

## 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 341 June 2022

#### TO YOU, FROM PASTOR BARTLETT

We were beginning to reduce some of the restrictions of COVID when I started the combined interim ministry and pastoral ministry. Gradually we were able to get back to prior meeting status at the Meeting House including communion and traditional passing of the peace. We have had some younger families with children come to church during this period who have become active in Sunday School and are showing signs of reaching out to the community.

I have regularly attended all of the church meetings that I can in order to be advised of sick members and to provide encouragement. I have seen the LBS transfer leadership and continue to work effectively. Although we have had sickness in the Youth Fellowship leadership, we have continued to conduct outings and fellowship and devotional meetings. We sponsor a needy child, provide for the homeless, and recently completed a successful can drive to support activities.

During Holy Week we had a traditional Maundy Thursday Service and hosted an Ecumenical Good Friday Service that included representation from all the established Marshfield churches. During Lent we had a Lenten Bible Study led by joint Lay and ministerial leadership. The Youth conducted a successful Easter Sunrise Service on Burke's Beach that was attended by church members and community residents.

I have attended the business meetings of the church which would include Trustees, Deacons and Church Council.

As a church we have cooperated with one another to visit the sick in hospital, rehab and at home. We have provided and delivered meals to the Ritucci's in their recuperation efforts. Our congregation has had members with a number of successful surgeries and recoveries that have been answers to prayer.

I have attended Prayer Pals each week, recognizing that prayer is our access to God for blessings, petitions, and healings. Weekly calls are being made to our homebound church members, some of whom continue to minister by sending cards of caring.

I am working with the Trustees in the efforts to complete the purchase and installation of the replacement large Meeting House windows. Attention now is being given to advertise the church with sign banner, and mailings. Outreach ministries are being planned as we focus on getting our ministry into the community we serve. May God inspire and bless our future efforts of expansion of our leadership and our active membership.

As mentioned in my report, outreach ministries are critical at this time to further attendance and our ministry to the community, as well to find volunteers who will join in and support our efforts. I would like all of us to start thinking and planning summer activities that will meet this need. Creative outdoor services at public places or at homes in Marshfield are a consideration. Utilizing our music ministry outdoors as has been done in the Easter Sunrise service is another option. I was impressed with the power of our portable system that will be a great assist in these endeavors. I will be on vacation from 6/18/2022 to 7/3/2022, but will be glad to communicate by email or phone with those who have ideas about such ministries. I would like to return with my feet on the ground, ready to move forward in outreach ministries to and in Marshfield. I welcome all your thoughts and prayers as we move forward together.

Blessings to all!

Richard Bartlett Interim Minister

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

#### **June 2022**

#### FROM YOUR DEACONS

On May 22nd we welcomed Reverend Bob Jackson back to our pulpit. There were 84 people in attendance for this special service in which we performed our 2nd Baptism of the year. Three more baptisms followed on June 4th when Peyton, Charlotte and Emory Fey were baptized. (We have already surpassed our average number of Baptisms for the year!)

3 deserving students were awarded scholarships during the **May 29th** Graduation service. Congratulations to Russell McGrath, Sarah Murphy and Alyssa Titus. And Thank-You to Nancy Berberick and the Scholarship committee for providing these awards.

Our hard-working interim pastor celebrates his birthday on **June 12th** with his daughter, Stacey, beside him in the pulpit as worship assistant. After this Reverend Bartlett will take a well-earned 2-week vacation in June. We are looking forward to **June 19th** when our own Philip Drouin Jr. will be filling the pulpit for us on Father's Day. Please be on hand on **June 26th** when we celebrate Confirmation Sunday. Leah Murphy and Emma Verlicco will celebrate their Confirmation and become the newest members of the First Congregational Church in Marshfield and the first new members to join since 2018! Congratulations Leah and Emma!

Thank you to everyone who comes to our worship services and who join us online. Your presence is a great encouragement to us.

"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 TRUSTEES

After the special meeting where we voted to go ahead with the window replacement/installation project, we experienced a problem when trying to place the window order. Since we had started this bidding project for the windows, Anderson had since removed their 10' windows from their offerings. We tried for two weeks to get them to honor their original quote but unfortunately it was not something they could do. They offer a maximum of 9' windows but after some review with the builder and Trustees we decided it would be better to stay with the 10' to maintain the historical look.

We have decided to go with Pella our other serious competitor for these windows. Their price was originally higher and when we modified that bid for the tempered glass for safety, they were even higher. Fortunately they only required a 50% deposit up front the remainder when they were delivered – estimated next Feb/Mar timeframe.

We have raised the additional money for the windows by bringing in early the pledge for the whole window and installation and half of the matching monies. So to date we have raised \$67, 450 dollars with outstanding pledges of another \$13, 975.

This leaves us with a remaining balance of \$42,287. We pray that our remaining pledges due this week will reduce this even further. Our kick of for further fundraising with start in July. God blesses the generous and makes them even more prosperous.

Kind regards,

Your Trustees - Doreen Taylor, Greg Prendergast and Donna McCue

#### LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY (LBS)

Ladies Benevolent Society continues to meet on Tuesdays at 10am in the Parish Hall! New members are always welcome! Every third Tuesday of the month, join us for Coffee Hour at our meetings! This Month, Coffee hour is on 6/21! All are welcome!



#### **MEMORIAL SERVICE**

The Chrisman family is planning a memorial service at FCCM for their son Corey on June 6 at 10:00 am. They would love to have you join them, if you are able.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals">www.upperroom.org/devotionals</a>

#### HAVE A BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH?

If you have a birthday this month we would like to suggest or challenge you to donate your age's dollar amount to the Endowment Fund, Good Neighbor Fund, or to one of our ministries this month! A few members of our congregation have been doing this for years and wondered if others were up to the challenge!



#### **GAME NIGHT: JUNE 11TH AT 7PM**

Please join us for an evening of fellowship with games, laughs and snacks to benefit The Sanctuary Window Fund. We will once again play Left, Right, Center (A super easy game to learn). We are also looking for other group games that are easy to learn. If you have one to share, please bring it along so we can expand our game nights and include more people. Bring your own drinks, \$3.00 per game in \$1 bills to play Left, Right, Center, a snack to share if you wish. Donations gratefully accepted for the Sanctuary Window Fund

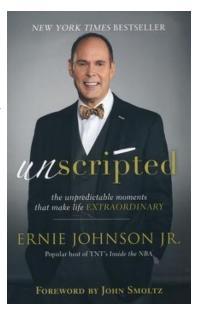
#### **HEAVENLY BOOKWORMS: MAY/JUNE 2022**

Unscripted: The Unpredictable Moments That Make Life Extraordinary By: Ernie Johnson Jr.

<u>Bookworms will extend</u> its reading time for this autobiography of Ernie Johnson, Jr. A 3-time Sports Emmy Award-winner and host of TNT's Inside the NBA, Ernie provides a candid look at his life on and off the screen. From his relationship with his sportscaster father to his own success in broadcasting, from battling cancer to raising six children, including a special needs child from Romania, Ernie takes the lessons he learned from his father and passes them on to his children.

This is his untold story, the one he lived after the lights were off and the cameras not rolling. Sports fans, cancer survivors, fathers and sons, adoptive parents, those whose lives have been touched by a person with special needs, or anyone who loves stories about handling life's surprises with grace--Unscripted is for all of them.

Date for discussion of this book will be at their year-end cook-out (pot-luck) the end of June; date to be decided. There are a few of these books left for \$5 for those attending, which can be picked up from the counter (near front) in our library. Please place payment in the envelope provided. Call Georgia @ 781-361-1290 to rsvp, for more info, or to purchase a book for \$1 after June 30. Everyone is welcome at the cookout!





#### **BOOKWORM COUCH-POTATOES**

Become a Couch Potato Bookworm if discussions are not your "bag." Enjoy all of the books that "Heavenly Bookworms" read for less than half the cost. Note that earlier selections can be borrowed from our church library and returned at your leisure. However, if you want to "own," a few copies of this book will be available after the discussion, for only \$1!

#### **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.







#### **June 2022**

Prayer Review: A review of the prayer request list published in the Pilgrim and the Bell has been performed. There were several people on the list who no longer require continued prayers (recognizing that we all need prayer). Those names have been deleted. In some cases, names of people who we know are homebound have been moved to that section of the list.

#### IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Note: Prayer requests will be printed for 4 weeks in the Bulletin and the Pilgrim and once in The Bell and may be renewed by placing a Prayer Request in the Sunday offering plate, by clicking the link in the Pilgrim, or by calling the Church Office.

<u>Thanksgiving/Joy:</u> Christ's faithfulness to FCC Marshfield for 390 years, the gift of engaging in both in-person and online Worship, churches around the world; development of COVID-19 vaccines, baptism of Killian Donahue Sullivan, John Robie's Installment as Settled Pastor at First Church Weymouth

Healing: Those impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, including the medical teams and officials working to keep us safe. Edna Robie, Jack Pattison, George and Barbara Irvin, Rex Hayden (Dave Riley's grandson), Louise Nelson, Chris Conant, Kimberly Polvere (Brad and Phyllis Willis' daughter) John and Sue Ritucci, Ethlyn, Chuck and Susan Balkam, Scott Rogers, Susan (Jamie Lopes' friend), Brad Dickey, Frank Wilkins, Joe Mackensie (Maggie's son-in-law) Homebound Church Family: Alberta Bezanson, Mary Ellingson, John Coombs, Pat Taylor, Faith Jean, Brad Willis Guidance & Protection: Men and Women in the military and our first responders, families struggling with addictions, stigma of mental illness, leaders of our nation, our unhoused youth in Marshfield, a time of transition here at FCC Marshfield, for people of Ukraine, our troops and their families.

#### PRAYER PALS ON MONDAY EVENINGS

Join them on Monday evenings 6:30-7:30 in the church library; God loves to hear from us! After a brief devotion and discussion; they share prayer needs with God and give thanks for blessings. Join Pals weekly or whenever able. If you need a prayer for yourself or others, place a request in the offering plate, the Prayer Box (Hall parlor), 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

#### JULY/ AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

#### - Articles due by Wednesday, June 15

Please submit any articles/submissions for the June 2022 issue of *The Bell* newsletter to the church office by June 15. You may also submit your article via email to <a href="mailto:secretaryfccm@gmail.com">secretaryfccm@gmail.com</a>. Thank you!

#### IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICE

#### -Sundays at 9:30am

We are ready to welcome everyone back to worship! As vaccination rates soar and Covid hospitalizations plummet we are ready to reinstate the traditional Passing of the Peace. You will no longer be required to stay in your pews but are free to roam and greet people. Masks will still be available for those who desire one and we will continue to review our practices to keep current with the changing Covid situation, Please plan on joining us for "Fellowship Hour" in the Parish Hall after worship. All our services will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook Live and available for viewing later. Childcare is not available at this time, but our nursery is being cleaned out in preparation for offering childcare in the near future. We look forward to joining you in Worship!

#### 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 2022**



#### THE GOOD NEIGHBOR FUND

<u>Contact Us</u>: GNFMarshfield@gmail.comhttps:\\GNFMarshfield.wix.com/gnf-website or P.O. Box 826 Marshfield, MA 02050

**<u>Donate On-line</u>**: https:\\GNFMarshfield.wix.com/gnf-websiteGoodNeighborFund.net

Purchase GL Scrip Gift Cards: GNFMarshfield@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 GNFMarshfield@gmail.com. % # ORDER AMT DUE VENDOR **DENOMINATIONS** 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 JUNE

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

<u>Food Pantry</u> - 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.

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

<u>Helping the Homeless</u> - 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.

#### **CANNING JARS FOR MISSIONS**

Hi all from Missions! Huge kudos to all who helped to make our holiday giving to Samaritan's Purse boxes and our socks, underwear, hats, and mittens such a great success!

In preparation for an upcoming participation project we're in need of canning jars: common sizes with standard mouth size. Hoping we can kick this project off soon, so check your pantries to see if you have any to spare. Please leave any jars upstairs in Parish Hall.

Thanks!

#### First Congregational Church of Marshfield



#### 128th Annual

Summer Blessings Fair

Sat. July 2, 2022 10 am - 5 pm

Artisans and Crafters Book Nook, Boutique, Garden's Gate, Sweet Shoppe, and our Thrift 'n Gift

# Concessions & Sweet Shoppe



### Penny Raffle

featuring our
crafters'
Creations &
0 x 18 frame
Fu7|| of Scratch Tickets
drawing at 4:30 pm

#### KIDZ KORNER

Free Frog Pond, Crafts, Tattoos Face painting, Popcorn

Join us in the Parish Hall AND on the Town Green 1981 Ocean St. Marshfield (intersection at Moraine St.)

For more info contact: secretaryfccm@gmail.com or call 781-422-3927

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL- 3RD STOP: PHARAOH'S PALACE

Through May we continued our journey with Moses in Egypt, as he challenges Pharoh to let God's people go!

May 15: "The Duel Begins" – God's more powerful than anyone or anything

May 22: "The God of Light & Life" – God takes care of us May 29: "Stand Off at the Red Sea" – God has our back

**June 5:** "Mumble, Grumble" – God wants us to trust Him for our daily needs

**June 12:** "Children's Sunday" – Kids meet in the Sanctuary to celebrate the ending of 2021-2022 Program Year.

**July 10:** "Kidz Club" is open for the summer! A change in format and a lot of Summer fun!

Theme: Things Jesus taught us.

Sunday School IS children's church, where kids learn, on their level, that our God is their God too.

Continue to Look for coloring pages and activities in the monthly Bell; download, print and enjoy with your kids! Use these as an opportunity to reinforce the lessons learned!

Shalom for the summer, Miss Georgia, Miss Pam, Miss Emma & Miss Leah



#### **KIDS KLUB**

July 10 through August 28 – 8 Sundays Ages 4 through children finishing 7th grade in 2021

Kidz, grandkidz, & friendz of FCCM kidz...come join our Sunday morning club! It meets each Sunday at the "Clubhouse" in Parish Hall for an hour of fun, music, Bible stories, crafts, and outdoor activities.

We may get dirty and we may get wet, but that's what Kidz' clubs are for!

Come see what leaders Georgia Chrisman and Janet McGrath have planned! We will paint; we will glue and glitter; we will plant; we will hear some cool music; we will play outdoors, AND we will explore God's word!

Kidz, please invite your friends to join Kidz Club too. Meetings start In July; so get your Club Membership Card from Miss Georgia at Sunday School on June 12! Questions: Georgia Chrisman (781-361-1290).





This year our confirmands are almost done. They have looked all year at the evidence for Jesus, his resurrection, and his divinity. At their Oaks Bluff retreat, Emma and Leah learned about Him. They are finishing "*The Case for Christ.*" Here is the evidence they have seen:

<u>Chapter1:</u> Atheist and reporter, Stroble, tries to disprove Jesus was the savior described in the scriptures.

<u>Chapter 2:</u> "Did Jesus really Think He was God?": After intense investigation, he concluded Jesus said so.

<u>Chapter 3:</u> "Was Jesus Crazy to Claim he was God?" Stroble, along with world-renowned psychologists acknowledged to Strobel that Jesus did not exhibit even one of the clinical criterium for mental illness.

<u>Chapter 4</u>: "**Did Jesus Match the Identify of the Messiah?**" the probability of anyone matching even 8 of the dozens of prophecies of Jesus' birth, crucifixion, resurrection, etc., is *one* in **100** million billion! Detailed descriptions of Him appear in scriptures written 700+ years prior to His birth.

<u>Chapter 5</u>: "Can you Trust Christ's Biographies?" scientist and Biblical scholars have certified The 1<sup>st</sup> four books of the New Testament to be authentic ancient, historical documents. When comparing more than 24,000 ancient transcripts, the found the number of variations in them were negligible, minor, and non-material, and all concluded Jesus was the Son of God. 5) The Bible is nearly-perfect historically, archeologically and geographically.

<u>Chapter 6:</u> "Is There a Case for Christ outside the Bible?" Jewish and Non-Jewish historians, believers and non-believers validated the Bible. No archaeological evidence, has disproved any of it. It has been recorded that Luke's references to 32 countries, 54 cities and 5 islands were found to be totally accurate. <a href="Chapter 7:">Chapter 7:</a> "Did Jesus fake his Death?" No one could survive a torturous flogging, a brutal crucifixion and spear impalement of torso Strobel and medical professionals throughout history believe Jesus died on the cross. Jesus did not

fake his Death.

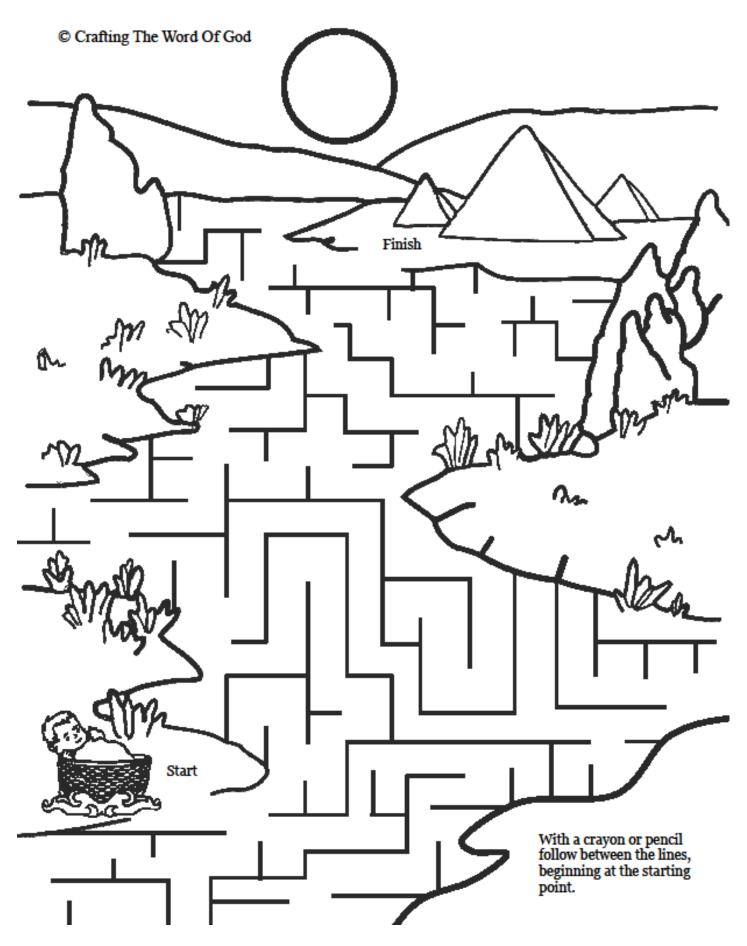
Chapter 8: "What happened to the Body?" There was evidence His tomb was empty but none about stolen body. Many saw him alive 3 days after: some wrote about it. 4 gospels plus Acts, Romans and Paul's letters to early Christians record an empty tomb. Even Jewish temple leaders agreed. There was no evidence of grave robbing; Roman tomb guards saw no one take it. And, who would take it, anyway? Possibly Jesus' disciples to fool people into thinking he had risen, BUT they were hiding, paralyzed with fear of being arrested and crucified themselves. Too, consider that after seeing the risen Jesus, their character totally changed. Once afraid, now emboldened to risk death themselves to spread the message of salvation. Only 1 of the 12 escaped a violent death.

Chapter 9: "What did Jesus Do after Easter?" Paul reported in his letter to Christians that 500 witnesses had seen Jesus at the same time. They would have been available to discount any reports...no one did. Paul wrote He was raised from the dead. He appeared to women who came to the tomb, to others, to 11 Apostles and to Saul (Paul), as reported in the NT. The Bible has been scrutinized for centuries by believers and non-believers, and not any part of it been disproved. Could sightings have been a legend, hallucination, or wishful thinking? Legends do not have witnesses; hallucinations happen to individuals, not groups, and are caused by something; and wishful thinking does not account for a missing body, or cause people to risk their lives for beliefs they know are false. Fact 1: Muslims cannot prove that Allah showed himself to Muhammad; there were no witnesses. Fact 2: Hundreds of people, including the disciples, verified Jesus' life, death and resurrection, and their lives were drastically changed because of him. Even today, Christians are willing, and do, die to share his Word. Would you die for something you knew untrue? Confirmands have one more lesson before they profess their faith and formally join our church. This will happen on Sunday, June 26. They hope you will support them at that service.

#### 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)!





# First Congregational Church of Marshfield, Inc.

	<b>26</b> Guest Preacher: Michael Rydberg 9:30am Worship	19 Guest Preacher: Philip Drouin 9:30am Worship	<b>12</b> Children's Sunday 9:30am All-Family Worship	5 Communion Sunday & Pentecost 9:30am Worship 4pm Youth Fellowship		NUS
	27 6:30pm Prayer Hour	<b>20</b> 6:30pm Prayer Hour	13 6:30pm Prayer Hour	<b>6</b> 6:30pm Prayer Hour		MON
2	28 10am-LBS	21 10am - LBS	<b>14</b> 10am – LBS Coffee Hour	7 10am – LBS		TUE
			15 July/August Bell Articles due today	80		WED
- The Follow Board	30	23	16	9	2	THU
	July 1	24	17	10	w	FRI
	July 2 10am-2pm Fair Summer Summer	25	18	11  GAME  TIME  7pm – Game Night	4	SAT

Office Hours: Tuesday: 9a-3p; Wednesday: 9a-2p; Thursday: 9a-2p
Pastoral Office Hours: By Appointment Only
Church Office — 781-834-7664 Email — <a href="mailto:secretaryfccm@gmail.com">secretaryfccm@gmail.com</a> /pastorfccm@gmail.com

#### The First Congregational Church

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

Address Service Requested TIME DATED MATERIAL



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