
DONATE**

## Take a Tag: Helping a Family Who Lost Their Home in a Fire

The Missions and Service Ministry is offering the congregation a chance to express love and care in Jesus name by contributing items to a love gift basket for a family who has recently been rehoused due to a fire. See the display board and basket in the Narthex. The display board has tags with needed items. Take a tag, purchase the item and place the gift in the basket by May 22. Thank you!

"This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you." JOHN 15:12



## Confirmation Sunday May 22

The Confirmation Class of 2021/2022 will be celebrating Confirmation Sunday on May 22 at 10:30 a.m. Four amazing students will be confirmed as they share their faith testimonies and lead portions of the worship service.

Confirmation is a yearlong faith journey of studying the Bible and learning about Jesus' life, sacrifices, and His deep love and promises to us. This year's class met on Sunday evenings from September through May, and participated in special events, a retreat, and service projects to study and experience God's Word.

Pastor Ryan, Peter Fredericksen and Cheryl Opper were the leaders and found it a true privilege and honor to be part of this year's Confirmands' journey. The leaders were impressed with the engagement, discussions and thoughtfulness of the students. In addition to studying the Old Testament and New Testament each student completed 10 worship forms where they explored different parts of the worship service and shared their thoughts, questions and insights.

Please pray for our students and show your support and love for our 2021/2022 Confirmands:

Lexi Malasi

Elise McCormick

Christian McNeil

Aimee Slomba

Join us for

## Higher Elevations

Managing Momentum, Mission, Ministry  
*a conversation & workshop on leaning into  
strengths & avoiding pitfalls*

Saturday, May 21

9 a.m. to Noon

in the Church Sanctuary

*Doug Bixby, presenter*

# Looking ahead to June

## Children's Sunday

Save the Date for June 12 as we celebrate our children with Children's Sunday Service and Church Picnic! One of our favorite church traditions, children receive red geraniums signifying the culmination of a season of learning and worshipping together. Cute red plants for everyone! Following the worship service, we will gather for fellowship, picnic-style food, and games outside. All are welcome. It is sure to be a joyous day! A Geranium box for donations will be in the Narthex for any contributions.



## Friendship Club

The next luncheon meeting of the Friendship Club will be held on Tuesday, June 21st at noon in the Fireside Room.

This is the first day of summer... so think warm weather and picnics. Details will be in upcoming bulletins and in the June Tidings.



## Easton Food Pantry

Save the date!

A non-perishable food drive will be held to benefit the Easton Food Pantry on **Saturday, June 18, 2022, Time 9:00 am - Noon**. Collections on that day will be taken outside the front of the church. If unable to participate on the event date, a collection box will be placed in the Narthex in advance of actual food drive. Needed on the day of the drive are extra empty cardboard boxes to sort boxed, can and jar goods.



VBS is coming!  
August 15 - 19

We are looking for volunteers.  
If you are interested,  
please contact Karen Short or Liz Eaton.

If you're interested in volunteering, please email Lita Kuipers at [Lk83cw@verizon.net](mailto:Lk83cw@verizon.net). For more information on suggested donation items please access: <https://eastonfoodpantry.org/food-donations>



## *Congregational Meeting*

A Congregational Meeting is called for May 15th after worship in the church sanctuary. The church is returning to the rhythm of 3 congregational meetings a year in the months of January, May and October. (The October meeting date will be October 16.) Questions, contact Peter Fredericksen or Cheryl Opper.

## *From the Church Office*

Church offices will be closed May 30 in observance of Memorial Day.

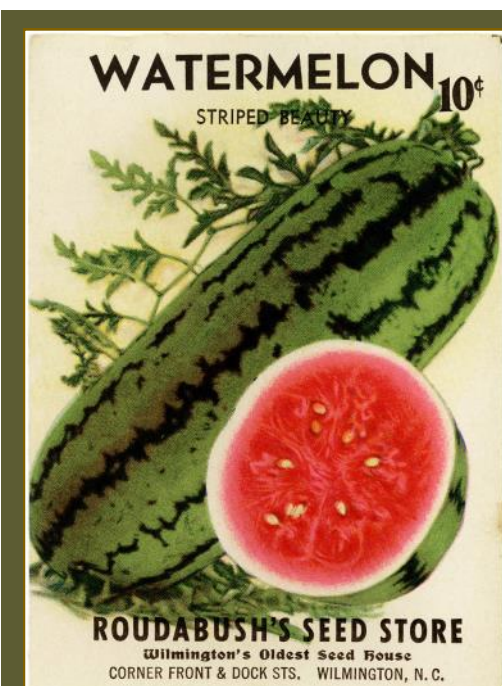
June Tidings submissions are due Thursday, May 26.

Summer worship begins June 19 at 9:30 a.m.

## *Thank you!!*

Thank you to all who responded to my John 3:16 challenge. My goal was exceeded with 72 students and adults reciting their verse and a few even learned the sign language that went with it.

Love and blessings, Judy Buck



For questions or information:

Susan Santry

Worship & Music Ministries Chair

Ginny Elson

Director of Music Ministries

## *May Choir Dates*

### **Choir Rehearsal**

May 1 @ 9:00 a.m.

May 8 @ 9:15 a.m.

May 15 @ 9:15 a.m.

May 19 @ 7:30 p.m.

May 22 @ 9:15 a.m.

May 29 @ 9:15 a.m.

### **Men's Sectional Rehearsals**

Tuesdays @ 1:00 p.m.

### **Handbell Choir Rehearsals**

Saturdays @ 11:00 a.m., including June 4

(No Handbell Rehearsal May 21 & 28)



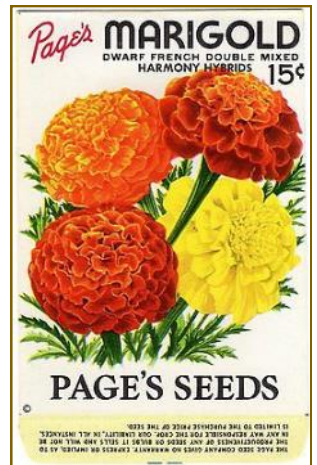
# Happy Birthday!

Nichole Benvie 1	Brian Dennehy 7	LaDora Rose 16	Diane Hayes 26
Walter Valenzuela 1	Annie Poirier 7	Maxwell Kelly 19	Clifford Horne 26
Myles Kelly 1	Kimberly Sproul 7	Loriann Legare 20	Blake Haynes 27
Alex Slomba 2	Bryanna Finlayson 8	Daniel Jennings 21	Gage Fritchman 28
Niko Zelinski 2	Susan Plante 10	Ruth Porter 21	Carly Cidado 29
Gregory Ribelin 3	Roger Williams 12	Shawn Clary 22	Rosemary Larson 29
Rosemary Anderson 4	Anna Falls 14	Joyce Bean 26	Griffin Clary 31
Diane Cidado 4	Judith Davis 15	Rebecca Carroll 26	Joseph Raduazzo 31
Cooper Johnson 4			

## Care Ministry

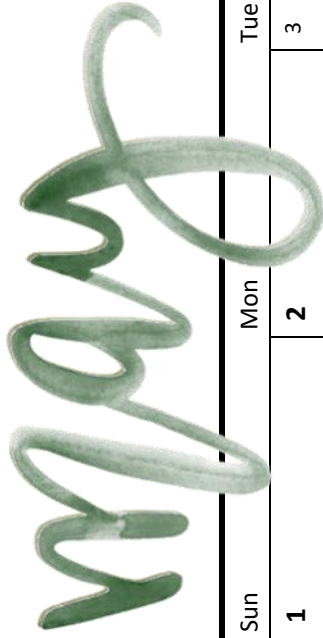
### Prayers of Petition

- Would we read and pray the Bible and trust that the Lord is with us
- May we bear with one another in love (Eph. 4: 1—6).
- Those dealing with addiction, isolation, financial trouble, and loss, especially with the trials of Covid
- Our 2021-22 Confirmands as they learn and grow in their faith
- The health of marriages in the church and for those who long to be married
- Please pray for strength and improvement for Cid Cidado.
- Bonnie Hyde's sister, Sandy, who has lymphoma
- Geraldine and Ray Wallace as they recover from their respective surgeries
- Please pray for Bev Carlson as she is rehabilitating.
- Andrea Siciliano's treatment for a blood infection
- Caleb Hurst —specifically pray that he'd learn to walk and talk. He's started pulling himself up!
- Friends of Steve and Sandy Willette, Cassy and Kathy, who both have metastasized cancer.
- Karen McSherry's brother, Mark, and his family as his condition has deteriorated to the point where he is now in a nursing home. Also pray for Karen's mother who is now living with Karen and needs 24 hour care.



### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Celebration

- God's promises are trustworthy and true. This is our hope and our rest!
- The many volunteers who make attending worship in person and worshipping from home possible.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Adult Class (chapel) 10:30a Worship 1:00p Trailblazers (gym) 5:00p Confirmation 6:30 p Youth Hangout 7:30p Basketball	<b>2</b> 5:30p Yoga (narthex) 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Men's Bible Study (library)	<b>3</b> 1:00p Choir Sectional Rehearsal 7:00p Worship & Music Committee	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10:00a Women's Bible Study (fireside) 7:30p Prayer Meeting (chapel)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 11:00a Handbells Rehearsal
<b>8 Mother's Day!</b> 9:15a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a Worship & Baptism 5:00p Confirmation 7:30p Basketball	<b>9</b> 5:30p Yoga (narthex) 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Men's Bible Study (library)	<b>10</b> 1:00p Choir Sectional Rehearsal 7:00 Council Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10:00a Women's Bible Study (fireside) 7:30p Prayer Meeting (chapel)	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 11:00a Handbells Rehearsal Church Clean Up
<b>15</b> 9:15a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a Worship & Baptism - Congregational Meeting 5:00p Confirmation 7:30p Basketball	<b>16</b> 5:30p Yoga (narthex) 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Men's Bible Study (library)	<b>17</b> 1:00p Choir Sectional Rehearsal	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10:00a Women's Bible Study (fireside) 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9a-Noon Higher Elevation Seminar
<b>22 Confirmation</b> 9:15a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a Worship 7:30p Basketball	<b>23</b> 5:30p Yoga (narthex) 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Men's Bible Study (library)	<b>24</b> 1:00p Choir Sectional Rehearsal 7:00p Children & Youth Committee	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10:00a Women's Bible Study (fireside) 7:30p Prayer Meeting (chapel) <i>*June Tidings Deadline*</i>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:15a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a Worship 7:30p Basketball	<b>30 Memorial Day!</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b>	<b>31</b> 1:00p Choir Sectional Rehearsal	<b>Upcoming Dates</b> June 12 Children's Sunday June 19 Summer Worship Schedule Begins (9:30a) August 15-19 VBS			



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### *CCC AT A GLANCE*

Sunday Mornings

10:30 Worship Service

(Online and In-person)

Staff:

Rev.s Devyn and Ryan Chambers Johnson

*Co-Pastors*

Ginny Elson

*Director of Music Ministries*

Jen Krikorian

*Office Administrator*

Nick Zelinski

*Church Custodian*

[www.ecovchurch.org](http://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