



THE TIDINGS

September 2022

Covenant Congregational Church

Celebrating over 135 years of ministry

Greetings Friends,

It is always bittersweet when the summer ends: vacations, BBQs and pool parties are sadly behind us. At the same time, it is exciting to look forward to the beautiful colors, crisp mornings and the comfort of routine which comes each autumn.

At Covenant Congregational Church we are looking forward to the coming season, as well. We will be focusing on our theme: Rooted and Reaching. And we will look for ways where we will grow more rooted in Christ and reach out more in love to our neighbors.

There are several ways to connect and reconnect with church this fall. Be sure to mark you calendars:

- **Rally Sunday September 11.**
 - Breakfast is back at 9:00 am for all ages.
 - Worship returns to the 10:30 am service time and Junior Church and Tween Worship resume.
 - Following worship will be an ice cream truck and games on the church lawn.
- The choir returns this September with our repaired organ!
- **“Higher Elevations: Managing Momentum, Mission and Ministry.”** Saturday, October 1st from 9:00 am until Noon. Pastor Doug Bixby, lead pastor of the Covenant Church in Attleboro will be presenting. In addition to his pastoral tasks, Rev. Bixby is a church consultant and author of two books on these subjects. Plan for an important and engaging time as we dream together as a congregation (this is the seminar rescheduled from May).
- In October, Adult Sunday School begins, small groups and Bible studies and Friendship Club, a gathering for retirees, returns.

With all ministries beginning, let us not lose sight of *why* we are seeking to be rooted and reaching! Let us begin this fall with the following prayer, which we received from Jim and LaDora Rose, and pass on to all of you:

*Almighty God, and most merciful Father,
I humbly submit myself to you and bow down before your majesty,
Praying from the bottom of my heart that the seed of your word,
Which you have sown within me, may take such deep root,
That the burning heat of persecution may not cause it to wither,
Nor the thorny cares of this life choke it,
But that, as seed sown in good ground,
It may bring forth thirty, sixty and a hundredfold,
According to the direction of your heavenly wisdom.
And, because I continually need to look for many things from your hand,
I humbly ask for your Holy Spirit to direct my requests,
So that they may proceed from truthful intentions
That are in agreement with your most blessed will. Amen.*

-John Knox, quoted in “Prayers of the Reformers” by Thomas McPherson

Rally Sunday

September 11, 2022

Breakfast for All at 9:00 a.m.

Worship begins at 10:30 a.m.

Free Ice Cream Truck & Lawn Games
after worship at 11:30 a.m.

All are welcome!



*Sponsored by the Children and Youth Ministry

*Please note: Join CCC for our expanded and enhanced Junior Church for children starting September 11th! Youth are encouraged to engage with the youth group offerings beginning in September.

Adult Bible Studies & Sunday School This Fall

If you are interested in participating in or leading a Bible study or participating in Sunday school this fall, please reach out to the church office (office@ecovchurch.org).

WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT at Pilgrim Pines! September 16-18, 2022

Speaker: Tammy Gerhard: Tammy and her husband, Glenn, live in Manchester, CT. She is a mother of three young adults and currently serves in the anti-trafficking movement as Director of Survivor Support Services for The Underground New England "Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1-2

God has a plan to use us here on Earth as ambassadors of His love. He fills us with His Spirit and makes us ALIVE in Him to share that life with those around us. Join us as we discover how very much God has entrusted us with as we walk with Him today until the day He calls us home.

REGISTER NOW – Registration Closes September 9, 2022

Please note: Full payment is due at the time of registration. Refunds will be issued less a \$50 non-refundable deposit for cancellations made more than one week out from the start of the retreat. No refund will be issued for cancellations made within one week of the start of the retreat.

Register on [Pilgrim Pines.org](http://PilgrimPines.org) and Join Us for a great weekend to connect with God and other women

ECC WOMENS RETREAT INFORMATION COST \$197 PER PERSON | \$100 PER PASTOR

Saturday Day Only Option: \$50

RETREAT RUNDOWN: Check-in begins at 3 pm, and then enjoy dinner and a session later that evening. Saturday will include three great meals, great sessions, fun activities, and a late night snack! The weekend will conclude a session Sunday morning, and lunch at noon.

WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS: Games, The Climbing Wall, Small Shop in the Marketplace; Raffle, Walk the Lake, Awesome Breakout Sessions -- Note - This is not a Pilgrim Pines event. The retreat is organized and programmed by ECC Women's Ministries.

Need More Info or would like to volunteer for small jobs that weekend? Contact Cathy Zelinski or Marilyn Mears. We'd love to have you!

September Music Notes



For questions or information,
contact:
Susan Santry
Chair of Worship & Music
Ministries
Ginny Elson
Director of Music Ministries

Words of Appreciation

Summer Special Music:

We extend our thanks to all who shared their gifts and talents by providing Special Music for our summer worship services. This includes Pastor Ryan and Pastor Devyn, Janie Hayes, Dave Sproul, Mike Bassett, Tim Marshall, Gary Hight, Gordon Mears, Susan Santry, Ernie Ortega, Marilyn Mears, Nancy Hall, Karen Bassett, Judy Buck, Linda Wainwright, Susan Plante, Thad Krikorian, Vicky Papetti, Lou Ann Falls, Chris Allison, and Alice Fu.

Organ Repairs Completed:

We've known for some time that our organ needed major work and replacement parts after serving us faithfully since 1984. It reached a point this past year when we learned it would no longer be usable unless the work was done. Because of the generosity of Linda Wainwright and The Wainwright Family, the work was completed in August, and we anticipate fine organ music for many years to come. We gratefully thank Linda and The Wainwright Family.

Screen Hard-Wiring Completed:

We are pleased that our sanctuary screens have now been hard-wired. This will allow for synchronization of audio and video. We are grateful to Adam Buckley for giving up a week of his vacation to complete this task and to Nancy and Bob Hall for funding this project.

Gifts of Choir Music:

We thank Gordon Mears for suggesting and purchasing two beautiful anthems for our Sanctuary Choir: The Majesty and Glory of Your Name and My Jesus, I Love Thee. These have become favorites which we will repeat often.

Acknowledgement of Other Gifts:

We thank Ed and Alma Burns and several anonymous donors of funds for Handbell Choir music. We thank Ray Wallace for a gift of music stands and Gordon Mears for assembling them. We thank Linda Wainwright and Nancy Hall for keeping our music files and spreadsheets in order.

Celebrations of Special Occasions:

If you would like to mark a special occasion by purchasing an anthem or instrumental selection, or commission one to be composed, or perhaps sponsor a guest artist, see Ginny. All of this can be arranged!

usher

verb

1. show or guide (someone) somewhere.
2. cause or mark the start of something new.

Join our fabulous team of ushers. Tasks include passing out bulletins, welcoming newcomers and regular attenders, passing the offering plate. Commitment is once every 4-6 weeks. Help usher people to their seats for worship AND help usher in a new season at CCC! For more info contact Kym Silva (kymsilva@verizon.net).



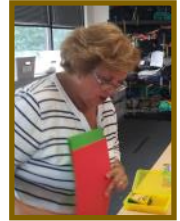
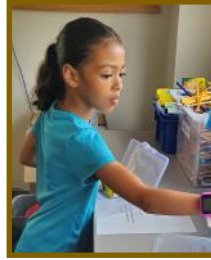
From the Church Office

Pastor Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday from 9am to 1pm

Marlena's Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9am to 1pm. Additional hours to be posted in the upcoming weeks.

Summer Service & Fun

CCC Families volunteering
at School on Wheels



Game
Night!



The
Brockton
Rox!



Care Ministry

“Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ” Galatians 6:2

GREETINGS! Many, many thanks to all who stepped forward to help with meals and errands for our fellow congregants who are going through a rough patch. It is wonderful to see the Christian spirit so alive and at the ready throughout the year. It makes evident to all that we are not just fellow church members, but a church family.

There will always be those in need of help inside (and outside) our fellowship. The Care Ministry would like to play a more active role in our church and look forward to a renewed involvement.

Currently we aim to assist with:

Prayer needs.*

Meals during or after an illness or surgery.

Driving to appointments or needed errands.

Organizing visitations.

Helping our brethren is foundational to the Christian ethic. It truly defines who we are.

-Melissa Gallinaro

*Email or call the church office with prayer requests, or directly to the pastors with something more urgent. Be sensitive to privacy when submitting a prayer request on behalf on someone else; have their permission to do so.



Ministry Highlight: Sandwich Club

We want to celebrate the members of the Sandwich Club, who continued to serve Father Bill's through the pandemic. Instead of gathering to make sandwiches together, they worked at home and then met in the church parking lot to check in and say hi before delivering the sandwiches to the Father Bill's ministry.

As we look forward with hope this fall, let's be creative in ways we can grow in our spiritual lives through reading the Word and praying together. Let's also be creative in the ways we serve each other and the community.

SOUPERFEST is back!

Save the date: **Sunday, November 20, 2022.** Look for details in October Tidings and email blasts.

Friendship club in October

Friendship Club is coming back in October! Be on the lookout for announcements coming soon.

Service Opportunity

The Missions and Service Ministry is looking for people to help serve dinner at MainSpring House on Friday, September 9th 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Volunteers must be 18 or older (16 with adult supervision), be vaccinated and wear a mask at the shelter. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve others in Jesus' name.

Please contact Sally Poirier at sally.poirier@gmail.com or 508-269-9389

A Note of Thanks

Dear Friends, over this Summer, the Covenant Congregational Church and Missions and Service ministry sponsored a community food drive for the Easton food pantry, a supply drive for School on Wheels, as well as two volunteer events to pack backpacks at the SOW office!

We want to thank all of you who donated your time, donations, and financial support of both causes.

In 2 Cor-9:13, scripture reads, "Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God.....for your generosity in sharing with everyone else."

A Hello!

We are pleased to announce that Marlena Silva joins our staff team as interim office administrator on September 1st.

You might already know her! She's been attending CCC since she was 3 years old and currently serves on the Child and Youth Ministry. Marlena recently graduated from Rhode Island College with a degree in Criminal Justice. She enjoys long walks with her dog and an afternoon ice coffee. Feel free to drop by for a quick hello.

A Goodbye

I am so grateful for each of you. You welcomed this stranger beginning in the winter of 2020. Thanks to the council's generosity and Pastor Eva's encouragement, I lived in the church parsonage from January to mid May of that year. Thad and I got engaged about two weeks before the pandemic began in our part of the world. With so much up in the air, we decided to bump up our wedding date to May of 2020. Far from friends and family, you became both for me. You hosted our only wedding shower with much joy and celebration for...a stranger! I still remember the fun hats, Dave's red car, the bouquet of flowers, and the many kind words and prayers shared. This body of believers will always keep a tender place in my heart for the way you showered love and celebration on us in those days. Then, fast forward a few months, I came on staff with the church. This job has been a life line for me. I've enjoyed getting to know you more and I've very much enjoyed the Pastors. You have two gems in Pastor Devyn and Pastor Ryan. The Lord has been generous in providing them for His church. May the Lord bless you and keep you. Bye for now; we'll see you around! -Jen Krikorian



Happy september Birthdays!

Abigail Papetti	2	Todd Stevens	15
Dianne Sproul	2	Beth Johnstone	17
Ada Gomes	4	Jeff Burton	17
Zachary Ortega	4	Kara O'Halloran	20
Joanne Peters	4	Ryan Chambers Johnson	21
John Giberti	5	Robert Tyler	26
Patricia Jennings	7	Brandon Jones	26
Janet Miller	8	David Cummings	27
Sally Poirier	10	Erin Gomes	29
Karlene Smith	13	Judith Leonard	29
		Taylor Horne	30

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
- The health of marriages in the church and for those who long to be married
- The Andersons as they grieve their losses from their recent home fire.
- Lexi Malasi's close friend Teagan Ryan was diagnosed with leukemia in late May
- Naomi Gonzalez, friend to Ginny Elson's family, recently diagnosed with myeloma
- Dianne Sproul's brother, recently diagnosed with and treated for stage 4 throat cancer
- Doris Hayward recovering from mini strokes (TIA's)
- Bonnie Hyde, as she grieves the loss of her sister
- Geraldine and Ray Wallace as they recover from their respective surgeries
- Andrea Siciliano's treatment for a blood infection
- Caleb Hurst —specifically pray that he learns to walk & talk. He's learning to mimic sounds and he can now pull himself up!
- Friends of Steve and Sandy Willette, Cassy and Kathy, who both have metastasized cancer.
- Karen McSherry's brother, Mark, and his family. He is now in a nursing home. Also pray for Karen's mother lives 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.



September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 9:30a Worship & Communion 7:30p Basketball	5 HAPPY LABOR DAY!	6 7:00p Worship & Music	7	1 7:30p Prayer Meeting (chapel)	2	3
11 RALLY SUNDAY 9:00a Breakfast 9:30a Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 10:30a Rally Sunday 11:30a Games @ Ice Cream	12 5:30p Yoga (Narthex) 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Men's Bible Study (library)	13 7:00p Council	14	8 7:00p Children & Youth Meeting (fireside) 7:30p Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 7:30p Prayer Meeting	9	10
18 9:00a Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 10:30a Worship 7:30p Basketball →	19 5:30p Yoga (Narthex) 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Men's Bible Study (library)	20	21	15 7:30p Prayer Meeting (chapel)	16	17 11:00a Handbell Rehearsal (sanctuary) Women's Retreat →
25 9:00a Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) 10:30a Worship 7:30p Basketball	26 5:30p Yoga (Narthex) 7:00p Knitting (fireside) 7:00p Men's Bible Study (library)	27	28	22 7:30p Prayer Meeting (Chapel) *October Tidings Due*	23	24
4 9:30a Worship & Communion 7:30p Basketball	5 HAPPY LABOR DAY!	6 7:00p Worship & Music	7	29 7:30p Choir Rehearsal 7:30p Prayer Meeting (chapel)	30	



204 center Street North
Easton, MA 02356

Non Profit

U.S. Postage Paid

N. Easton, MA 02356

Permit No. 20

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

Ginny Elson

Director of Music Ministries

Marlena Silva

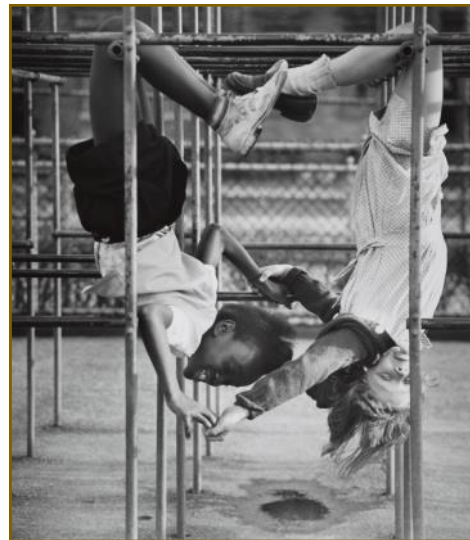
Office Administrator

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