

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 worshiping 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 337 February 2022

TO YOU, FROM PASTOR BARTLETT

The weather has caused us a few complications. Seasonal cold temperatures and the increase in fuel prices has caused the Trustees to consider moving services to the parish hall for the remainder of the cold weather season. There are those who feel we might lose momentum if that occurs, so the matter will be discussed this coming week and a decision will be reached.

The Youth Fellowship had a bowling trip on Sunday afternoon. There are plans to consider mission projects to contribute to the overall mission emphasis of the church.

The newly formed Music Task Force is getting organized to manage the church music. We do not have a full time organist and we need to find a way to resource pianists/organists to assist us part time. During the remaining time, we need to be able to select music that can be integrated into our audio visual sanctuary recorded music and hymns with which we can sing along. The idea is to divide the responsibilities for music among the members of the Task Force so that music becomes reliable but does not become too much of a burden for any one participant.

We were all saddened at the passing of Georgia and Dave’s son Corey due to complications from COVID. Condolences have already been sent from many places. There will be a Memorial Service at the church in June, 2022.

The LBS and the Thrift and Gift continue a special ministry to those in need. Their generous support of the church is especially appreciated at this time.

Confirmation classes continue with a weekend workshop scheduled for February involving the sharing of the wisdom of our members with the class on various subject matters such as The Apostles’ Creed, The Ten Commandments, The Lord’s Prayer, Psalm 23, the Beatitudes, Church History, and the Theory of Evolution.

The Caring Ministry continues to follow the church members by praying for the sick, making phone calls, and sending cards of caring. The missions committee has been busy with providing clothing for the homeless and supporting other missionary endeavors. A NACCC effort to send relief to the recent tornado victims in the South was met with a contribution from our Deacons’ Fund.

Our mission remains moving forward together to fulfill the Great Commission by holding to “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” We realize that we are in another COVID year, but look forward to the decline of the virus and the removal of restrictions to our ministerial efforts.

May our vision include outreach to our community to bring hope, life, and peace to so many who are looking to find the love, joy, and peace that only Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit can provide.

Let us move forward through the depths of winter, howbeit at a reduced speed, to spring up in new growth, spiritually, as the weather warms and nature revives.

Pastor Bartlett

GAME NIGHT—FEB 19TH @ 5:30PM

Please join us for pizza, games of Right, Left, Center (A super easy game to learn), laughs, and fellowship to benefit the Missions Committee. The Christian Fellowship Committee will supply the pizza and snacks. Bring your own drinks, \$3.00 per game in \$1 bills and additional Mission donations if desired.

Saturday, February 19 at 5:30pm

FCCM CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Email: pastorfccm@gmail.com; secretaryfccm@gmail.com; bookkeeperfccm@gmail.com;

On the web: FCCMarshfield.org - On facebook: facebook.com/FirstCongregationalMarshfield

Church Cancellations: Please watch FOX25 and www.myfoxboston.com. Also you can listen on WATD radio.

FROM YOUR DEACONS

The Deacons would like to thank the 7 faithful helpers who gathered to put away the Christmas decorations for another year. The Advent Wreath, the Nativity sets, the Evergreen Christmas Tree with the Angel top are all reminders of Jesus. We are grateful for His coming. As C.S Lewis points out, without Jesus it would always be winter, but never Christmas. As the season of Epiphany ends we are already preparing for Lent which begins on Wednesday March 2nd , 40 days before Easter. As Rick Warren points out in “The Purpose Driven Life”, when God wanted to prepare someone for his purposes, he took 40 days to do it. Noah was transformed by 40 days of rain, Moses was transformed by 40 days on Mt. Sinai, Nineveh was transformed by 40 days of Jonah’s peaching, Israel and David were transformed by Goliath’s 40 day challenge. Jesus was transformed by 40 days in the wilderness...We are planning to continue our tradition of recognizing Lent with our ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE at 7 pm on March 2nd. Please put this on your calendars. We hope that you will join us! (Anointing with Ashes will be optional).

Of course, we realize that we are still in the grips of a fluid situation. Our plans could change. For the time being we will gather in person. Masks will be encouraged and are provided for anyone who wants one, but they are not mandatory at this time. Thank you for observing our contactless “Passing of the Peace.” We appreciate the congregation’s flexibility and willingness to work with us to keep our worship services In Person and safe.

There is still much to be done as we walk with Jesus toward the cross, but we cannot do it without you!

“Do not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:25

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

FROM YOUR TRUSTEES

Thank you to everyone who has pledged for 2022. We are working on the new budget and this information is the baseline that we use to determine what we have to spend in the new year. We did end the year in a positive position financially thanks to those that honored their 2021 pledges, the industrious and dedicated Thrift and Gift leaders and helpers, and the generous pledge by the LBS. We did unfortunately have to furlough several position for 9 months last year to make ends meet.

We finished the year with several final improvement projects. The major one – Lew, Greg and Brendon helped renovate the old room downstairs from the Food Pantry days – tearing down to bear studs and redoing that room. Be sure to thank them for a great job. We also repaired the severely cracked crown molding in the rear of the Sanctuary which preserved the beautiful crown molding. We would also like to thank Wayne Marshall for helping us plow the parking lot on our first snow storm and Lew Conant for snow blowing the walkways and ramps, ensuring a safe access to both buildings.

Your Trustees, Doreen, Greg and Donna

FROM YOUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Thank you for your 2022 pledges, we can report that we have a total of \$ \$107,836 pledged from 48 families. The 2021 year books are now closed, and you will be receiving your contribution statements in the next few weeks. Reminder, the initial offering helps cover the costs of the pledge envelopes and mailings of them. The NACCC dues are currently at \$15. per member. There are some remaining envelope books for anyone that would like to have one even if you haven’t pledged, just contact Doreen Taylor and she will get you one.

LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY (LBS)

Three new officers have been elected at the Ladies Benevolent Society. After many years of devoted and hardworking service our beloved Phyllis Willis, president, and Mary Barry, secretary as well as Becky Bates McArthur, treasurer, announced their retirement from many years of leading our dauntless ladies. According to LBS organization by-laws our January meeting elected Judy Johnson, president , Audrey Taylor, secretary and Jean Hight, treasurer. Barbara Carney has graciously remained on duty as vice president. United in friendship and devotion to LBS all members will continue to make progress in service to the church by sponsoring coffee hours, fairs and workshops for aprons, pot holders and occasionally baking and cooking as well as general good will. All ladies of the church and community that like to sew, knit and make things are welcome at 10 AM on Tuesdays at our parish hall. Men are welcome on the third Tuesday of the month for coffee hour and fellowship. We sometimes have programs at coffee hour. Kudos go to our outgoing officers for services well done. Best wishes to incoming officers for 2022.

The Ladies Benevolent Society are meeting in-person on Tuesdays at 10am. New members are always welcome!

UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Printed copies of the Upper Room Devotionals are now available in the Sanctuary. You can still access the daily devotionals online at www.upperroom.org/devotionals

FROM THE THRIFT AND GIFT

Hi all from Thrift and Gift! We've been incredibly blessed over the past few months, exceeding what was budgeted for the year! Huge thank you to all of you volunteering your time with sorting, hanging, arranging, rearranging, cleaning, etc.! A monumental task for sure! Looking for ways you might help? Time is always welcome, but there are other ways you can help as well: small blank price labels are always needed, donate your cleaned goods of all kinds, or drop by when we're open just to say hi and browse, you may just find something you need. And, just a bit of personal info, all the volunteers love chocolate and ice cream!

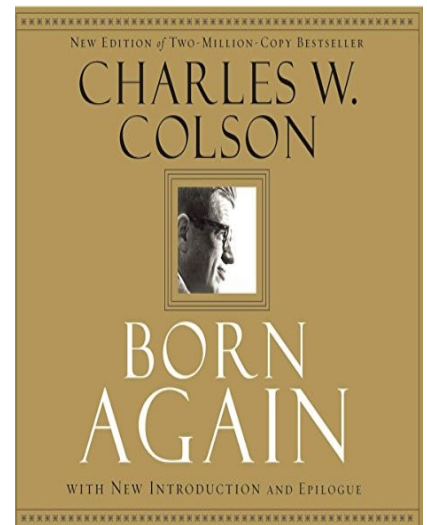
HEAVENLY BOOKWORMS: FEBRUARY 2022

Born Again By: Charles W. Colson

In 1974 Charles W. Colson pleaded guilty to Watergate-related offenses and, after a tumultuous investigation, served 7 months in prison. In his search for meaning and purpose in the face of the Watergate scandal, Colson penned Born Again. This unforgettable memoir shows a man who, seeking fulfillment in success and power, found it, paradoxically, in national disgrace and prison

In more than 3 decades since its initial publication, Born Again has brought hope and encouragement to millions. This remarkable story of new life continues to influence lives around the world.

Join our Bookworm discussion Friday 2/25/22 (5:30pm) @ the Chrisman's, 13 Mountain Ash Drive in Kingston. Dinner will be served. Books are \$5 and can be picked up on the counter in our library. Please place payment in the envelope provided. Call Georgia @ 781-361-1290 to rsvp or for directions.



BOOKWORM COUCH-POTATOES

If you prefer the comfort of your couch to a discussion in Kingston, be a Couch Potato Bookworm and enjoy the same thought-provoking, interesting books the "Heavenlies" read. Earlier selections can be borrowed from our church library? A few copies of this book will be available after the discussion for a buck!

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

EAST COMPUTING
Onsite Computer Repair

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Tom Campbell
51 Regis Road
Marshfield, MA 02050
781 837 5875
Tom@EastComputing.com

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

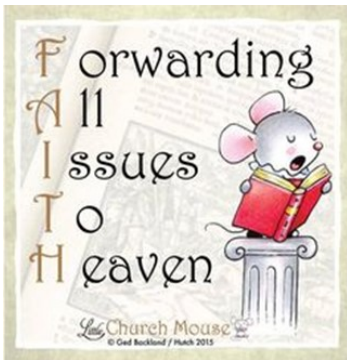
Thanksgiving/Joy: Christ's faithfulness to FCC Marshfield for 389 years, the gift of engaging in both in-person and online Worship, churches around the world; development of COVID-19 vaccines

Healing: 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 Coombs, John Ritucci, Sr, Jack Pattison, Krista Gottschlich and Kaylee, George and Barbara Irvin, Stephanie, Daniel and for young Noah, Rex Hayden, Pat Taylor, Barbara Coville, Jay Prendergast, Jill Titus, Howard Hill, Derek Pugh, Joan Chubbs, Anne Sylvester, Ed Zadrozny, Sue Ritucci, Glen Ellingson, Faith Jean, Louise Nelson, Scott Rogers, Theresa Cooke, Natalie Graham (Jean Hight's sister), Chris Conant, Brad Willis, Bob Christopher, Tedd Harribine and Karen Eubet (Amy Minns' neighbors), Ethlyn, Chuck, and Susan Balkam

Comfort: families and friends of Corey Chrisman

Homebound Church Family: 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, John Coombs, people of Haiti, South Africa, and Myanmar, leaders of our nation, our unhoused youth in Marshfield, a time of transition here at FCC Marshfield, for people of Afghanistan, Patricia Bean's son (US Marine serving in Afghanistan), our troops and their families.



PRAYER PALS ON MONDAY EVENINGS

Prayer PALS pray on Monday evenings 6:30-7:30 in the church library; there is strength in numbers! After a brief devotion/discussion; Pals consider prayer needs and requests then share them with God. Join Pals weekly or when able; If you need a prayer yourself, place your request in the offering plate, the Prayer Box (in Hall parlor), or in an email to secretaryfccm@gmail.com or call 781-361-1290.

“Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.”
Jeremiah 29:12

IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICE

-Sundays at 9:30am

Given the up kick in Covid cases, out of an abundance of caution, we have decided to observe a more reserved Passing of the Peace. To encourage distancing we are asking the congregation to stay in their pews and share a contactless greeting with those near you. In the absence of a state mandate, we will not require masks but will encourage their use and make masks available to anyone who wishes to wear one. Please be aware that everyone's comfort level is different and needs to be respected. Our goal is to keep everyone comfortable with coming to worship. Please be patient with us during this fluid situation. All our services will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook Live and available for viewing later. "Fellowship Hour" will continue to be offered in the Parish Hall after worship. Childcare will not be provided at this time. All unvaccinated children in Sunday School are encouraged to wear a mask. Washing stations and restrooms will continue to be made available on the upper and lower level of the Parish Hall. We look forward to joining you in Worship!

MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

- Articles due by Tuesday, February 15

Please submit any articles/submissions for the March 2022 issue of *The Bell* newsletter to the church office by February 15. You may also submit your article via email to secretaryfccm@gmail.com. Thank you!

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.

February 2022



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.

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

TOTAL CARDS PURCHASED: _____ TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: _____

Please make checks payable to: The Good Neighbor Fund

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact number: _____ Email: _____

MISSION PROJECTS FOR FEBRUARY

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.

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.

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.

Confirmation

Now in its 4th month, our Confirmation program is going “strong,” as confirmands continue their study of Lee Strobel’s book, “The Case for Christ.”

Summary to date:

Strobel is a non-believing (atheist) investigative reporter for the Chicago Tribune. He used his skills to try to disprove that Jesus Christ was the savior described in the scriptures. He investigated whether Jesus believed he was God and concluded He did believe that. He investigated whether Jesus fit the psychological definition of being mentally ill and concluded Jesus was not crazy.

A summary on chapter 4 – Did Jesus Match the Identify of the Messiah?

The Old Testament first tells of the coming of a Messiah in Deuteronomy when Moses tells his fellow Israelites: “The Lord said to me: ... I will raise up for them a prophet like you (Moses) from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name.”

Generations later we find in the Jewish Scriptures [Old Testament (OT)] several dozens of prophecies (predictions) about the Messiah and His coming. These predictions gave the Israelites a way to recognize the real Messiah, rule out imposters, and check the credentials of the authentic Messiah.

Isaiah 53 gives a perfect description of the man we call Jesus, yet it was written more than 700 years before His birth. In Micah we find the Messiah’s birthplace, Jeremiah offers His family tree, Zechariah notes the price of His betrayal, and Psalm 22 predicts the lots cast for Jesus’ garments. The probability of even just eight OT prophecies being fulfilled in one person would be a hundred million billion! Jesus himself said that “Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” What do you think? Does Jesus fit the prophecies?

Strobel concluded in chapter 4:

There are dozens of prophecies about Jesus’ coming and what would happen to him.

Many scriptures give a perfect description of Jesus

The probability of anyone matching every prophecy is 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000, but Jesus does!

In February we will study Chapter 5 to ponder whether we can trust Christ’s biographies.



SUNDAY SCHOOL: 1ST STOP: EXODUS

With the recent passing of Miss Georgia’s son, Corey, our new curriculum in Exodus got off to a late start. January 30 will be our first stop. Through their journey in the Old Testament, kids will see how so long- ago, God claimed his people and taught them lessons of truth.

#1 Jan 30: “Princess of Egypt” - Keep hoping in God, even when times are hard

#2 Feb 6: “The Reluctant Prince” - When God gives us a job, he’ll give us the help

#3 Feb 13: “The Duel Begins” - God is bigger and more powerful than anyone

#4 Feb 20: “The God of Light and Life” - God takes care of us

We will connect the dots with the New Testament too.









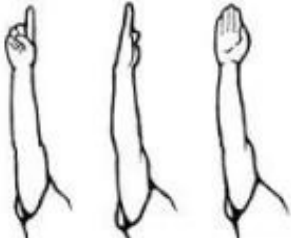
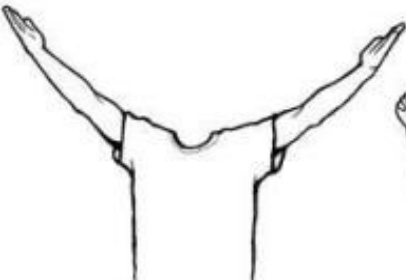
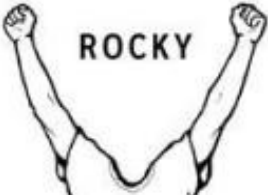
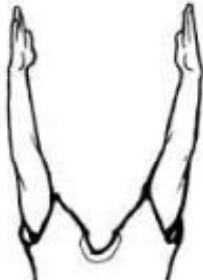
Sunday School is Children’s church where they can learn, on their level, that our God is their God too. Bring the children to Him. Blessings, Miss Georgia, Miss Pam, & Miss Liz

Kids' Korner

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 to see the comedic skit this picture comes from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TK2_ezOBa2A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TK2_ezOBa2A)


THE TIM HAWKINS HANDBOOK
OFFICIAL WORSHIP SIGNALS
NON-DENOMINATIONAL

ROOKIE	 ELBOW FLAP	 CARRY THE TV	 GO BIGSCREEN
INTER-MEDIATE	 MY FISH WAS THIS BIG	 HOLD MY BABY	 MUFASA
PRO	 DUELING LIGHTBULBS	 GOALPOSTS + HEARTBURN	 POINTER HATCHET SCHOOL ROOM
EXPERT	 VILLAGE PEOPLE	 ROCKY	 TOUCHDOWN

WARNING: VIOLENT HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT AND THE WAVING OF OVER-SIZED FLAGS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE EJECTION.

FEBRUARY 2022

First Congregational Church of Attarsfield, Inc.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 10am – LBS	2	3	4	5
5 Communion Sunday 9:30am Worship and Sunday School 4pm Youth Fellowship	7 6:30pm Prayer Hour	8 10am – LBS	9	10	11	12 10a-2p Confirmation Workshop
13 9:30am Worship and Sunday School 4pm Youth Fellowship	14 Valentine's Day 6:30pm Prayer Hour	15 10am – LBS Coffee Hour	16	17	18	19 5:30pm Game Night! 
20 9:30am All-Family Worship 4pm Youth Fellowship Day Trip	21 Presidents' Day 6:30pm Prayer Hour	22 10am – LBS	23	24	25 Bookworm discussion @ Chrisman's 5:30pm	26
27 9:30am Worship and Sunday School 4pm Youth Fellowship	28 6:30pm Prayer Hour					

UPDATED! Office Hours: Tuesday: 9a-3p; Wednesday: 9a-2p; Thursday: 9a-2p

Pastoral Office Hours: By Appointment Only

Church Office – 781-834-7664 Email – secretaryfcm@gmail.com / pastorfcm@gmail.com

Let it Shine!



THE GREEN SHEET

(A monthly message from our youth team)

Greetings from the FCCM Youth Group!

Well, the weather is Chilly!, and the Youth Group is gearing up and getting excited for more Winter adventures!

Here's what's coming up:

January's Schedule:

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

February's Schedule:

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

Sun., Feb. 13 - Regular Meeting – at Parish Hall - 4-5:30pm

Sun., Feb. 20 - Special Day Trip – 4pm - ??

Sun., Feb. 27 - Regular Meeting – at Parish Hall - 4-5:30pm

Looking Ahead:

We are currently saving cans and bottles throughout the weeks. We will be holding a Can Drive on the 4th Saturday (but not always) 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:

During the winter, 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

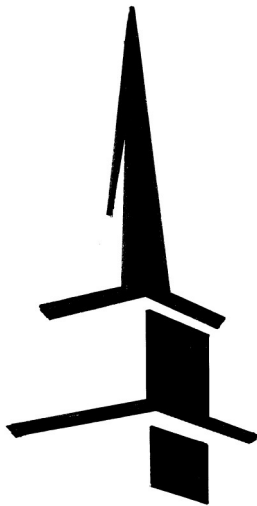
Thank you and God Bless!

Your Youth Group Advisors,
Scott Rogers, Carrie Sylvester, Josselyn Sullivan and Reverend Bartlett

The First Congregational Church

1981 Ocean Street
P.O. Box 826
Marshfield, MA 02050-0826

Address Service Requested
TIME DATED MATERIAL



THE BELL

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
MARSHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Interim Minister—Rev. Richard Bartlett
1981 Ocean Street P.O. Box 826 Marshfield, MA. 02050 Office: 781-834-7664
NEW! Church Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00am–3:00pm; Wednesday 9:00am-2:00pm;
Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm
Pastoral Office Hours: By Appointment Only.

Worship Service & Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

All Are Welcome — Nursery Care Provided

www.FCCMarshfield.org
Secretaryfccm@gmail.com
Pastorfccm@gmail.com