

The Covenanter

JANUARY 2018



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.



The Magi (an excerpt from The Last Straw)

An Epiphany poem by Godfrey Rust

*Will you study these signs
as carefully
as you study the prices
in the Christmas catalogues?*

*Will you seek out the manger
as diligently
as you search for the right scarf
or this year's toy?*

*Will you examine
your heart's pilgrimage
and be sure towards what stable
it carries its precious gifts?*

*Will you be a wise fool
to find and follow
the strange star of truth
in a sky full of glittering lies?*

Peace — 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 in the office.**



**SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING
January 28th**

We will be meeting after the service to discuss the church budget and other financial issues. Information for the meeting will be available for you to take home and review on January 14th.

Please plan to attend this important meeting. Also, if you have not already made your pledge, pledge card information is available in the narthex. The cards can be placed in the offering plates on January 7th. Thank you.



**THANK YOU FROM THE
ANDREA HOLDEN
FOUNDATION**

Dear Cape Cod Covenant Church,
Our mission statement is to help improve the health and well-being of the children in the Mid-Cape area. For 17 years, this wonderful community has continually astounded me with their caring and generosity. We have helped so many. I sincerely thank you so very much for your support! This year alone we expect to give out over \$30,000!!!

Bill Holden



A big thank-you to all who participated in the many programs and worship services during Advent and Christmas.

First, to Nancy Nelson for organizing all the music programs, coordinating with the children (and their parents!) and filling the church with joyous music. The choir concert was beautiful, and the special music, the children's singing and instrumental playing were great.

The Lucia breakfast was a lot of fun. Thanks to Jeannie Botsivales, Sharon Hirsch and Laura McCarthy for organizing it, to all who helped decorate, set-up and clean-up, and to all the cooks, especially Pastor Johnny for the extra food he provided. And Lucy Agurkis certainly looked like the real Santa Lucia!

In fact, I think Pastor Johnny deserves a lot of praise for all the work he did on the Children's Pageant, along with Lindsey Bryant and Caitlin Shea.

The Holiday Sing-along was fun, despite my usual frenzied spinning about! Thanks to Meredith Downing and Norm Peterson for making it all come together.

And thanks to Stu and Bonnie Eyman and their committee for the caroling evening. I know it was appreciated by all who heard them, and it's so much fun to go caroling and come back to yummy pizza and other goodies.

Here are some of the people who were involved:

The Agurkis family	Jacob and Allie McCarthy
The Botsivales family	The Loewen family
The Eymans	Ruth Gawle and Al Lumbard
Norm, Marlyce and Kurt Peterson	

— Sara Pattie



STUDY GROUPS

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will resume its study of the Psalms January 9th. Please join us any time for lively and open discussions.

Covenant Wednesday Evening Bible Study will start again on January 10th.

Ladies' Wednesday evening book club will meet January 3rd at Judy Nelson's home in Yarmouth Port at 6:30 pm. Plan to carpool, and if you are driving, please contact Judy (judithnelson1201@gmail.com) for parking instructions. It's complicated!!

Our Wednesday group will start reading "Sensible Shoes" chapter one. If anyone needs a copy of the book, please contact Sharon Hirsch. We will also meet January 31st at a place yet to be determined. Watch your bulletins!

The Saturday morning Book Group will meet at church on January 6th and 20th at 8:30 am. We will be reading chapters four and five.



SATURDAY MORNING YOGA

We will be meeting this month. Come join us January 6th, 13th and 20th. Start the new year right and start feeling good and healthy!



THANK YOU READERS!

Sincerest thanks to all who have read scripture during worship over the past year! You have enhanced our Sunday morning with your willingness, your preparation and your presence.

All are welcome to read!

If you are interested in reading in 2018 or have questions contact

Sheryl Stone at caposalstone@gmail.com, Pastor Johnny or any member of the Worship & Music Commission!

COMPUTER THURSDAY!

9:30am-12:30pm

Computer Thursday is held **on the second Thursday of each month. Next will be on January 11th.** Anyone needing help with their computers, laptops, etc., or with questions about email and using the internet are welcome to drop by!

Tom Donahue may be reached at 508-362-6864 or by email CovenantComputer@comcast.net



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.

January, Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Lolly Warner, 508-362-4789

February, Finance Commission

Andrew Foss, 508-694-7751



CALENDARS

Once again, we are collecting calendars for our New England Seafarers' Mission. There is a box in the Fellowship Hall entry where you can put 2018 calendars, which our missions team will take up to the Seafarers' Mission. PLEASE, we will only be collecting them through January. Thank you for helping with this special project.

The Missions Commission



"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice" — MLK Jr.

The annual March and Commemoration honoring **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** will be held on Sunday, January 14th, at the Federated Church of Hyannis at 320 Main Street.

The Silent March will leave at 2:30 pm from the Hyannis Town Hall parking lot and go the Federated Church for Worship at 3:00 pm.

The offering will benefit the scholarship fund of the Cape Cod branch of NAACP.

A reception will follow the worship service in Baldwin Hall.

MERCHANDISE CARD SALES

Merchandise Cards to support the homeless on Cape Cod will be on sale after church on the 14th and 28th of January. It's a great way to help others.

There are several denominations available from various merchants, such as Stop and Shop, Shaws, CVS, etc. You may also order cards from additional merchants such as the 99 Restaurant, Olive Garden, Regal Cinemas and more.

THANK YOU!



Hands of Hope Food Pantry



Thank you so much for your support during 2017, especially during the holidays. Winter is the busiest time for the Pantry, so we hope you can help with the following items:

Rice and Pasta Roni, Spaghetti and other pastas
Pasta sauce, Chef Boy-R-Dee, Canned hash or chili
Canned corn, Baked Beans, Canned Fruit
Soup, Canned milk, Oatmeal
Spam
Jelly

And don't forget that we also collect food for the Pantry on the first Sunday of each month in our box on the altar.

Prayer Concerns

January concerns

Claire Brown (friend of Kristine Strand) Hospice care
Buck Fenton Recovering from recent surgery and health concerns
Chris Golden (the Wakefield's grandson) Receiving treatments at Yale Hospital
Joe Kaestner (friend of the Women's Breakfast Group) Cancer treatments
Ann Kaner-Roth (45-yr-old friend of Sybil O'Brien's family) Hospice care
Glen Peterson Recovering from hospitalization
Bob Wakefield Recovering from surgery, Wingate Harwich
Grace Wennberg Recovering at home from a fall



Recent health concerns and undergoing treatment

Elsa Abele (friend of Kristine Strand) Undergoing treatments for lung cancer
Cia Andersson (Judy Nelson's cousin) Undergoing treatments for cancer
Heidi Arsenault Ongoing health concerns
Rachel Ash (niece of Stuart and Bonnie Eyman) Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis
Rev. George Elia Recovering from hip surgery
Mike Forrest Ongoing serious health concerns
Pat Forrest Recovering at home
Ralph Houseman Ongoing rehab, home
Rick Knowlton (good friend and colleague of Jimmy Roberts) Severe health concerns
Edward Lavoie Beginning a year-long discipleship program with Teen Challenge in New York
Don MacDermot (Tim Howard's grandfather) Treatments for spinal cancer, St. Vincent's
Colin McPartlan (son of Patty Keefe - friend of Mike Coute) Health concerns
Erin Pember (niece of Stuart and Bonnie Eyman) Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis
Duane Peterson (relative of the Mancini's and the Dvorak's) Pancreatic Cancer
George Popovici (good friend of Jimmy Roberts) Critical health concerns
Joy Potter (13-year-old granddaughter of Bill Potter) Praying for healing and no further treatments
Ted Van Der Meid (friend of Kristine Strand) Treatments for pancreatic and liver cancer

Please remember in prayer those who have ongoing health concerns

Ardis Bardh
Kay Endris
Ted Glasgow
Bunny Haas
George and Thelma Hartmann
Fran Hedlund

Arthur Hvoslef
Isabelle Isham
Bob and Pauline Nelson
Joyce Nickerson
Eleanore Olson
Edna Swanson
Blake Watson





WINTERFEST!

Winterfest is more than just another weekend retreat — it's an experience! It's an all-inclusive event providing food, lodging, recreational activities, teaching and an amazing program. It takes place at the beautiful Young Life Retreat Center in Glen Spey, NY.

Register through the Pilgrim Pines website at www.pilgrimpines.org

CHIC IS COMING!

July 15-20, 2018

University of Tennessee

More than 5000 high school students from Evangelical Covenant Churches across the country will be coming together to learn how they fit into the bigger picture of God's Kingdom. There will be base camps, excursions, main stage speakers, bands and worship.

For students completing grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 in 2018.



And don't forget all the activities at Pilgrim Pines!

There are lots of other youth and family activities at Pilgrim Pines throughout the year. Check the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for all the information.



And don't forget our regular youth activities!

Club 47 (for youth grades 4-7) meets on Fridays from 6:30-8 pm.

This month we will meet on the 19th and 26th.

Senior High Youth group meets Sunday evenings from 6-7:30 pm.

The weekend of 5-7 January, Senior Highers will be at Winterfest, so this month we'll meet on the 21st and 28th.

Keep an eye on the bulletin for any changes to schedules!!



Mission of the Month – January

Every once in a while, someone will ask me how things are going “at the soup kitchen.” I always have to stop and think: “what are they talking about?” And of course in the almost six years since the Calvary Baptist Church fire which ended their meal serving at that site, the program has had several names: The Nutrition Kitchen, The Nutrition Mission, The Faith Neighborhood Kitchen, and the present name, Faith Family Kitchen. And it is the Faith Family Kitchen story that I want to tell you about.

After many, many months of shopping at BJ’s, lugging food to the basement refrigerator, cutting, chopping, and cooking, and then loading up and driving to Hyannis, this church provided almost five years of monthly meals for our neighbors in need, serving out of Faith Assembly of God Church in Hyannis. So many of you Cape Cod Covenant folks stepped up in all sorts of ways to make this happen. And we praise God for the blessings that were provided over and over again!

On December 2, 2016 the first meal was cooked and served in the new “state of the art” kitchen at Faith Assembly of God Church, planned and executed by Cathy Cugini, the Interim Chef. At that meal we began to serve families with children from 5:00 to 5:45 and adults only from 5:45 to 6:30 every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings. All those congregations who “cooked and carried” to make the meal happen for the first four-plus years are now the teams who arrive early to prepare the hall, make the coffee, serve the meal and clean up the kitchen and hall before leaving.

We have passed December 2, 2017 and can celebrate the fact that we have been operating in our new “state of the art” kitchen at Faith Assembly for a year. We have a permanent Executive Chef/Program Director, Tom Bayuk, who oversees and produces a wonderful repast each evening that we are open. The menus are varied, nutritious, and attractive – not to mention YUMMY. A “soup kitchen” we are not! And our neighbors in Hyannis who attend the meals are pleased and appreciative.

This all was possible because of God’s amazing faithfulness and grace, providing the needed resources and people each time there was a need. A huge thank you to so many of you who have been a part of this ministry. And the work goes on with Avis Carter taking on the leadership of our Cape Cod Team that serves the first Monday of each month. In January, FFK is the mission of the month so you will be hearing more of the story in worship. You will also have an opportunity to give for the support of this program. We are no longer raising money to build a kitchen; we are responsible to help raise the operating budget for the ministry and its work. Donations may be made anytime during January with a notation FFK.



THANK YOU NOTES

A special thank you to all those who made the church so beautiful during the holiday season. First, Pastor Johnny for the beautiful swags that adorned our sanctuary; Martha and Roland Young who put up the wreaths at our doorways, and provided floral arrangements (all year long!), and put up the banners in the Narthex.

Then, Harry and Jean Canning, and Paul and Sharon Hirsch for setting up and decorating the Christmas Tree in the sanctuary. Every year it is a beautiful reminder of the light that has come into our world.

And Norm and Marlyce Peterson for the Christmas Card Tree in Fellowship Hall. It is great to see all the cards from here, there and everywhere.

Thank you one and all.

Dear Church family,

Thank you so very much for the generous check I received for Christmas! It will come in very handy, I know.

I am blessed to be able to work with so many talented people in the music ministry of our church!! Much thanks to Sara and Marlyce for accompanying our choir and congregation and for all who shared their musical talents this year.

Thank you again for everything!
God bless you all in 2018!

Love, Nancy Nelson

I would like to thank everyone for all the love and support I receive every day at this church. Your generosity is wonderful. Each person in this church is truly a blessing to me. Thank you so much,
Sara Pattie

Dear Covenant Church Family,

It is with a grateful heart that I thank you for your generous Christmas gift and for all the love and support you've shown me throughout the year. I feel very fortunate to receive so many blessings while doing my "job" here at the church! Your kindness and thoughtfulness are true gifts and very much appreciated. All the best for a wonderful new year!
Sincerely, Joan Thompson

Dear Members and Friends of the CCCC!

The generosity of our church family is amazing! How can I even begin to thank you for all your kindnesses to us? I am very grateful for your loving Christmas gift! Nancy and I sure know your caring and sharing. I want to echo what my father says each time we talk on the phone: "THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!"

Together in Christ,
Pastor Tom

Dear Church family,

Again this year we are overwhelmed by your generosity. Thank you for the gracious Christmas gift, and for the many gifts, cards and expressions of love and care we have received. We are blessed to call you our church family and we thank God for you!

Peace,
Pastor Johnny, Ann, Tobi, Lucy, Elsie and Tanner

To my friends at Cape Cod Covenant Church,

I can't believe I have been here for nearly 10 wonderful years, and have been the beneficiary of your Kindness, Thoughtfulness, and Lagniappe (a New Orleans term meaning "extra"). Your Wonderful Christmas Gift is certainly. You can probably tell I really enjoy our church and especially the people. Thank All of You once again.

Love, Bob Wilson



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

**Adults Sunday School 9:00am
Children's Sunday School
during church service**

NURSERY CARE

Provided during worship throughout the year

We look forward to seeing you!

Pastor Johnny Agurkis and Pastor Tom Nelson
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