

# 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 329 MAY 2021

## PERFECT LOVE

Anyone who has ever been in a relationship of any kind might balk a bit at the suggestion that their love ought to be "perfect." What does it even mean for our love to be perfect? We know we're imperfect beings, so how could we love in a perfect way? Picturing how our younger brother pulls our hair, or we get into an argument with our friends, or a spat with our spouse, we might wonder how we ever could get it on track let alone be perfect. Thankfully, it's not all about us. We don't do it all alone. John the Elder writes that God is love, and that the way we become perfect in our love is by following Jesus. The closer we are to Jesus the more we love one another as He loved us. And when we learn to love like Jesus, we may notice how fear leaves us. A love with fear would not go to the cross for sinners, but Jesus did, and it changed everything. May we abide in Him.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Joel

## ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

- *Mon., May 3*

It's that time of year again. All Boards, Committees and Church Groups are requested to submit their annual reports to the office by Mon., May 3. [Click here](#) to view last year's annual report. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sun., May 16 via Zoom. [Click here](#) to email your report to Sarah Fuller Church Administrator.

## NEW! THE BIBLE AT THE BEACH

- *1st Wednesday of the month*

Put on your summer smile and join us for a new all-ages, outdoor series *The Bible at the Beach*. This monthly, interactive series is being offered in 4 sessions to take place in-person (masked and social distanced) at Burke's Beach/Green Harbor. Gatherings will be held on the 1st Weds. of the month. This series highlights scripture passages which focus on or take place near water. Bring a beach chair and a sandwich/light supper to enjoy outside at 6:30pm. Program to start at 7pm. For those without a Marshfield beach sticker, you may connect with someone in town to carpool (cars without a sticker may be parked at the Post Office on Beach St.). Sessions will be held on June 2, July 7, August 4, and Sept. 1. [Click here](#) to signup online. Hope to 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://facebook.com/FirstCongregationalMarshfield)

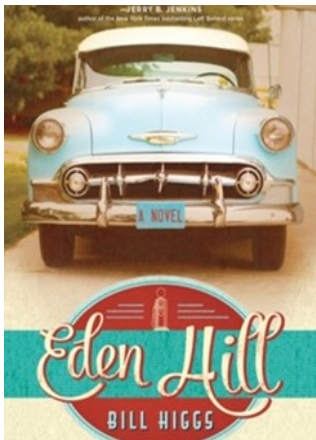
**Church Office Hours (Note Updated Schedule; by appointment only):** Monday 9:00am-3:00pm; Tuesday 9:30am-12:30pm; Wednesday 9:00am-3:00pm; Thursday 9:00am-1pm (office is closed on Fridays)

**Pastoral Office Hours:** Tue—Thurs. 9:30am-12:30pm (Mondays are Pastor's day off).

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

**EDEN HILL**

By: Bill Higgs



Welcome to Eden Hill, Kentucky in the early 60's, when times were simpler and family values were the norm and where the time was slower-paced and more community focused. The characters in the story are everyday people who are facing mid-life, what-if questions, racial disputes and the struggles of making ends meet. Humor abounds as you read about fried spam, Lux dish soap, Tang, Kelvinator refrigerators, and beauty parlors! The story keeps reader wondering what will happen next.

This is a story of Christian love and fellowship and how we can sometimes let every-day life get in the way of our walk with God. Eden Hill is a story of redemption through the lens of ordinary people as they seek forgiveness and second chances and learn that ultimately God's grace covers it all.

One of the rare fictional selections chosen for Bookworms, we are lightening it up a bit, since this year's playlist has been a bit intense!

We will celebrate the year's end with a cookout in conjunction with our discussion of "Eden Hill." Join us Friday 6/11/21 (4pm) @ the Chrismans', 13 Mountain Ash Drive in Kingston. Please bring your own meat, drinks and a main dish to share; feel free to bring your spouse or a friend too. Dessert will be provided. Call Georgia @ 781-361-1290 for directions.

**HEAVENLY BOOKWORM - COUCH-POTATO STYLE!**

Be a Couch Potato and skip the discussions. If you like to read, Bookworm books are inspiring and will take you to places around the world while introducing you to exceptional Christians who have done incredible things. Pick up a book from Georgia; journey with our Bookworms; but stay on your couch the nights of discussion.



**FROM YOUR DEACONS**

We certainly had an eventful Holy Week and Easter season. We nearly doubled our usual in person attendance for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday with 46 and 44 people in each service, respectively. Our Maundy Thursday service retained its reverent tone but had many differences due to covid restrictions.

We are fortunate that we diligently kept our Covid restrictions in place as we had a potential Covid contact during our Maundy Thursday service. One of our readers developed symptoms two days after the service and tested positive for Covid on Easter Sunday, meaning that they were contagious during the Thursday night service. Since distancing protocols were in place no one was within 6 feet of the infected person for more than a few minutes. The Marshfield Board of Health was notified but they felt that Covid spread was unlikely due to our mask, distancing, misting/sanitizing, ventilation and contact tracing protocols. All 27 people in attendance were notified of the potential contact and alerted to watch for Covid symptoms. Six people opted to get tested and all tested negative. Approximately one third of the people in attendance had been vaccinated. NONE of the 27 people in attendance developed Covid. Our prudent protocols and the providence of Almighty God kept us safe. Thank you Lord!

This trial by fire has shown us that we are doing everything right to keep our congregation safe. As more people get vaccinated and our comfort levels increase, we have no intentions of letting our guard down. Mask and distancing will still be enforced. Communion will still be in pre-packaged elements and coffee hour will still be forbidden.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to one of your Deacons. The physical and spiritual health of the congregation remains our primary focus.

Happy Easter!

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

**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.

**JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**- Articles due by Saturday, May 15**

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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**

**- Sundays at 4pm**

Youth Group had a great start to the new year! 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

**NACCC DUES**

It's that time of year, our NACCC dues are coming due. The NACCC has helped us in many different ways, including providing funds to help us replace our roofs, and assisting us in finding Pastor Joel. The membership dues are \$15 per a member. We greatly appreciate anyone who can afford to donate toward this association.

***New!* WORSHIP SONG OF THE WEEK**

Each week in our The Pilgrim email, we will now be featuring a Worship Song of the Week. Recent selections have included music by Shane and Shane, Elevation Worship, and Rend Collective.

**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!

**FLOWER DEDICATION SIGN-UP SHEET**

Please see the clip board at the front of the sanctuary, to the left of the exit door and add your name for dedicating an arrangement. We have availability for the winter season, from January through March 28, 2021. Questions please call Liz Vaillancourt @ 781-837-8114 or church office @ 781-834-7664.

**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  
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"Distinctive homes for your fine feathered friends."  
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**FREE PICK-UP AND DELIVERY**  
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RON & BARBARA STUTZMAN 781-536-8384  
7 Spinnaker Circle, Marshfield, MA 02050 Email: ronst1@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, churches in Marshfield: Our Lady of the Assumption; Sunday School and Youth Fellowship; development of COVID-19 vaccines, Blessings for a happy and healthy 2021!

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, Gloria Chrisman, David McGrath Sr, Jack Pattison, Pat Taylor, Jay Prendergast, Chuck Frohnappel, Justin Rydberg and family, Chris Prendergast's brothers Richard and David and cousin Donna, Cindy Riley, Joey, David Lindsay, Carol Gesner, Krista Gottschlich and Kaylee, George Irvin, Clara Marie, Stephanie, Daniel and for young Noah, Rex Hayden, Karen Campbell, Pat Taylor, Audrey Titus, Barbara Coville, Russell McGrath, Alyssa Titus, Howard Hill

Comfort: families of Richard Weston and Donal Staples, David Ellis, Matthew Poppel, Kenneth (cousin of Mary Ellingson), Peter Sylvester, Priscilla Cole, Nancy Tatten (sister of Janet McGrath).

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, John Coombs, people of Texas, leaders of our nation, people of Myanmar and Mozambique, girls of Nigeria, our unhoused youth in Marshfield, Melia Spear, those impacted by flooding in Nashville, students, teachers and staff at Furnace Brook Middle School and Marshfield High School as they moved towards in-person school on April 5.



**PRAYER PALS ON MONDAY EVENINGS**

Prayer PALS pray for you, our church and our world Monday evenings 6:30-7:30pm in the church library beginning in May. Pals start with a brief devotion, share prayer needs and then pray about those needs along with what's in their hearts. Join them! If you can't, but have a prayer request, place it in the offering box, send via email to [pastorfccm@gmail.com](mailto:pastorfccm@gmail.com) or call Georgia (781-361-1290). "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving present your prayers to God." Ph.4:6 NIV

**IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICE**

**-Sundays at 9:30am**

NACCC recommendations on indoor Worship indicate that ventilation is key if we are to keep our churches open and safe from COVID-19 virus transmission this winter. Please be advised that in observance of this recommendation, we will be keeping the narthex entry door and the four windows at the front of the church OPEN during Worship for ventilation. The congregation is encouraged to dress warmly and keep hats, coats and gloves on to stay comfortable during Worship as the weather gets colder. The Meeting House thermostat has been lowered to 50 degrees. This will help with ventilation while also avoid wasting heat. There will be no corporate singing of hymns and bulletins will not be printed and handed out. (You may print your own or access on your mobile device.) Between services an industrial disinfectant sprayer will be used to sanitize the Meeting House. All of our services will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook Live and available for viewing later. While we are very excited about staying open this winter, we are also fully aware of our obligation to ensure the health and safety of all who attend. We will continue to encourage online sign-ups. All are asked to sign up in advance by either calling the church office or sign up online through The Pilgrim email. Note that our capacity will be limited as per state guidelines, and that masks and 6-foot social distancing will still be required (Only two persons allowed per pew, although members of the same immediate household may be seated together). 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. We look forward to joining you in Worship!

**ONLINE LECTIO DIVINA**

**- Fri., May 7 at 8am**

Get your coffee and kickoff your weekend with meditative reflection on Scripture. Join us for our upcoming lectio divina online session Fri., April 9 at 8am. 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 join the Zoom meeting (Password: 638513), or call +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782. Meeting ID: 858 9964 8499. All are welcome!

**Adult Education:**

**GOLIATH MUST FALL**

*A Series on Facing our Giants*

*Final Session: Sun., May 9 (7:30pm)*

All are welcome to join us for *Goliath Must Fall*, a six session series by Pastor Louie Giglio. While they may look different than the Goliath who David had to confront, we face many giants in our daily lives. Whether they are anxiety, addiction, fear, or abuse, these "giants" can block out the sunshine and make us feel alone and disconnected. In this series, facilitated by Pastor Joel, we will explore ways to reconnect to God by focusing on the real giant slayer: Jesus. Study guides (recommended but not required, \$10) are available for purchase through BCE. Sessions will be held via Zoom on Sundays (7:30pm) **May 9**. [Click here](#) to signup online or call the office at 781-834-7664. [Click here](#) to join the Zoom meeting (Password: 258899), or call +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968. Meeting ID: 833 8055 4153. All are welcome!

**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>

**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. Contact your Town Board of Health for available resources.

**VACCINE INFORMATION**

As you may know, COVID vaccinations are now available for those 65 and older and with two or more health concerns (see official list for details). The vaccine is available at the Marshfield Fairgrounds. [Click here to signup for a vaccine.](#) [Click here](#) for the latest vaccine info from the Town Board of Health. [Click here](#) to preregister for the vaccine in MA.

**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: [secretaryfccm@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryfccm@gmail.com), [pastorfccm@gmail.com](mailto:pastorfccm@gmail.com), 781-834-7664. Thank you.

**May 2021**

## **LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY (LBS)**

We are having meetings every Tuesday at 10 am.

## **NACCC LAY MINISTRY TRAINING**

This course of study supports the Congregational value of a learned laity. It provides basic training for people who desire to serve the church more fully, either as a lay minister or as a lay leader. The program assists in the spiritual development of individuals and enhances knowledge in areas of biblical knowledge, theology, worship, Congregational history and polity, pastoral care, Christian education and others. Online Class Registration and payment information for accepted program applicants coming soon. Class fees will be set at \$100 per session and scholarships are available through the Vitality Ministry Council. [Click here](#) for more info.

### **New! BIBLE STUDY:**

#### **Letters of John**

##### **- Wednesdays at 1pm**

Join us in our Bible Study on the Letters of John, meeting Weds. online via Zoom at 1pm. These nine studies on The Letters of John from NT Wright help us become believers who are "walking in the truth" in our own day - people in whom the very life of God is at work for all to see. Study guides are available for a suggested donation of \$8 (Let BCE know if you'd like a copy. **Books are now available in the office.**) [Click here](#) to signup and join us as we explore God's Word in 1 2 3 John! [Click here](#) to join the Zoom meeting (Password: 087699), or call +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968. Meeting ID: 912 2913 6401. All are welcome!

## **SPRING RUMMAGE SALE**

### **- Thank you!**

Thanks to all who came out for our Spring Rummage Sale on Sat., April 24. Many great items went to new homes and a fun time of fellowship was had by all. Special thanks to all who helped organize the Sale, including our ladies in the Thrift & Gift Shoppe.

## **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.

## **ENDOWMENT SUNDAY**

Thank you for all who gave this last Endowment Sunday, March 21. Your generous support allows us to replenish the endowment. Thank you for blessing our church and for supporting the financial sustainability of FCCM for years to come.

## **FROM YOUR TRUSTEES**

We are glad to have successfully completed a very difficult year fiscally sound. Thanks to the many fundraisers that helped supplement our budget and the blessing of the PPP loan/grant that helped us sustain all our employees through this very difficult year.

With 2021 already looking to be another difficult financial year, and have no opportunity for another business loan. We have been blessed to have many committees working with us to help us balance the budget and we would like to thank you for your assistance.

To help with your comfort during the worship service in the Sanctuary, we have purchased some hand warmers and lap blankets for those who may forget to bring one along. We are getting estimates for adding more insulation to the ceiling in the Sanctuary and will be providing more information as we receive it.

We will reconsider moving into the Parish Hall, if the temperatures outside make it too uncomfortable in the Sanctuary.

Kind regards,

Your Trustees – Doreen Taylor, Greg Prendergast and Donna McCue

**May 2021**



**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-websiteGoodNeighborFund.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 APRIL**

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.

**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.

**MISSIONS UPDATE**

Although Missions has been unable to plan group projects this year, we would like to update you on recent contributions over the last few months. In December we donated \$100 to Guideposts for our military in service, \$200 to the Seafarers Friends, \$500 to Father Bill's, \$500 to Sowing Seeds, \$500 to the Marshfield Food Pantry, and \$500 to our own Good Neighbor Fund.

In January we were made aware of the "Grab and Go" program helping youth in town who experience food insecurity. This is an ongoing program held at the Boys and Girls club, with their most recent event having a goal of \$3000. We were able to help with a donation of \$400 early this February.

This year we will continue to try to help meet the needs of our local, regional, and world needs and encourage you all to do the same. Blessings from your missions committee!

### 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)!

Here are some Cartoons for the month of May and Mother's Day!

#### THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff & Bil Keane



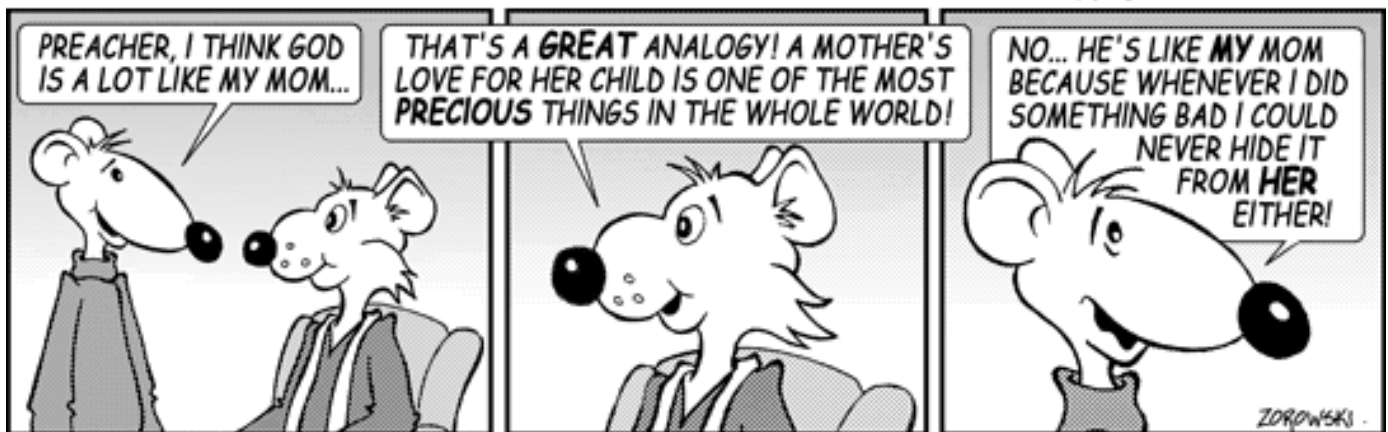
"Mommy, will you write 'Happy Mother's Day' on here? But don't look at it!"

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane



#### Church Mice

Copyright Karl A. Zorowski





JOHN ELIOT LETTER FROM ROXBURY THIS 12 OF NOV. 1648

The Indians about us which I constantly teach, do still diligently and deliriously attend, and in a good measure practice (for the outward part of Religion, both in their families and Sabbaths) according to their knowledge; and by degrees come on to labor. I should be over tedious and troublesome to you to run into particulars, only let me give you a taste of their knowledge by their questions, a few whereof I did sometimes jot down, though I slipped many and very material ones; these questions being asked at sundry times, and at sundry meetings of the Indians.

Question: How many good people were in Sodom when it was burnt?

I know not how to pray to Christ and the Spirit, I know a little how to pray to God?

Doth the Devil dwell in us as we dwell in a house?

When God saith, Honor thy Father, doth he mean three fathers: our Father, and our Sachim and God?

When the Soul goes to heaven, what doth it say when it comes there? And what doth a wicked Soul say when it commeth unto Hell?

If one sleep on the Sabbath at meeting and another awaketh him, and he be angry at it and say, it is because he so doth, is it not a sin?

If any talk of another man's faults, and tell others of it when he is present to answer, is not that a sin?

Why did Christ die in our stead?

Seeing Eve was first in sin, whether did she die first?

Why must we love our enemies and how shall we do it?

How doth Christ redeem and deliver us from sin?

When every day my heart thinks I must die and go to hell for my sins, what shall I do in this case?

May a good man sin sometimes? Or may he be a good man and yet sin sometimes?

If a man think a prayer, doth God know it, and will he bless him?

Who killed Christ?

Submitted by Judy Johnson



## Spring Plant Sale May 29, 2021



**Seeking all plant lovers and gardeners!** Our spring plant sale will be Saturday, May 29, 9am to 1am in conjunction with a sidewalk sale.

Check your gardens and flower beds for those perennials that may benefit from liposuction. Perennials tend to go a little wild; it's time to pluck the "rogues" and divide those clumps. Then repot, **label** and bring them to the church the week beginning with 5/22. Leave them under the handicap ramp of Parish Hall. **Plastic Pots will be available; help yourself.**

Consider also digging up those fledgling trees, bushes and plants that the squirrels and birds have planted. Those rogue hollies, evergreens, maples and oaks don't belong in your beds. Instead of composting, pot them for us!

If you have any spring garden herbs and veggies (carrots, lettuce, basic parsley, etc.), please share them too. AND, we need garden art or tchotchkes (chots-keys) too. Perhaps you have gone Zen and that frog needs to go. Let us find him or her a new home!

To sum it up, we need plants of all kinds, bulbs, perennials, trees/bushes...anything that grows in a yard. Plus...house plants, vegetables, and garden ware (things that add charm).

**If you have nothing to share; then share yourself...** purchasing any of our plants at the sale will benefit FCCM. Thank you for your continued support of our fundraising efforts!



First Congregational Church of Marshfield, Inc.

MAY 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						<b>1</b>
<b>2 Communion Sunday</b> 9:30am Worship, S. School Noon – Youth Fellowship	<b>3</b> <i>Deadline to submit Annual Reports</i> 6:30pm Prayer Hour (start in person)	<b>4</b> 10am – LBS 6:30pm – Mutual Mtgs (Zoom) 7:50pm – Council Mtg (Zoom)	<b>5</b> 1pm – Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8am Online Lectio Divina	<b>8</b>
<b>9 Mother's Day</b> 9:30am Worship, S. School 4pm – Youth Fellowship 7:30pm Goliath Must Fall (Zoom)	<b>10</b> 6:30pm Prayer Hour	<b>11</b> 10am – LBS <i>Pastor on vacation (thru 18<sup>th</sup>)</i>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Youth Fellowship Can Drive 10am-2pm
<b>16</b> 9:30am Worship, S. School (pulpit supply: Sue Taylor, preaching) <b>11am Annual Meeting (Zoom)</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30pm Prayer Hour	<b>18</b> 10am – LBS	<b>19</b> 1pm – Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 Pentecost</b> 9:30am Worship, S. School 11am BCE Mtg 4pm – Youth Fellowship	<b>24</b> 6:30pm Prayer Hour <i>Sarah on vacation (24, 26, 27, June 2)</i>	<b>25</b> 10am – LBS	<b>26</b> 1pm – Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9am-1pm Spring Plant Sale & Sidewalk Sale
<b>30 Trinity Sunday</b> 9:30am Worship, S. School 4pm – Youth Fellowship	<b>31</b> <i>Memorial Day Office closed</i>					

*Pictures from Holy Week!*



*Maundy Thursday  
Tenebrae Service  
(above)*



*Good Friday  
Ecumenical Service  
(right)*



*Sunrise Service (left)*

*Pulpit on Easter  
Sunday (below)*



Let it Shine!



## THE GREEN SHEET

(A monthly message from our youth team)

Greetings from the FCCM Youth Group!

Well, the weather is getting a little warmer!, and the Youth Group is gearing up and getting excited for 2021!

Things will look a little different this year, but we will be meeting in person (with safety measures in place!) We will be having our meetings via Zoom when the schools are doing remote learning.

### Here's what's coming up:

#### April's Schedule:

Sun., April 25 - Regular Meeting – at Parish Hall - 4-5:30pm

#### May's Schedule:

Sun., May 2 - Regular Meeting – at Parish Hall - 4-5:30pm

Sun., May 9 - No youth group on Mother's Day

Sat., May 15 - Youth Fellowship Can Drive – at Parish Hall - 10am—2pm

Sun., May 16 - No Meeting

Sun., May 23 - Regular Meeting – at Parish Hall - 4-5:30pm

Sun., May 30 - No youth group on Memorial Day Weekend

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:

During the winter and spring, 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!

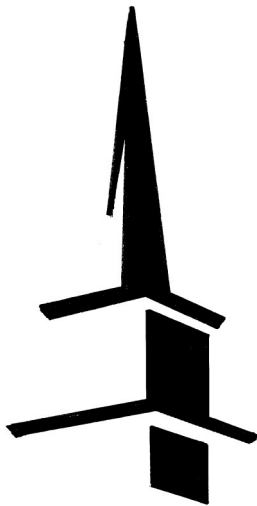
Thank you and God Bless!

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

**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

Senior Minister—Pastor Joel K. Boyd  
1981 Ocean Street P.O. Box 826 Marshfield, MA. 02050 Office: 781-834-7664  
Church Office Hours: Monday 9:00am-3:00pm; Tuesday 9:00am–12:00pm; Wednesday 9:00am-3:00pm;  
Thursday 9:00am-1:00pm  
Pastoral Office Hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30am to 12:30pm.  
(Mondays are Pastor's day off).

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

*All Are Welcome — Nursery Care Provided*

[www.FCCMarshfield.org](http://www.FCCMarshfield.org)  
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