



September 2026

The TIDINGS

Covenant Congregational Church

Come!

The theme Pastor Devyn and I settled on for this coming school year is one simple word: **Come!** But, boy, does this one simple word pack a punch. It features in our why statement, hidden in one of the first lines:

*Covenant Congregational Church exists to build a wel-**COME!**-ing community so that all generations can know God, participate freely and grow in faith together.*

It is one of the 25 most common English verbs. We say it all the time, but what meaning lies behind this simple invitation? The word “come” involves **movement**. Someone or something is going from one place to another, either physically, emotionally or spiritually. The word “come” also involves an **invitation**. To say “come” invites someone to be with you or to reside near you. We all know the joy when a person says to us: “Come!” We know we are seen and embraced.

Not only is it one of the most common English verbs, it is one of the most common words in your Bible - appearing more than 1500 times. Jesus himself says “come” 250 times! This word is so common and typical in our life because the Christian faith is one of action, movement, invitation and connection.

Christ Came: Jesus talks about how he came to us. We were wandering in darkness, uncertain about where to go—and Christ came into the world to give us light. This was true as Jesus was born to the Hebrew people looking for hope; and it is true of each of us who need help and hope.

Christ Says ‘Come!’: Jesus invites people to come along with him. His early followers were told to leave their lives and follow Christ with one simple word: Come! This is true of us today, who give up our lives of sin and wayward living and follow Jesus.

We Say ‘Come!’: Just as Jesus invited people to follow, his early followers invited others. One of the common phrases they would say in the Gospels was simply: Come and See! If someone would come and see Jesus, they would want to follow him. Jesus sends all of us followers out to others to show them the way to life and love...where we also say, “Come and See!”

Christ will Come: Just as Christ has come, Christ will come again. We eagerly await his second coming when all will be made right and there will be no more crying or pain for God’s full peace has come.

We will explore these themes and more beginning this fall. So our invitation to you: Come! Come and see what Christ will do and how Christ will heal and help those who seek him! We begin the school year on September 13th, see you then!

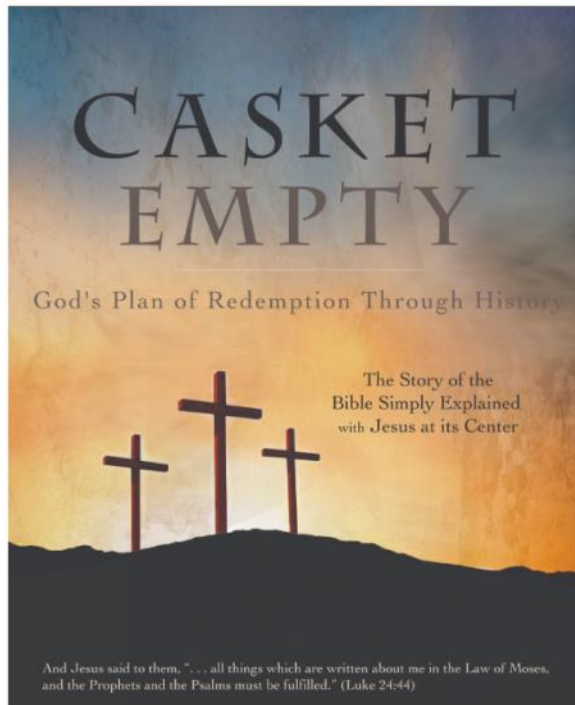
Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. (Psalm 95:6)

-Pastor Ryan



BIBLE BASICS: THE OLD TESTAMENT

Join Pastor Ryan for a walk through the basics of the Old Testament - with Jesus at the center of it all!



Meets at 6:00pm on Sunday evenings throughout the fall, beginning September 20.

We will be using the "Casket Empty" Bible curriculum, materials are \$30 online (purchase OT bundle at www.casketempty.com).

Look for the sign up and more details in the coming weeks.

Prayer Hour 7:30pm in the Chapel

September 3,
September 17,
& October 1

Weekly Events All are invited!

Knitting: Mondays at 7:00pm

Mahjong: Fridays at 2:30pm

both are held in the fireside room

FRIENDSHIP CLUB Potluck Lunch Noon to 2:00

Wednesday, September 16

Kevin Symmons, former member and author of 5 books, will talk about writing and music (His father, Thomas, was a renowned Welsh tenor in New England). He will bring some of his books to give away and will accept donations for others for the Friendship Club.

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

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

Men's Bible Study

Resumes September 14, studying the book of Proverbs

Meets Monday nights, 6:30pm
at the Cidado's home:
11 Winthrop Street
North Easton

Women's Bible Study

Meets Saturday mornings, 10:00am
in the Fireside room

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.

Signup to help, in the narthex or
online



You may bring food donations to Shaw's that day, or to the church any time before Sept 12.



We're excited that we've already given away 31 new Bibles to those in our community who wanted them. Now Phase 2 has begun.

We're partnering with Bibles4Kenya collecting old or used Bibles no longer needed. Perhaps you have a Bible or two left behind by departed loved ones, or an old Sunday School Bible you don't use. Or maybe you've switched to a newer version and your old Bible just sits on a shelf now. Bibles4Kenya is a local group from Lowell collecting these Bibles to send to over 500 congregations in remote Kenya. They have a goal to collect 20,000 Bibles in 2026. Can you help?

Drop off used (or new) Bibles in the container on the church steps. All Bibles will be gratefully accepted even if covers are torn or missing.

Don't have a Bible to donate, Bibles4Kenya will also appreciate monetary gifts to help with shipping costs. See their website at Bibles4Kenya.com

Women Ministries Fall Retreat at Pilgrim Pines

October 16-18

All women are invited to retreat from their daily lives and enjoy a time of refreshment, laughter, and God's joy. Our speaker is Pastor Ancy Post who will be speaking on *Leading Like Lycia*, from Acts 16.

Register by October 8 at pilgrimpines.org/ecc-womens-fall-retreat



Common Cathedral

Common Cathedral serves as an important community for people experiencing homelessness, and for churches who want to be in community with unhoused people. A lively service that includes scripture reflection by the minister and the congregation. We pray, celebrate birthdays, share Communion, and SING! We share food for our bodies as well as, from God's table, for our spirits.

September 19, Saturday
9:00–12:00

Help make the bagged lunches
in the church downstairs kitchen

September 20, Sunday
10:00–2:30

Serve and Worship
in the Boston Common
Carpool from CCC

Help us pack 100 bagged lunches!

Your generosity helps share Christ's love with our community.

We are gratefully accepting donations of:

Tuna Fish
Peanut Butter
Mayonnaise
Potato Chips
Jelly
Grape Juice
Chocolate Chip Cookies

Sandwich Baggies
Snack Size Baggies
100 8–10oz. Paper Cups
Brown Paper Lunch Bags
\$5 Gift Cards to Dunkin
\$5 Gift Cards to McDonald's
To Borrow: 2 – 3 coolers to carry
food for the day

**The CCC Missions Ministry will be purchasing
all other perishable goods needed.**

Signup in the
narthex or
online



Youth volunteers must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
Contact Sally Poirier or Laura Slomba with questions

Give Back by Clearing Out Your Closets

Your donated items will be turned into dollars to support Covenant Congregational Church's Children & Youth Ministry programs, youth retreats, and summer camps.



We Are Collecting

Clothes

men's, women's,
& kid's clothes,
coats, shoes,
scarves

Accessories

handbags,
wallets, belts,
backpacks,
fashion
accessories, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters,
blankets, sheets,
towels, linen,
tablecloths, curtains,
pillows, etc.

Please place all items in 13-gallon plastic bags (tall kitchen size).
All items must be clean and in sellable condition.

Drop off bagged items in the marked bin
by the front door of the church, by **October 12**.

Covenant Congregational Church

204 Center St
N. Easton MA 02356

FUNDrive

FUNDrive® is an eco-friendly fundraiser for nonprofit organizations.
Collect gently-used items in your community and FUNDrive will buy them.

Drivers Needed October 17

We need to deliver the donations to Savers in Norwood at 10am. It's a quick pull up to the loading dock and unload your vehicle. If you can help, please contact Sam Hill or Erin Gomes. Thank you!

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Celebration

- Thanksgiving for the baptisms of Cameron Beck and Margot Tainter.
- For a successful Vacation Bible School.
- For the church members who preached for us this summer: Dianne Sproul, Lisa Comeau, Steve Willette, Lou Ann Falls, Sara Papetti, and Ernie Ortega.
- For our children and youth who attended Camp this summer!
- For Abby Papetti's successful hand surgery
- For Jerry Marsan's successful cornea transplant surgery.

Prayers of Petition

- For the children and teachers as they prepare to start school and for our college students beginning a new chapter.
- For the conflict in Israel and Gaza, Ukraine, Iran and South Sudan. May God bring peace!
- Please pray for our missionaries abroad and their families:
Grant & Miho Buccholtz (Japan)
Rev. James Tang (Africa- South Sudan/Ethiopia)
- Continued prayers for those with health challenges:
Joyce Nelson, Kym Silva, Karen Bassett, Jim Elson, Ginny Elson, Rebecca Carroll, Andrea Siciliano, Bob Carroll, Gordon Mears, Tony Ivaldi's uncle Tony Vandermeel, Dana Morse, Lyn Carroll, 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.
- For the families and friends mourning the losses of Tom Sabin and Brian Edlund.
- Please give parents wisdom and strength.
- The health of marriages in the church and for those who long to be married.



Beverly Hanson and Hazel Hayes celebrating their 95th birthdays.



If you are celebrating a special milestone birthday or anniversary that you'd like us to share, please let us know!
email office@ecovchurch.org

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		01 5:00pm Worship + Music Meeting (zoom)	02 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary)	03 7:30pm Prayer Hour (chapel)	04 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	05 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside)
06 9:15am Adult Sunday School (youth lounge) 10:30am Worship 7:30pm Basketball (gym)	07 7:00pm Knitting (fireside) <u>reserved</u> 7p-8 Gym, classroom	08 6:30pm Missions + Service Meeting (zoom) 7:00pm Church Council Meeting (Fireside + Narthex)	09	10 <u>reserved</u> 5:30p-7 Classroom	11 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside) <u>reserved</u> 5pm-8 Sanctuary 5:30pm-7 Classroom	12 10:00am Women's Bible Study (youth lounge) 10:00am-2:00pm Food Drive at Shaw's Easton <u>reserved</u> 11:00pm-2:00 Whole Church for Wedding
13 9:00am Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 9:15am Adult Sunday School (youth lounge) 10:30am Worship Children's Sunday School Begins Start of the Year Celebration after Worship Service 7:30pm Basketball (gym)	14 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (offsite) <u>7:00pm</u> Knitting (fireside) Stephens Minister Training (youth lounge) <u>reserved</u> 7pm Sanctuary 7p-8 Gym, classroom	15 6:30pm Fellowship Ministry Meeting (fireside)	16 12:00pm Friendship Club (fireside) 6:30pm Fundraising Committee Meeting (fireside)	17 7:30pm Prayer Hour (chapel) Deadline for Submissions to October Tidings <u>reserved</u> 9a-11:30 Fireside 4:30p-6:30 Classroom	18 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside)	19 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside) 9:00am Lunch Prep for Common Cathedral (kitchen)
20 9:00am Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 9:15am Adult Sunday School (youth lounge) 10:00am Common Cathedral Trip 10:30am Worship 6:00pm Bible Basics Study 7:30pm Basketball (gym)	21 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (offsite) 7:00pm Knitting (fireside) <u>reserved</u> 7pm Sanctuary 7p-8 Gym, classroom	22	23	24 <u>reserved</u> 9a-11:30 Fireside	25 2:30pm Mahjong (fireside) <u>reserved</u> 5:30pm-7 Classroom	26 10:00am Women's Bible Study (fireside) <u>reserved</u> 9:00am-2:00 Electronics Recycling Day in Parking Lot
27 9:00am Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 9:15am Adult Sunday School (youth lounge) 10:30am Worship 6:00pm Bible Basics Study 7:30pm Basketball (gym) <u>reserved</u> 3:30p-5 Classroom	28 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (offsite) <u>7:00pm</u> Knitting (fireside) Stephens Minister Training (youth lounge) <u>reserved</u> 7pm Sanctuary 7p-8 Gym, classroom	29	30			



204 Center Street
North Easton, MA 02356



Come, join us!

September 13, Rally Sunday - Celebrating the start of a new year
Ice Cream Sundaes following worship service

Sunday School (K-7th) and Wiggle Worship (toddlers & pre-K)
begin during 10:30am worship

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)

Co-Pastors

Rev. Ryan Chambers Johnson
Rev. Dr. Devyn Chambers Johnson

508-238-6423
www.ecovchurch.org