

# THE BELL

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
MARSHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Gathered 1632

Vision Statement

Growing in faith by...worshipping God, loving all, joyfully serving others

*Covenant – We covenant one with another to seek and respond to the word and the will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the church to witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshipping God, and striving for the truth, justice and peace. As did those who came before, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the kingdom of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.*

**Number 324 DECEMBER 2020**

## THE FIRST NOEL

Much of Christmas time is filled with excitement and hardly-can-wait anticipation. Now, of course, when you're a child this may be primarily centered on the appeal of gifts. Who doesn't like a special present? Well, we know that God's people did, and that is what they received at that first Christmas, the First Noel, so many years ago. God's people had been waiting excitedly for longer than they could remember, and the gift they received was beyond their wildest dreams: the Christ child in a manger. As we enter Advent, we're immersed in a time of intentional anticipation and reflection. We have our eyes on the manger even more than under the tree, and we ask ourselves, what does Christmas really mean for me? That First Noel changed everything, and it changed because of love.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Joel

## ONLINE LECTIO DIVINA

- *Fri., Dec. 4 (8am)*

Get your coffee and kickoff your weekend with meditative reflection on Scripture. Join us for our upcoming *lectio divina* online session on Friday morning (8am) on Dec. 4. *Lectio divina* is a contemplative way of reading the Bible. A centuries-old ecumenical spiritual practice, it dates back to the early church and was a monastic practice in the 6th Century. *Lectio divina* is a way of praying Scripture that leads us deeper into God's Word.

Our online *lectio divina* will be in a multimedia format, accessible via Zoom video call; [click here](#) to signup for Dec. 4. [Click here](#) to join the Zoom meeting (Password: 900517), or call +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968 (Meeting ID 843 7878 3385). All are welcome!

## LBS CHRISTMAS FAIR!

- *Sat., Dec. 5th 10am-2pm (Rain date: Dec.12th)*

Join us for our annual Christmas Fair sponsored by the Ladies Benevolent Society on Saturday December 5th! We will be inside the Parish Hall and in the Parking lot! There will be Wreaths, Greens, Fudge, Cookies, Handiwork, Christmas Crafts, and Christmas Gifts! The Thrift and Gift Shoppe will also be open See you there!

## FCCM CONTACT INFORMATION

1981 Ocean St. P.O. Box 826, Marshfield, MA. 02050 - Phone: (781) 834-7664

Email: [pastorfccm@gmail.com](mailto:pastorfccm@gmail.com); [secretaryfccm@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryfccm@gmail.com); [bookkeeperfccm@gmail.com](mailto:bookkeeperfccm@gmail.com); [tfccwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:tfccwebmaster@gmail.com)

On the web: [FCCMarshfield.org](http://FCCMarshfield.org) - On facebook: [facebook.com/FirstCongregationalMarshfield](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalMarshfield)

**Church Office Hours (Note Updated Schedule; by appointment only):** Monday 9:00am-3:00pm; Tuesday 9:30am-12:30pm; Wednesday 9:00am-3:00pm; Thursday 9:00am-1pm

**Pastoral Office Hours:** Tue. 9:30am-12:30pm, Wed. and Thur. 9am to noon (Mondays are Pastor's day off).

**Cancelations due to storms:** Please watch FOX25 and [www.myfoxboston.com](http://www.myfoxboston.com). Also you can listen on WATD radio.



## THE CHRISTMAS CODE BOOKLET

By: O.S. Hawkins

Hawkins offers 25 devotions tracing the story of Jesus from its earliest roots in the Old Testament to God's gift of salvation. Each features a Scripture, inspirational thought, a "code word," and prayer of reflection. This is **pocket-size**, so it can be carried in purse or briefcase to be read on the go. Each devotion includes a code word for each day. This code word brings a focus to the reading for you to ponder throughout the day. **Keep your heart & mind focused on Jesus with this Advent devotional. 64 mini pages.** Book royalties are donated to a *Mission: Dignity*, a ministry that provides people, who have faithfully served God's people, to retire with modest pay to maintain dignity, independence, and often the ability to continue serving. *The discussion for December's book will be Friday 1/1/21 (7p) via Zoom - call Georgia for Zoom instructions - 781-361-1290. Book is \$4 (call Georgia) or order from Christianbook.com.*

### Are You a Couch-Potato who likes to Read?

Then...become part of an exclusive group of Couch Potato Book-worms. Skip those discussions! Books are about real people... inspiring, interesting and informative. Travel all over the world with us and meet amazing Christians. Selections are available in our church library. Borrow some!



### FROM YOUR DEACONS

Well, we finally did it! On October 18th we successfully Ordained and Installed Pastor Joel as our full-time minister. It was a glorious ceremony and celebration. There were 6 participating churches in attendance, 5 honored guests and remote messages from WI and Rev. Chittum, National Director of the NACCC. We were also blessed with a lovely reading from Pastor Joel's daughter Clara. The church was at full capacity with many more watching on Facebook. Thank you to all who attended and all who contributed to Pastor Joel's Ordination gift. CONGRATULATIONS PASTOR JOEL!

We've had a baptism and a few new visitors to our church. Our in-person worship has been averaging 30 people. Even with the COVID-19 restrictions, we have room for 20 more worshipers if you are ready to come back. Please use the link in the Bell or call the church office to sign up. Of course, you can still join us remotely on Facebook Live or later at your convenience. We have resolved the Facebook broadcasting glitches. You can now have a smooth remote experience. All of our past services are available on [www.fcmarshfield.org](http://www.fcmarshfield.org).

We are looking forward to a joyous Christmas season. It all starts with Advent. "The Hanging of the Greens" took place on Sat Nov. 29th at 10 am. As of this writing we have no decision on the "Hour of Peace" so stay tuned. But please mark your calendars for our Family Christmas Eve service which will take place on Thursday December 24th at 4pm. MERRY CHRISTMAS and God Bless us Everyone!

To God be the Glory,

Your Deacons, Michael Rydberg, Judy Johnson, Rick Taylor, Lisa Brown, Frank Wilkins and Alyssa Titus.

### SENDING IN OFFERINGS

#### - Supporting our Ministries

As we continue to live into this unprecedented time of social distancing, we encourage all members and friends of FCCM to submit offerings to support our ongoing ministries. Offerings may be mailed to the church at First Congregational Church of Marshfield, P.O. Box 826, Marshfield, MA 02050. You may also opt to submit your offering through your bank or financial institution. God's grace is abundant, and He will sustain us through this COVID-19 crisis. Please contact the Church Office or a Trustee with any questions. Thank you for your generous support!

### LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY (LBS)

We are having ZOOM meetings about every other Tuesday at 10 am. We have been working on projects at home for our Christmas Fair. Thank you -Phyllis

### A NOTE FROM YOUR CARING MINISTRY TEAM

The role of the Caring Ministry Team is to assist the minister in meeting the needs of the congregation. The Team consists of 8 members: Lisa Brown, Pam Drouin, Mary Ellingson, Jennifer Fields, Judy Johnson, Donna McCue, Michael Rydberg and Gisele Coville. Each parishioner has been assigned to a Caring Ministry Team member. If you don't know who your Caring Minister is, please contact Michael Rydberg (508-246-3037), Gisele Coville or Jennifer Fields. Our primary mission is to pray for the needs of our assigned parishioners. Please also let us know if a spiritual or practical need should arise.

**JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

*- Articles due by Tuesday, December 15*

Please submit any articles/submissions for the January issue of *The Bell* newsletter to the church office by Dec. 15. You may also submit your article via email to [secretaryfccm@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryfccm@gmail.com). Thank you!

**BOARD & COMMITTEE BUDGETS DUE**

This is a reminder that all FCCM Boards and Committees must submit their budgets for the coming year to the Trustees as soon as possible. The Trustees will be using this input to put together our next budget. Please contact a member of the Trustees with questions.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL RESTART**

Our 2020-2021 IN PERSON Sunday School year started on September 20th in the Parish Hall!

Parents need to escort their child(ren) into the Parish Hall via the downstairs doorway, stay for a brief health screening, and then come back inside after class so that your child(ren) may be returned directly to you.

Please Exit through the Front Door of the Parish Hall. Washable/Reusable Masks will be provided at the time of arrival and a limited supply of single use masks will be available upon check-in moving forward. We will be practicing Safe-distancing and Every child will be provided with Dedicated, new supplies. I will be sanitizing Sunday School space and supplies following each class. (Nursery Care will resume sometime after Massachusetts moves into Stage 4 of COVID-19 recovery.)

**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP THIS FALL**

*- Sundays at 4pm*

Youth Group is gearing up and getting excited for the new school year! Before we've even had our first meeting, we've got a busy Fall planned. Things will look a little different this year, but we will be meeting in person (with safety measures in place!). Meetings will be held outside (weather permitting) and will include social distancing, hand sanitizer, and wearing of masks. Students will need to have rides to and from the meetings as the Leaders will not be able to give rides. We are continuing to build the Group and are looking for new active members.

- Scott Rogers, Carrie Sylvester, Josselyn Sullivan and Pastor Joel Boyd

**NEED TO TALK? HAVING TROUBLE DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS?**

We are living through an especially stressful and challenging time amid the COVID-19 crisis. While some may be juggling the obligations of career and home schooling children, others may be experiencing a sudden shift in employment, loss of career, or loneliness and isolation. Of course, there is also the fact that some may contract the virus, making it difficult for loved ones to see them. If you feel like you need to speak with someone about these concerns, please know that you can always contact the Pastor. In the event of an emergency, you should call 911. [Click here](#) or contact your Town Board of Health for available resources.

**CALLING ALL BUSINESSES and INDIVIDUALS**

The Trustees are offering sponsoring space in *The Bell* newsletter. This initiative will help bring in additional revenue as well as defray the costs associated with *The Bell*. In this *Bell*, we are offering free ads to individuals and businesses affiliated with our church while we test the layout. This could be either a sponsorship or even a personal message. If interested, please contact the church office or speak to/email a Trustee.



**Bird Mansions**  
by Jack Pattison  
781-422-3640  
"Distinctive homes for your fine feathered friends."  
[www.birdmansion.com](http://www.birdmansion.com)



**The Keeping Room**  
LAMP REPAIR • SHADES  
• Restoration • Custom Designs  
• Rewiring • Vintage Restoration & Repair  
• Original Conversions • Silk/Parchment - Relining  
• Crystal Chandeliers  
FREE PICK-UP AND DELIVERY  
BY APPOINTMENT  
RON & BARBARA STUTZMAN 781-536-8384  
7 Spinnaker Circle, Marshfield, MA 02050 Email: rons41@comcast.net

**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

Thanksgiving/Joy: Christ’s faithfulness to FCC Marshfield for 388 years, the gift of engaging in both in-person and online Worship, the baptisms of Reese McGrail and Sophia Boisvert, restart of Sunday School and Youth Fellowship. Churches in MACCC and NACCC, birth of baby Vera Doherty (Kathy and Jim Doherty’s granddaughter); Pastor Joel’s Installation and Ordination; the servicemen and women of our military and their families.

Healing: Those impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, including the medical teams and officials working to keep us safe. Those impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, including the medical teams and officials working to keep us safe. Edna Robie, Kim Callendar, Carol Spooner, John Ritucci, Jack Pattison, Katrina, Gloria Chrisman (Georgia’s sister-in-law), Ed Ochiltree, Joan Morrissey, Mercedes (Eliana Kimball’s mother), Jay Prendergast, Krista Gottschlich, Pat Taylor, Peter Sylvester, Rose Bean, Brenda Hayden, Jennifer Fields, Rick Austin, Dave McGrath Sr

Comfort: Those impacted by the fires in California and northwest; families of Bob Boyd (Pastor Joel’s grandfather), Joan Jordan, June Ellingson, Judith McLaughlin, Jean Crane, Dexter Gasper, David Dill, Linda Nickelson, and Jayne Bowman

Homebound Church Family: Roz Novinsky, Marie King, Kathy Bryan, Alberta Bezanson, and Mary Ellingson.

Guidance & Protection: Men and Women in the military and our first responders, families struggling with addictions, stigma of mental illness, Stephanie and Daniel and young Noah, George Irvin and Barbara Irvin Stovold (Pam Drouin’s parents), John Coombs, Stephanie Goodspeed, Benjamin Hicks, leaders of our nation, for unhoused youth in Marshfield, families, students and teachers in a school year of new normals, all those devastated by recent hurricanes.

**PRAYER PALS ON MONDAY EVENINGS**



Prayer PALS ... Did you know they are praying for you, our church, community, nation and our world? They gather on Monday evenings 6:00-7:00pm, either in the Parish Hall or via Zoom. If interested, please call Georgia (781-361-1290) or email the office for details or help getting connected to Zoom. One may place a prayer request in the offering plate/box, email Pastor Joel at [pastorfccm@gmail.com](mailto:pastorfccm@gmail.com), or call 781-361-1290. *“And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us.” (1 John 5:14 | KJV) New pals always welcome!*

**POINSETTIAS’ FOR THE SANCTUARY-DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**

Join the flower committee as we celebrate Christmas week. With our annual placing of poinsettia in the church, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus.



**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA - ORDER FORM**

Place your orders for poinsettias' to celebrate the Christmas services in the sanctuary. Please leave order form with a member of the flower committee, leaving it in the basket on the fellowship table or drop it in the mail; FCCM, PO Box 826, Marshfield, MA 02050. **Final orders accepted by Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.** Please make your check payable to FCCM, cost per plant is \$10.00. Questions contact Liz Vaillancourt @ 781-837-8114(home).

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In MEMORY, HONOR, CELEBRATION of: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please circle how you want your loved one listed***

Number of poinsettias: \_\_\_\_\_ Color choice – RED, PINK, WHITE, ***please circle***

**NEW BIBLE STUDY:**

**Jonah, Joel & Amos**

*- Wednesdays at 1pm (starting Jan. 6)*

Having now completed our study of Matthew, we're happy to announce a new Bible Study on the minor prophets Jonah, Joel & Amos to be held in Jan. 2021, meeting Weds. online via Zoom at 1pm. It's easy to wander away from God. Hectic schedules and the quest for success often mean that time with God gets neglected. But if we slow down long enough to listen, these three minor prophets--Jonah, Joel, and Amos--can have a major impact on the quality of our lives. Study guides are available at a discounted rate of \$3.67/ea (Let BCE know if you'd like a copy). [Click here](#) to signup and join us as we explore God's Word in Jonah, Joel & Amos!

**ADULT EDUCATION**

*New! Advent series: "Sent"*

*- Sundays 7:30pm (Nov. 22-Dec. 20)*

The Board of Christian Education invites you to mark your calendars and plan on joining us for an exciting new Advent series on Sunday evenings. Sessions will be held via Zoom video conference.

God sent Christ at Christmas. In turn, Christ sends us into the world to be his hands and feet, head and heart. Dynamic pastor Jorge Acevedo leads us on a 5-week Advent journey to discover how, where, and why we are sent. Joining him on the journey are four young clergy including Jacob Armstrong, Rachel Billups, Justin LaRosa, and Lanecia Rouse, who challenge *us through story, art, and Bible study.*

[Click here](#) or contact the church office to signup, and be sure to let us know if you wish to purchase one of the accompanying devotionals at \$6. On Sundays at 7:30pm, you may [click here](#) to join the Zoom meeting (Password: 584778), or call +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968 (Meeting ID: 884 9627 1289). All are welcome! Join us as we anticipate the birth of the Christ child this Advent.

**OFFICE HOUR APPOINTMENTS**

As you know, Pastor Joel and Sarah have been working remotely throughout these months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Parish Hall offices are open for in-person meetings with our staff by appointment only. Kindly contact Pastor Joel or Sarah to set a time during our published office hours and call the office from the parking lot and you will be given access to the Parish Hall. All visitors to the Parish Hall offices must wear a mask, sanitize hands before entry, make sure they do not have a temperature or any COVID-19 symptoms ahead of time, confirm that they have not recently travelled to an area that requires quarantining, and maintain 6-foot social distancing while in the Parish Hall. Please note that while the bathrooms are accessible, with the exception of the offices and front parlor, all other rooms are restricted at this time. For your information, our staff will be cleaning their work area each day, using supplies which meet state guidelines. Published office hours are: M - 9am-3pm, T - 9:30am-12:30pm, W - 9am-3pm, Th - 9am-1pm. Pastoral office hours are: T - 9:30am-12:30pm, W - 9am-noon, Th - 9am-noon. (Mondays are the Pastor's day off). In addition to any in-person appointments made, note that the staff remain fully accessible via phone, email or video conferencing (Zoom) as well.

You can reach the office at: [secretaryfcm@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryfcm@gmail.com) , [pastorfcm@gmail.com](mailto:pastorfcm@gmail.com), 781-834-7664. Thank you.

**UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONALS**

We have not renewed our subscription to the printed Upper Room Daily Devotionals. For those of you who miss the devotions, please know that they are available for FREE online at <https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>

**FALL CLEAN-UP DAY**

*- Thank you*

Many thanks to all who came out for our outdoor Fall cleanup on Sat., Nov. 21. You are appreciated!



**THE GOOD NEIGHBOR FUND**

**Contact Us:** GNFMmarshfield@gmail.com https://GNFMmarshfield.wix.com/gnf-website or P.O. Box 826 Marshfield, MA 02050

**Donate On-line:** https://GNFMmarshfield.wix.com/gnf-website GoodNeighborFund.net

**Purchase GL Scrip Gift Cards:** GNFMmarshfield@gmail.com or First Congregational Church, 781-864-7664

**Good Neighbor Fund Gift Card Order Form**

*Help our communities PURCHASE YOUR GIFT CARDS TODAY!*

Buy gift cards to use at the Grocery stores that you normally shop for all your daily needs!

**Contact us at GNFMmarshfield@gmail.com.**

<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>DENOMINATIONS</b>	<b>%</b>	<b># ORDER</b>	<b>AMT DUE</b>
<b>Shaw's Supermarkets</b>	<b>\$25.00/\$100.00</b>	<b>4%</b>		
<b>Roche Bros. Markets</b>	<b>\$25.00/\$100.00</b>	<b>3%</b>		
<b>Stop &amp; Shop</b>	<b>\$25.00/\$50.00/\$100.00</b>	<b>4%</b>		
<b>Whole Foods Markets</b>	<b>\$25.00/\$100.00</b>	<b>3%</b>		

TOTAL CARDS PURCHASED: \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to: The Good Neighbor Fund**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**MISSION PROJECTS FOR DECEMBER**

Seeing, understanding, showing compassion, and helping all people is part of our responsibility to God. Please continue to share in our mission to give support to everyone here and around the world.

**Helping our on-going Marshfield Missions**

Food Pantry - Please send a donation to the Food Pantry or to a group that is helping to feed the tremendous number of food-insecure families in the United States at this time.

Sowing Seeds - Please donate new socks, good winter clothing and sleepwear.

Good Neighbor Fund - Continue to buy your Grocery and Gift Cards through the Good Neighbor Fund. Our neighbors need help year-round.

Helping the Homeless - Please support this on-going project with the Youth Fellowship and donate travel sized toiletries or new clean socks.

**Helping our Family and Friends around the World**

Please continue to pray for our families and friends around the world. We made a donation to Church World Services for tools to honor of our Dads on Father's Day.

**Opportunities**

The Missions Committee has received a donation to be used for Mission trips through a vetted organization. This is open to anyone in the church who might be interested. Please talk to members of the committee for more information. The NACCC has a list of some opportunities on their website.

**INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT FCCM?**

Have you or someone you know been prayerfully considering joining our congregation? Are you interested to learn more about our church and what it means to be a "Congregationalist"? Contact Pastor Joel or a member of the Diaconate to see about participating in our New Member Class and Intro to Congregationalism. This class is open to anyone who wishes to learn more about membership at FCCM. Thank you.

MEETING HOUSE IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICE

-Sundays at 9:30am

On August 11, the Council ratified the Diaconate vote to resume with in-person Worship in the Meeting House beginning on Sun., Sept. 6 at 9:30am. We will continue to livestream Worship via Facebook Live. While we are very excited about this transition, we are also fully aware of the safety guidelines that will need to be observed and are diligently making preparations to ensure the health and safety of all who attend. As with our outdoor Worship services we will continue to encourage online sign-ups. All are asked to sign up in advance. Note that our capacity will be limited as per state guidelines, and that masks and 6-foot social distancing will be required (members of the same immediate household may be seated together). Please bring your own cushion for seating. There will be no fellowship time following service. Childcare will not be provided at this time. All over the age of 5 are asked to wear a mask. Washing stations and restrooms will continue to be made available on the lower level of the Parish Hall. Look forward to joining you in Worship!

"FINDING LIFE"

- FCCM 2021 Stewardship Campaign

During this historic year, we have had much to draw us closer together. This year's Stewardship Campaign theme has been Finding Life. Last week, we held our Consecration Sunday Worship, during which we dedicated our pledges. FCCM's Finding Life Campaign directly supports the operating budget of our historic church, blessing the many ministries of our congregation as we grow together in the love of God and neighbor. Thank you so much for all who have submitted pledges to date. If you have not had the opportunity to do so, you may still submit your pledge card and either bring it to Worship and place it in the offering, mail to FCC Marshfield (P.O. Box 826, Marshfield, MA 02050) or click here to submit your pledge online. Thank you for blessing God's church.

Kids Korner

This is a new section!

Here you will find either a fun cartoon or a Puzzle for you to try to complete (whether you are a kid in age or a kid at heart)!

Click here or see below to see if you can solve this Santa Crossword Puzzle made by Judy Johnson

E G R D N E S X F Q N P B O V F
I E M S N C S M P A G T T R A N
O M A C F B O C C H I L D R E N
Y X R I F Y N N E N F E Y M A T
W L Z R Z S E O I Y T M R N S L
L F G C O R I E N C S E F Y R S
L H W G P T R L N Q H Q L H R T
E R S I E E B S B S T O C O N T
L S W D W V B N I E H H L I O H
G O N N C L T F S E E I A A S B
L J H T D P O S H R A S U O S J
P H I G U A A A O S O M S H H E
O A M S T I S N P A C L O M R G
E E E N M N I T B N M T O S S G
P N S Q X M A A B X S S I S G L
E D L S T W B V F U A T U H T H

Find the following hidden words:

asia, baba, bishop, children, claus, fishermen, gifts, holy, minor, myra, nicholas, noel, sailors, saint, santa

## **CELEBRATING 400 YEARS OF AMERICAN CONGREGATIONALISM**

**Learn more about our Congregational History at [nacc.org](http://nacc.org)**

2020 marks the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim landing at Plymouth. As a Pilgrim church ourselves, here at FCCM we will be celebrating this momentous occasion in many ways throughout the year. Two Sundays each month we will be featuring a highlighted history of a Congregationalist who has contributed to blessing God's world.

### **Did you know Harriet Beecher Stowe...**

Some would say Harriet could write her own story since she became a famous writer. In 1852 Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin. It focused on slavery and energized the anti-slavery forces of our nation. Many people named their daughters Eva after one of the characters.

Most of Harriet's family had been involved in church and anti-slavery activities. Her father was a minister. Brother Henry was a great preacher in Brooklyn. Brother Edward was with Elijah Lovejoy when the mob killed him and destroyed his abolitionist press in Alton, Illinois. Edward went on to pastor the Congregational Church in Galesburg, Illinois, and inspire Mother Bickerdyke in her nursing and organizing work during the Civil War. Her husband was a minister, too, and a college professor.

Harriet wrote a cookbook and about twenty books in total. She spoke all over the nation when many thought women should not speak in public. She met, laughed and joked with President Lincoln, relieving some of the sadness and fear of news of the War. She was grateful for the development of the railroads that got her "swiftly" around the country. Her books enabled her to have homes in Hartford and Florida for winters.

### **...was a Congregationalist?**

*Historical story by: Rev. Will Lange*

### **Did you know Anne Bradstreet...**

"The finest bread hath the least bran; the purest honey the least wax; and the sincerest Christian the least self-love." This devotional lyric was written by Anne Bradstreet, early Puritan wife, mother, and America's first published female poet.

She was born into an upper class Puritan family that afforded her the opportunity to receive an excellent education in history, literature and language. Anne married Simon Bradstreet in 1628. Her father, Thomas Dudley, worked closely with John Winthrop to form the Massachusetts Bay Company and organize the first Great Puritan Migration to New England. In 1630 Anne sailed with Simon and her family on the Arbella to the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Anne's father and her husband served as its governor. Anne and Simon had eight children.

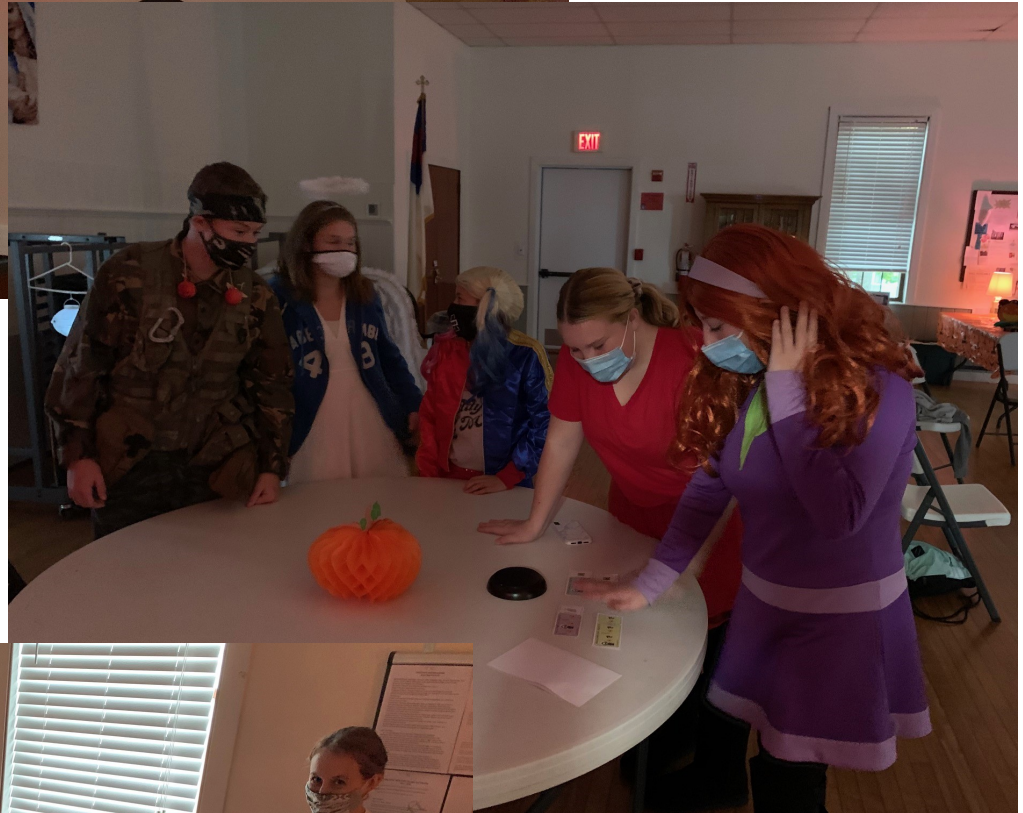
In the midst of her many household duties she made time to journal her thoughts in a book she always kept at hand. In it she wrote letters to herself, to her husband, to her children, or poems about her love for God and her family. Her writings show her to be a loving wife and mother. Anne also wrote poems that expressed her religious beliefs, her thoughts on life in the Colony, and her opinions about the role of women in Puritan society. A collection of her poems was published in London under the title, *The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America*, (1650).

Today Anne Bradstreet is appreciated as colonial America's first published female poet.

### **...was a Congregationalist?**

*by: Rev. Norm Erlendson*





*Youth Fellowship  
Halloween Escape Room  
in the Parish Hall!*



## THE GREEN SHEET

(A monthly message from our youth team)

Let it Shine!



Greetings from the FCCM Youth Group!

Well, the weather is starting to get a little chillier, and the Youth Group is gearing up and getting excited for the new school year! We've got a busy Fall planned.

Things will look a little different this year, but we will be meeting in person (with safety measures in place !)

Here's what's coming up:

### November's Schedule:

No Meeting on Nov. 29th —Happy Thanksgiving!!!

### December's Schedule:

Sun., Dec. 6 - Regular Meeting – at Parish Hall - 4-5:30pm

Sun., Dec. 13 - Regular Meeting – at Parish Hall - 4-5:30pm (Christmas party!)

Sun., Dec. 20 – - Live Manger (tableau) - at Parish Hall - 3-5:30pm (exact times to be announced)

Thur., Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve Service – 4pm (**make sure to sign up in advance !**)

No meeting on Sun. Dec. 27 – MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

Meetings will be held outside (weather permitting) and will include social distancing, hand sanitizer, and wearing of masks. Students will need to have rides to and from the meetings as the Leaders will not be able to give rides.

### Looking Ahead:

We are currently saving cans and bottles throughout the weeks. We will be holding a Can Drive on the 4th Saturday of every month. You can drop your cans off at the Parish Hall or bring them to us on those Saturdays. We thank you for your support! These funds allow us to reduce the costs of our retreats and fund our weekly Youth Ministry program.

**To start this year, we will be collecting cans and “quarantining” them in the Can Box to be counted later (about one week later)**

### Further Ahead:

We are continuing to build the Group and are looking for new active members of the Youth Group. We are trying to re-implement our Leaders-in-Training Program which allows High School students to act more as mentors and Junior Leaders. It looks good on a college resume!

Thank you and God Bless!

Your Youth Group Advisors,  
Scott Rogers, Carrie Sylvester, Josselyn Sullivan and Pastor Joel Boyd