

The Covenanter

MAY 2019

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.



“Faith, the least exclusive club on earth, has the craftiest doorman.”

- David Mitchell

Many of us have seen or experienced a doorman at an upscale building in a major city. Dressed in their fancy uniform, smile at the ready, they are a symbol of welcome.

It's easy to think that a doorman's job is simply to hold the door open and welcome people as they enter a building.

But to think that would be wrong.

Yes, a doorman opens the door for tenants, hails taxis, signs for packages, and generally provides a welcome to those who call the building home.

But that welcome and hospitality extends only to those who are tenants (or their invited guests) of the building. To anyone else, the doorman is there to keep them out and to shoo them away.

The doorman's primary job is to keep people out.

Today, too many churches and too many Christians seem to believe that God is calling them to be a doorman; to be welcoming to those who belong, but more importantly, to keep out those who don't. Many Christians today seem fixated on determining who is welcomed and who is excluded; who belongs and who doesn't; who is in and who is out.

In John 12:32 we read the words of Jesus:

“And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”

In Acts 2:39 we read the words of Peter:

“The promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

God, through the Holy Spirit, continues to call people to Himself, each and every day, each and every moment. As Christians, our job is not to act as doormen, deciding who is let in and who is kept out. Our job is to welcome all whom the Lord is calling to Himself; to practice shalom...doing all that is within our power to work for their well-being.

In the Church, there are no “others”, there are only brothers and sisters we haven't welcomed in yet.

So open the doors. Fling wide the gates. Put out the welcome mat.

For here, all belong. Here, all are welcome.



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
and sepatti@comcast.net



Another request for all:

Please do not post things on bulletin boards or put notices in the Narthex without checking in the office first.
Thank you.

**SUNDAY MORNING
COFFEE HOUR
SUPPORT!**



Please talk with your commission or group chair to volunteer if you are able for the month as listed below.
Commission chairs...please talk with Hal Smith, 339-793-0548, to coordinate.

May, Missions Commission

Co-chairs:
Ingrid Strand, 617-620-8133
Sharon Hirsch, 508-385-6787

June, Christian Formation

Chair: Annie Poirier, 508-269-9514

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.



Pray for our Pilgrims!

On Monday evening, May 6th, Pastor Johnny and 19 other pilgrims will depart for a 9-day trip of a lifetime, as they walk in the very footsteps of Jesus in the land of Israel. A pilgrimage is not a vacation, but a faith journey that engages the head, heart and spirit. These will be powerful, formative days and your prayers for these 20 brothers and sisters would be a blessing as they journey through the land called holy.

- Pastor Johnny
- Elsie Agurkis
- Lucy Agurkis
- Tanner Agurkis
- Emily Botsivales
- Greg Botsivales
- Jeannie Botsivales
- John Botsivales
- Kate Bundy
- Jim Bundy
- Avis Carter
- Marc Kagan
- Susan Kagan
- Darlene McNaughton
- Tim McNaughton
- Lisa Orris
- Jimmy Roberts
- Evelyn Smith
- Denise Sorabella
- Ellen Westcott





**FOURTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
Monday, May 13th at Dennis Pines Golf Course**

Registration, Sponsorship, and Raffle forms are available through the office or from Mike Coute, 508-398-5275.

Please consider playing in this fun tournament – you may register individually or as a foursome. If you're not able to play, we have other ways to support this worthy cause. You may sponsor a hole with a Tee Sign or donate a prize for the raffle. All types of prizes are welcome such as golf equipment, gift certificates, etc. Come join the fun!



May 19th! 1-4 pm

Join us for an afternoon of Cardboard Boat Races in support of Elsie Agurkis, a freshman at DY high school, who was recently diagnosed with Myasthenia Gravis, a rare, chronic neuromuscular disease. This event will raise funds for the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America and increase awareness in our community!

Music, food, raffles and activities!

Register online at <https://www.classy.org/event/battle-of-the-boats/e229162>



A Baby Center has sent a thank-you for the "kind and generous donation of diapers and wipes!" These gifts help the center to carry out its mission to serve the most fragile in our community. ABC currently serves over 500 babies a month. In addition to providing families with an atmosphere of comfort and support, the ABC staff and volunteers strive to create caring relationships with these families as they navigate the hazards of raising a family in poverty.

The Baby Center in Hyannis is still in need of baby wipes. Any donations are gratefully appreciated and can be placed in the container in the Narthex coat room.

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS!



There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall if you would like to commemorate or celebrate someone or a special event. You are asked to provide a donation of \$40 to cover the cost, and Martha Young and the office will take care of the rest! It is a wonderful way to enhance worship and remember someone or something special in your life.



**COMPUTER THURSDAY!
9:30am-12:30pm**

Computer Thursday is **on the second Thursday of each month. Next one will be on May 9th**

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

YOGA



Alice Boyle offers free yoga classes on Saturday mornings at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall. This month we will meet on the 11th, 18th and 25th. Bring your mat. If you don't have one, we have some available. Come join us!

Current Prayer Concerns



May concerns

Elsa Abele (friend of Kristine Strand) Progression of cancer, Hospice care
Elsie Agurkis Recovering from surgery
Ida Boucher (friend and neighbor of the Eyman's) Recovering from a fall
Audrey Brewer Recovering from shoulder surgery
Joseph Cisek (Rae Fenton's son-in-law) Dana Farber, recent diagnosis of lung and brain cancer
Joan Coleman (Beth Roberts' mother) Ongoing health concerns
Joy Haagsma at the unexpected and sudden death of her brother, Jim
Thelma Hartmann Health concerns, Cape Cod Hospital
Susan Horner (friend of Kristine Strand) Beginning intensive radiation treatments for a brain tumor
Indiana Kirwan (friend of Jimmy Roberts) Recent diagnosis of pancreatic cancer
Mimi Mutty (Nancy Mutty's sister-in-law) Stomach cancer
Todd Peters Hospitalized with pneumonia
Bill Potter Recovering from surgery
Virgie Wakefield and family at the passing of Bob Wakefield on Good Friday
Jean Williams Recovering from knee-replacement surgery on second knee
The Christian community in Sri Lanka following the Easter Day terrorist attacks
Church of the Resurrection, a Covenant Church in Harlem, that suffered extensive water damage to their facility on the Saturday night before Easter due to a broken water main

Recent concerns

Edward Lavoie Home after serving an internship with Teen Challenge in New York
Joyce Nickerson Ongoing health concerns, Wingate at Harwich
Alan Woodstock (friend of Sara Pattie) Treatments for Bile Duct cancer

Please remember in prayer those who have ongoing health concerns

Rachel Ash and Erin Pember Fran Hedlund
(nieces of Bonnie and Stuart Pauline Nelson
Eyman) Multiple Sclerosis Donna Jean Wassell (Lynn Read's cousin)
Christopher Baker Nina Wikman (friend of Lynn Read and
Ardis Bardh her sister, Nancy Russo)
Bob DuBois Blake Watson
Kay Endris
Bunny Haas



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!





STUDY GROUPS

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study continues its study of the Proverbs. Please join us Tuesday mornings at 10 am for lively and open discussions.

The Wednesday Evening Group will be meeting every Wednesday evening from now through June 5th at 7 pm, On June 12th we will meet at 6 pm. for our annual potluck before our Summer break.

The Ladies' Saturday morning Book Group plans to meet at Our Lady of the Cape on May 4th at 8:45am for a labyrinth walk. We will keep you up-dated on any changes in the bulletin, or you can check with Sharon Hirsch.

The Wednesday night Sensible Shoes group will meet May 1st to finish the book. We will meet at Jami Carder's.

Please check the bulletin for any changes.

JOIN US!

IMPORTANT DATES

June 2nd is Children's Sunday. We look forward to a special time of worship led by the youth of our church. This date is also the last week of Sunday School before summer and also our church picnic day! More details are coming.

June 9th begins our summer worship, which begins at 9:30 am. While there is no Sunday School, nursery will be provided.



Youth News!

Did you know that we consistently have close to 20 kids each week at our CLUB 47 youth group (grades 4-7) that meets on Friday nights from 6:30pm-8:00pm? And our Senior High Youth Group continues to grow as kids invite their friends to join us each Sunday night from 6:00pm-7:30pm.

MERCHANDISE CARDS

Merchandise Cards to support the homeless on Cape Cod are on sale after church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month.



Various denominations are available from merchants such as Stop and Shop, Shaws, CVS, etc. Cards from additional merchants can be ordered. Please see the retail card table in Fellowship Hall.

PANTRY DONATION BOX

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



Suggested items include:

Tea or coffee; Jam/jelly (peanut butter is provided by the State); Pancake mix and syrup; Pineapple or mixed fruit; Granola bars; Baked beans; Spaghetti sauce; Crackers; Ketchup and Mayonnaise; Cereals; Corn muffin mix; Pudding or jello. And they are always in need of juice!

THANK YOU!

Mission of the Month for May Camp Squanto Scholarships



Located on beautiful Swanzey Lake in New Hampshire, Camp Squanto is the place to be if you're a kid. Mayflower Lodge and Cottages 'down the road a piece' is the camp for adults and families. Together they make up Pilgrim Pines Conference Center which is a ministry of the East Coast Conference of the Covenant Church and welcomes people from all over the world to find fun and fellowship in "God's country".

The mission of the month for May is Camp Squanto scholarships. We are committed to making sure that any child who wants to spend a week at Camp Squanto can have that experience. That experience includes big games, swimming, boating, wilderness activities, ropes course, arts & crafts, camp store, great meals, crazy skits as well as singing and chapel times in the Rec Hall and a lot more. The staff at Camp Squanto are young adults who have been carefully selected and are excited about serving the needs, both spiritual and physical, of the children who come to camp. Their priorities are for each child to have fun in a safe environment, feel loved by the staff, and go home with a renewed appreciation for life in Christ. The various programs by age group are: Pathfinder Camp (entering grades 2-3), Trailblazer Camp (entering grades 4-6), Junior High Camp (entering grades 7-9), Navigator Camp (entering grades 8-10), Creative Arts Camp (entering grades 8-10), Senior High Camp (entering grades 10-12), Leadership Training (entering grades 11-12). For more information about the Camp Squanto Programs and scholarships talk with Pastor Johnny or go to the website at pilgrimpines.org.



Thank you dear church family for the wonderful donation given towards the Covenant World Relief Project in memory of Doreen Espeseth! This donation will go towards the second phase of this project that will begin in May with the emphasis being: starting and developing their Our WAYUU Foundation so that the local Wayuu leaders can advocate for their own needs in front of the Colombian government.

Blessings and hugs,
Mary Lou and Gary Sander

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



Dear Church family,

We want to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards, emails, texts and phone calls while we were "stuck" in Florida (and since we have come home, too). We can't express how much it meant to us knowing you were holding us up in prayer so faithfully. God was with us every step of the way. What an amazing church family we have. We are truly blessed. Thank you all so much.

Blessings to all. Love,
Margaret and Bill Potter



As Bill and Margaret said above, this is a special church family. We have much to be grateful for, and I would especially like to thank Marlyce Peterson and all the choir for their faithfulness to worship leadership. It's not always easy to be in front of the congregation, but they are there for us to lead us in song and praise. As we end our season, we ask that you would all pray for guidance as the Worship and Music Commission task team looks for a new music director. It is an important role of leadership in a church, and we have been blessed (and spoiled) by Nancy Nelson and Marlyce Peterson. Here's to a bright musical future for Cape Cod Covenant Church!

Sara Pattie

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
Cape Cod Covenant Church, 11 Satucket Road, Brewster, MA 02631
mailing: P.O. Box 219, S. Dennis, MA 02660
Phone: 508-385-2223 Email: capecovenantchurch@comcast.net
website: www.capecodcovenantchurch.com