

The Covenanter

MAY 2017

Cape Cod



Covenant Church

Mission Statement

By the grace of God, we strive to be a welcoming community of Christ's disciples; committed to sharing His love, maturing in faith and growing His church on Cape Cod and throughout the world.



Presence

I recently read a wonderful quote by author Richard Rohr that struck a deep chord within me. He wrote: ***"We cannot attain the presence of God. We're already totally in the presence of God. What's absent is awareness."*** I wonder how often I miss the presence of God in my life due to a lack of awareness?

I'm reminded of Mary in the resurrection story, who stands at the doorway of the empty tomb and doesn't realize that she's in the presence of the risen Lord. Because of her pain and grief, she doesn't recognize him. She thinks he's a simple gardener. But when he speaks her name, her eyes are opened, and she recognizes him. She becomes aware.

Or those disciples on the road to Emmaus... They spend hours walking and talking with Jesus, but don't recognize him for who he is, as they struggle with all of the circumstances they have been involved with in Jerusalem. But when he breaks the bread and pours the cup, their eyes are opened and they recognize him. They become aware.

It's easy to think that we need to somehow "seek God" or "find Jesus", when in reality He "never leaves us nor forsakes us". His presence is always with us. What is lacking is not God, but our awareness of God. We get so distracted by life, it's cares and its joys, that we lose sight of God right next to us, walking beside us, leading, supporting, providing.

As resurrected people, we are called to live in a spirit of awareness: Aware of the needs that surround us, so that we can respond with the light of Christ, but also, aware of God's constant presence in our lives.

May our prayer as Easter people be that our eyes and ears and hearts and minds and hands be aware...for God is with us.

- Pastor Johnny

Please Note: Due date to submit:
2nd Monday of the month for the following
month (or earlier if possible).
Please be as brief as possible.

To submit your article,
please send it by email to:

capecovenantchurch@comcast.net

If you do not have email, please **type** your
submission and leave it in the office.

**If you are interested in having a list of church
family members' birthdays and anniversaries,
you may pick up a list**

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Yesterday is the past, tomorrow is
the future, but today is a gift.
That's why it's called the present."

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane



HANDS OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY
(Please note changes)

On the first Sunday of each month we
place the Hands of Hope Food Pantry box at the front
of the church for your donations. You may bring do-
nations at any time, but this will help remind us each
month to remember the food pantry when we are
grocery shopping.

The following items are greatly needed:

Juice boxes and granola bars

Canned meals (Chef Boy-ar-dee, chili)

Spam, Hamburger helper

Baked Beans

Canned or cups of fruit

Salad dressing

Corn bread mix

Toilet paper

Toothpaste

The Cape Cod Council of Churches is very grateful for
all donations. Thank you!



MERCHANDISE CARDS

Merchandise Cards to support the homeless on
Cape Cod are on sale after church on the 2nd and
4th Sundays each month. There are several
denominations available from different merchants,
such as Stop and Shop, Shaws, CVS, etc. We are also
introducing new cards from the following:

Regal Cinemas

Speedway

Hearth and Kettle

Dairy Queen

Subway

Wendy's

Walgreen

Bath and Body Works

Starbucks

Rite Aid

D'Angelos

Dominos

Papa Gino's

You may also order cards from additional merchants

THANK YOU!



**SUNDAY MORNING
COFFEE HOUR SUPPORT!**

May: Missions Commission

Sharon Hirsch, 508-385-6787

Ingrid Strand, 617-620-8133

June: Christian Formation Commission

Jessica Hopkins, 774-278-0856

For any food you bring to events, **please remember
to label any food that contains nuts, soy, or other
possible allergens so that people can enjoy coffee
hours and other fellowship times safely.**
Thank you!



Blood Pressure Screenings

Blood pressure screenings are held on the second Sunday of every month following worship service.

Anyone wishing to have their blood pressure checked is invited to see one of our nurses in the Library after church.



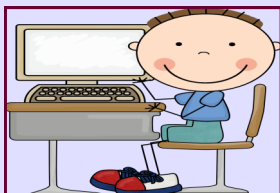
COMPUTER THURSDAY!

9:30am-12:30pm

Computer Thursday is held **on the second Thursday of each month.**

Next will be on May 11th.

Anyone needing help with their computers, laptops, etc., or with questions about email and using the internet are welcome to drop by!



SHOW YOUR LOVE WITH FLOWERS!



If you would like to honor an event such as a birth, a special birthday, anniversary, or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the calendar in Fellowship Hall.

You may provide flowers yourself, or you may make a donation of \$40 to the church and let the office know to order the flowers for you.

A dedication will then be put in the bulletin that week.

SUMMER SCRIPTURE READERS NEEDED!



Welcome back snowbirds, college students, and summer residents!

Would you enjoy reading scripture during worship one Sunday this summer? The Worship and Music Commission invites you to check your calendar and consider reading on a Sunday morning this summer that is convenient for you. Passages are provided ahead of time along with Guidelines for Scripture Readers.

Contact Sheryl Stone at capestalstone@gmail.com or 508-432-1412 if you are interested, or speak to Pastor Johnny or any member of the commission! We look forward to hearing from you!

Yoga with Alice Boyle on Saturdays at 10 am. This month we will meet on the 6th, 20th and 27th. Please join us! It's a great workout.



Barbara Bianco

Address: 77 Acorn Road

Dennis MA 02638

cell phone: 508-367-4629

email: bink77@comcast.net



Jim and Kate Bundy

Address: 16 Cheyenne Lane

Yarmouth Port MA 02675

Phone number: 609-273-6761

Kate email: karenbundy9@aol.com

Avis Carter

Phone change: 508-534-9731

Laurel Peterson and Nick Westphal

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 952

Orleans MA 02653

Home Address: 15 Doves Wing Road

South Yarmouth MA 02664

Current Prayer Concerns

May concerns

Elsa Abele (friend of Kristine Strand) Undergoing treatments for lung cancer
 Ann Agurkis Recovering from foot surgery
 Cindy Doherty Health concerns and treatments
 Mike Forrest Health concerns
 George and Thelma Hartmann Health concerns, home
 Larry Hobgood (Jami Carder's step-father) Hospice care, S. Yarmouth
 Ann Kaner-Roth (45-year-old friend of Sybil O'Brien's family) Surgery for brain tumor
 Helen King Recovering from recent hospitalization at home
 Elsie Martin (granddaughter of Paul and Sharon Hirsch, niece of Lindsey and Ross Bryant) Recovering from ear surgery, home
 Tom McCullough Recovering from treatment at Brigham and Women's Hospital
 Maryanne Muttu (Nancy Muttu's daughter-in-law) Recovering from surgery
 Glen Peterson Hospitalized, Lahey Clinic, Burlington, MA
 Joy Potter (12-year-old granddaughter of Bill Potter) Chemotherapy treatments
 Bonnie Reinke (friend of Kristine Strand) Treatments for bone cancer
 Carol Ryder (extended family of Carl and Ann Shelley), Health concerns
 Michael Smith, Recovering from heart procedure in Florida



Recent health concerns and undergoing treatment

Heidi Arsenault Ongoing health concerns
 Rachel Ash (niece of Stuart and Bonnie Eyman) Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis
 Bill Buyer (son of Bob and Margaret Buyer) In remission
 Terry Curry (friend of Bill Potter) Cancer diagnosis
 Judy Daly Undergoing treatments
 Norma Houseman Hospice care, Eagle Pond Nursing Home (moved to the first floor)
 Don MacDermot (Tim Howard's grandfather) Undergoing radiation and chemo treatment for spinal cancer, St. Vincent's
 Bob and Pauline Nelson Bob has moved to the Brandel Care Center of Covenant Village, Northbrook, IL
 Ed Nimmo (friend of Sue and John Peschier) Pancreatic Cancer
 Duane Peterson (relative of the Mancini's and the Dvorak's) Pancreatic Cancer
 Marlyce Peterson Recovering from a broken wrist
 Paul and Elaine Peterson Health concerns
 George Popovici (good friend of Jimmy Roberts) Critical health concerns
 Bob Wakefield Recovering from surgery and continued dialysis treatments, Home

Please remember in prayer those who have ongoing health concerns

Christopher Baker	Carolyn Lorenson (Sheryl Stone's mother)
Ardis Bardh	Bob and Pauline Nelson
Evelyn Burgess	Joyce Nickerson
Bob DuBois	Eleanor Olson
Kay Endris	Edna Swanson
Ted Glasgow	Donna Jean Wassell (Lynn Read's cousin)
Bunny Haas	Nina Wikman (friend of Lynn Read and her sister,
Fran Hedlund	Nancy Russo)
Arthur Hvosllef	Blake Watson
Isabelle Isham	

How You Can Support Pilgrim Pines!

If you shop on-line through Amazon, please sign up for **Amazon Smiles** and choose **Pilgrim Pines** as your charity. Amazon Smiles is a non-profit arm of Amazon in which 0.5% of all purchase prices are donated to the charity of your choice. So you can shop like normal and support Pilgrim Pines in the process! A win-win!



Newsletter!

As you may know, we are now emailing our newsletter to those who have email. If you'd prefer, you are always welcome to receive a printed copy in the mail, or you can pick yours up at church. Just let Joan know in the office if you would like to do this. Thank you!



CLUB 47

Fridays 6:30-8 pm

May 5, 12, 19

SENIOR HIGH

Sundays 6-7:30 pm

May 7 and 21

COME JOIN US!



YOUTH SUNDAY

June 11th.

Our Youth will lead the service, and we will all enjoy a pot-luck picnic afterwards. This is always a great day for the church as a whole — a day to celebrate our young people, and to fellowship with each other.



This year, Confirmation has been undergoing a bit of a re-evaluation and re-tooling. Firstly, Confirmation class is now for kids in grades 6, 7 & 8, which allows us more time to focus on both the scriptures and practical applications of our faith. A few years back, Pastor Tom adjusted Confirmation to a more “experiential” format rather than just a school/class format, and we are working to continue that adjustment through a variety of opportunities including confirmation retreats, class work, service/missions, youth groups and even online learning experiences. Due to the class sizes and participation, there will not be a Confirmation Sunday this spring, but next year there will be a graduating class. We are grateful for everyone’s support (and patience) as we create a system that works for today’s kids!

Parents



Don’t forget your Moms in May and Dads in June. And maybe there’s a special mother or father figure you might like to send a note to or call. It takes so little, and means so much. And it’s good for the adults to remember it works the other way, too. A little word here or there, a thank you for a good deed, a compliment, just noticing what that person is doing not just for you but for others, too. Remember, you are God’s face here on earth. Share his love with everyone you meet. You will be blessed, too!





May Mission of the Month Covenant World Missions

“I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send?’ Then said I, ‘Here am I, send me.’”
Isaiah 6:8

All through the Bible, God sent people to participate in the mission of spreading God’s love for the whole world... to reconcile people with God and with one another. Covenant World Mission (CWM) works to facilitate the establishment of culturally relevant communities of faith, worship, witness and ministries of compassion, mercy and justice around the world. Training and supporting over 130 missionaries in over 35 countries, developing indigenous leadership, establishing medical facilities, working to abolish sexual slave trade are just a few of the many services of this branch of the Covenant Church.

CWM also strives to be partners with those whom God has gifted and brought together in spreading the good news of God’s love. This includes shared mission ventures with local church initiatives, para-church organizations, groups of key leaders and other specialized ministries. With the help of the Holy Spirit, CWM serves together with diverse communities - not defining, directing or controlling the process of change but rather through listening together for God’s guidance. Projects range from providing clean water, sanitation and higher education in Ethiopia - to providing health screening exams to children in classes in Mexico - to building safe, sturdy, sanitary homes for those left homeless in Haiti - to assisting fish, pig and sheep farms in Thailand - to providing doctors in the Democratic Republic of Congo with vital medicines to treat victims of malaria, pneumonia and other diseases - to attending to refugees in Europe - to supporting a woman’s shelter in Mongolia - to drug rehabilitation in South America - to pastoral training, leadership development and church planting in Asia, Latin America and Europe - and hundreds more projects.

CWM has partnered with World Vision to sponsor children in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Through these sponsorships, Covenant Kids Congo is helping to provide clean water, nutrition, education, health and micro-enterprise in the Equateur Province of Congo. Many people in our church have opened their hearts to sponsoring a child. This month we have an opportunity to support ALL the work of CWM. Please pray for this avenue of offering the love of God to all people everywhere.

A Thank you from New England Seafarers Mission

Dear friends,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees at New England Seafarers Mission, I just want to offer my deepest gratitude for your recent donation of \$1,000 to the Mission. I can promise you that every amount we receive helps us serve and share the love of Christ with the men and women who work aboard ocean-going vessels, as well as their families.... We believe that extending the heart and hands of love to some of the 1.3 million seafarers of all nationalities, ranks and religions speaks volumes about our own shared faith in a God who really does care for each one of us. As a Chaplain, I do get to see and experience the impact of this kindness in significant ways both here at the Mission and when helping an injured seafarer who may be hospitalized all alone. I want to convey how grateful these people truly are. I can say without hesitation that YOU are a blessing to them. May God bless you.

The Rev. Stephen R. Cushing, Senior Chaplain and Executive Director



Second Annual GOLF 'FORE' HOT MEALS CLASSIC

We are proud to bring back this special tournament which helps to feed the needy in our community. The tournament will be held on **Monday May 8, 2017, at 8:00 am** at Dennis Highlands Golf Course, Dennis, MA. Prize Donations and Tee Sign/Hole Sponsorships are available. Forms for donations and sponsorships are available in the office. All donations are tax deductible and are appreciated for this worthy cause. Come watch and have some fun!

VBS 2017!

VBS will be held the week of August 14-18 at Brewster Baptist Church. Once again we will be joining with BBC and Northside UMC as we host 120 kids for a great week of faith & fun. It is for kids in pre-school (potty-trained) through 5th grade. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall for all those interested in taking part. Please consider volunteering to help!



If you would like to put an announcement in the bulletin, please have it to Joan (preferably by email – capecovenantchurch@comcast.net) by Wednesday at noon. The week before would be even better! Joan prepares the bulletin as time allows during the week, so if the information is in hand it is easier to format into the announcement sheets. If you have an announcement come through after Wednesday at noon, we'll be happy to put it in for the next week. Please plan ahead so that your announcement is in the bulletin in time for your event or meeting. Thank you.



To our friends at Cape Cod Covenant Church,

Thank you for your support of Covenant World Relief. We are so grateful for your partnership. Your gift will be used to love, serve, and work together with the poor, the powerless, and the marginalized. You can stay connected on how your gift is at work through our Facebook, Instagram and other social media (linked to our CWR website), and the CWR quarterly newsletter. Again, we are grateful for your partnership through prayer and gifts. We are grateful for you!

Yours in Christ,

Dave Husby and Chrissy Palmerlee



COVENANT WORLD RELIEF
Partners in Transformation



June 11: Children's Sunday Picnic following church

Come enjoy our youth as they lead our service and then share the delicious food you and other bring. A real day of celebrating God's gift of family.

June 18: TIME CHANGE! 9:30 service

On Father's Day we move our Sunday service to 9:30 for the summer. Don't sleep in

July 5: Patriotic Night

Plan to join us for all if you can for a fun evening of song and story about this great country of ours.

And for choir members (and those who have sung with the choir this year): Hal and Evelyn Smith are hosting an End-of-Year party at their home (76 Pompano Road, Yarmouth Port) on June 6th at 6:00 pm. It's pot-luck, so bring some goodies to share. RSVP at evelyn3662003@yahoo.com.

The Covenanter

Cape Cod Covenant Church
P.O. Box 219
S. Dennis, MA 02660
Return Service Requested



"O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice! Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!" Psalm 105:1-4

WORSHIP SERVICE: 10:30am

Sunday School:

Adults 9:00am

Children during church service

NURSERY CARE

**Provided during worship throughout the year
We look forward to seeing you!**

Pastor Johnny Agurkis and Pastor Tom Nelson
Cape Cod Covenant Church,
11 Satucket Road, Brewster, MA 02631

mailing: P.O. Box 219, S. Dennis, MA 02660

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