



Christ Congregational Church, UCC
An Open and Affirming Congregation

Creating Beloved Community

Volume 46 No. 7 & 8

Be The Church

July-August 2026

WORSHIP AND PROGRAMS:

Worship: Remotely and On-Site

Sundays, 10:00AM

Regular Events:

Prayer Shawl Ministry:
Wednesdays, 10AM



ALL COMMITTEES

Check with your committee leaders to see if you are having a meeting during the summer



PASTOR'S PAGE

"Faith is a decision. We cannot avoid that. 'You cannot serve two masters' (Matt. 6:24), from now on either you serve God alone or you do not serve God at all. Now you only have one Lord, who is the Lord of the world, who is the Savior of the world, who is the one who creates the world anew. To serve God is your highest honor. But to this 'yes' to God belongs and equally clear 'no'. Your 'yes' to God demands your 'no' to all injustice, to all evil, to all lies, to all oppression and violation of the weak and the poor, to all godlessness and mocking of the Holy. Your 'yes' to God demands a brave 'no' to everything that will ever hinder you from serving God alone, whether it be your profession, your property, your house, or your honor before the world."



~Dietrich Bonhoeffer; welcoming new confirmands to membership in 1938~

One of the most rewarding parts of ministry work, at least for me, is working with confirmation students. They're usually full of incredible questions; and an enthusiasm to find answers to those questions. They also, almost always, have started to formulate their understandings of the world they find themselves in. New, adult, understandings that are accompanied by the last breaths of childish imagination. It's incredible to see up close.

When Dietrich Bonhoeffer delivered these remarks to his newly confirmed students in 1938 I can imagine the deep emotion he must have felt in giving them this charge. I can imagine him having reflected on all of the questions they'd shared through their study, all of the realizations they'd made, and all of the silliness they'd expressed as they built relationships and close bonds with one another. I can also imagine he wanted to give them something of substance to hold, something they could anchor their faith to, as they came of age in Nazi Germany. His message to them is clear: *NOTHING* is more important than your discipleship; and as you sit before the congregation today you *know* what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

[Continue...](#)

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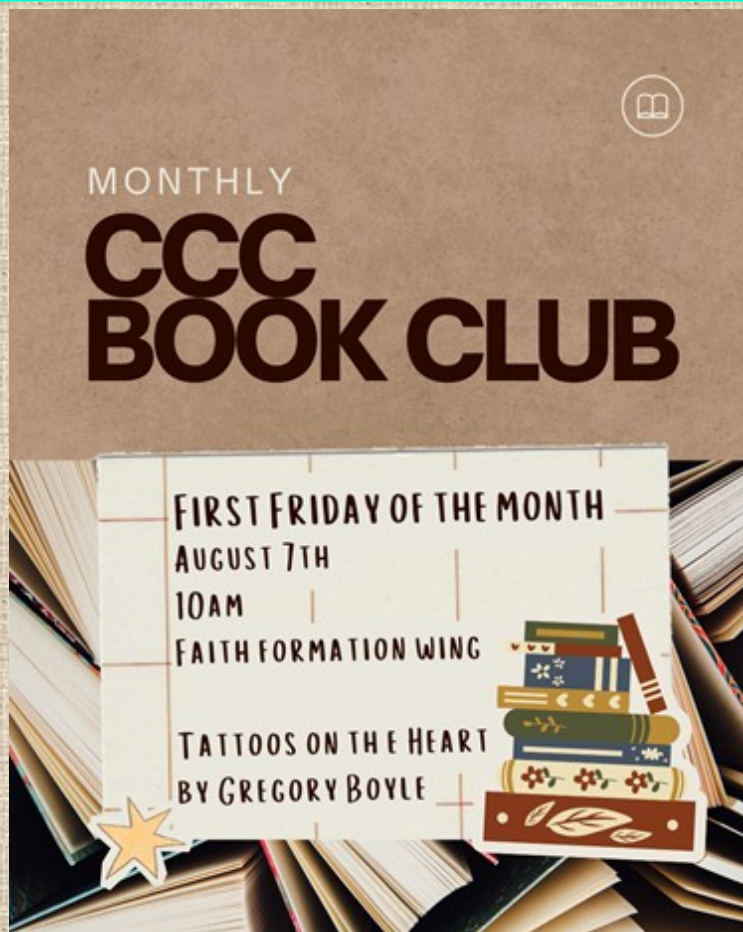
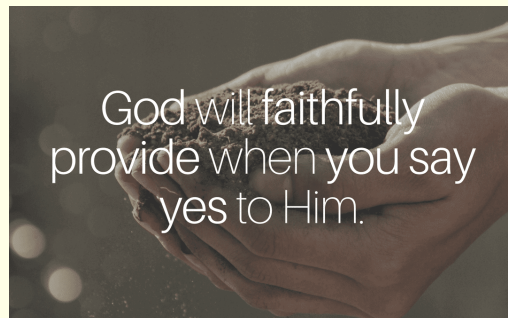
We all know. It's spelled out in the gospels by the way Jesus treated people and the things he told his closest disciples to focus on. Discipleship is *not* about dominating a culture, or establishing a nation in Jesus' name, or pushing more and more people to the margins. *Your yes to God demands a no to all injustice, to all evil, to all lies, to all oppression and violation of the weak and the poor.*

This year, especially, as we round the corner into Summer and celebrate Independence Day on July 4th – the 250th anniversary of our forebears declaring that independence – the air around us especially charged. There are voices from all around clamoring to tell us what it *really* means to be American. There are voices from all around us clamoring to tell us what it *really* means to be a Christian. There are voices from all around us conflating the two and counting them as one thing, tied up in one another. As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our nation's independence – and indeed we *should* celebrate – let us remember who we are... and *whose* we are. Above all else. We have all said "yes" to God.

And that *means* something.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Jeff



Sign up link for the Book Club:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA5AD28A6FCCE9-64614075-cccbook>

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Greetings Church!

Summer can have a different rhythm from the rest of the year. In our house it brings a trip to Pennsylvania, later evenings by a fire pit with friends, a looser schedule with later bedtimes, lots of trips to get ice cream, and other adventures to Boston and the beach. It also gives us a little breathing room to truly enjoy the God's creation around us.

While our schedules may change, God's love is always with us.

This summer, my focus is on sharing with our boys that our faith isn't relegated to Sunday mornings, rather something we live every day. I'm hoping that we can draw them to the Divine when we're at the beach, hiking a trail, planting flowers, visiting grandparents, or simply enjoying a popsicle on the porch. An opportunity to remember that God is present in moments of laughter, kindness, wonder, and rest.

Jesus often taught outdoors—along shorelines, on hillsides, and around dinner tables. He reminded people that God's love is woven throughout everyday life.

I invite you to join us in this endeavor this summer to find the holy moments in whatever plans you have this summer, whether big or small!

Children (K-6th Grade)

Three cheers to our children who led a beautiful worship service on June 14th. I am so proud of their thoughtfulness in planning and their courage in leading. Thank you to the congregation for their warm support and participation.

Summer Sunday School Schedule

July 5-19 we will continue learning about Jesus' I AM statements. On July 19th, we will prepare food for fellowship hour.

From July 26 and August 2 children will be in worship. The services will be intergenerational with activities at the playground.

August 9th-30th we will have a combined Messy Church style Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall during worship learning about Paul's adventures after Jesus' resurrection.

Stay and Play (all ages)

Sunday July 19th 11:30am-1pm

Join us for a splash day! Bring a swimsuit or clothes you don't mind getting wet and a picnic lunch. Adults should plan to stay.

Sunday August 12th 11:30am-1pm

Let's use our big parking lot and ride our wheels! Bring your wheels (scooter, bike, trike, etc) and a helmet and a picnic lunch. Adults should plan to stay.



Youth Ministry (grades 7-12)

Youth Group

We will meet on Friday 8/14 from 6:30-8pm for frisbee golf, hot dogs and s'mores at the parsonage.

Adult Faith Formation

- **CCC Monthly Book Club**

Join us for coffee, fellowship, and discussion!

On August 7th we will discuss Tattoos on the Heart by Gregory Boyle.

Please purchase your own copy or borrow from your local library.

If this is a barrier, please email me (ce@brocktonucc.org)

- **Adult Faith Formation and Community Life Survey**

- ◊ Please take an opportunity to give feedback about what you would like to see offered for adults in our community, and what you would actually participate in. This feedback will help our newly formed core team to navigate who to move through this first year. You can complete it online or there will be paper copies available at the church.

- ◊ [Click here for the online survey](#)

Save the date for Baseball Sunday on September 6th!

May God's Spirit guide us, strengthen us, and help us share Christ's love wherever we go this summer.

With a grateful heart,

Dani

"Look! I'm with you always, to the end of the age."

~ **Matthew 28:20** ~

KID'S FAITH FORMATION SUMMER 2026

Little Lights

Ages: 0-5

Ms. Tammy and a CORI'd Shepherd will be available from 9:30-11am on Sunday mornings.

Sunday School

Grades: K-6

Students will participate in Bible study, conversation, crafts, snacks, games, and activities in the Faith Formation Wing

Youth Group

Grades: 7-12

Monthly gatherings around themes that are timely for teenagers with food, games, activities, and conversations



ALL ARE WELCOME!
ALL ARE INCLUDED!
ALL ARE LOVED!



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH
10:00AM

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

HOT DOGS, CHIPS, AND ICE CREAM, PLUS
THE 3RD ANNUAL ADULTS VS KIDS
BASEBALL GAME!

STAY AND PLAY: SPLASH

JOIN US!

WHEN: SUNDAY, JULY 19TH

11:30AM-1:00PM

WHERE: BACK PARKING LOT

WHAT: SPLASH AND PLAY

WHO: FAMILIES WITH ALL AGES AND STAGES

WHAT TO BRING: A BATHING SUIT OR CLOTHES YOU DON'T MIND
GETTING WET AND A PICNIC LUNCH



STAY AND PLAY: WHEELS

Join us!

When: Sunday, August 16th

11:30am-1:00pm

Where: Back parking lot

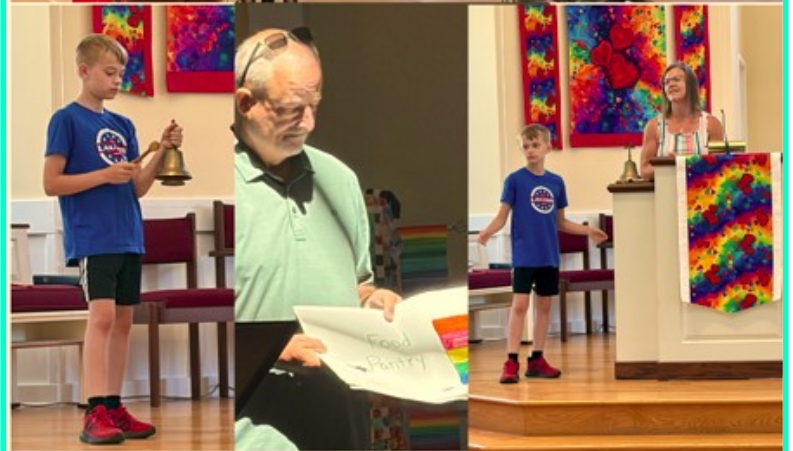
What: Ride your favorite set of
wheels and play lawn games

Who: Families with all ages and
stages

What to bring: wheels, helmet,
and a picnic lunch



FAITH FORMATION



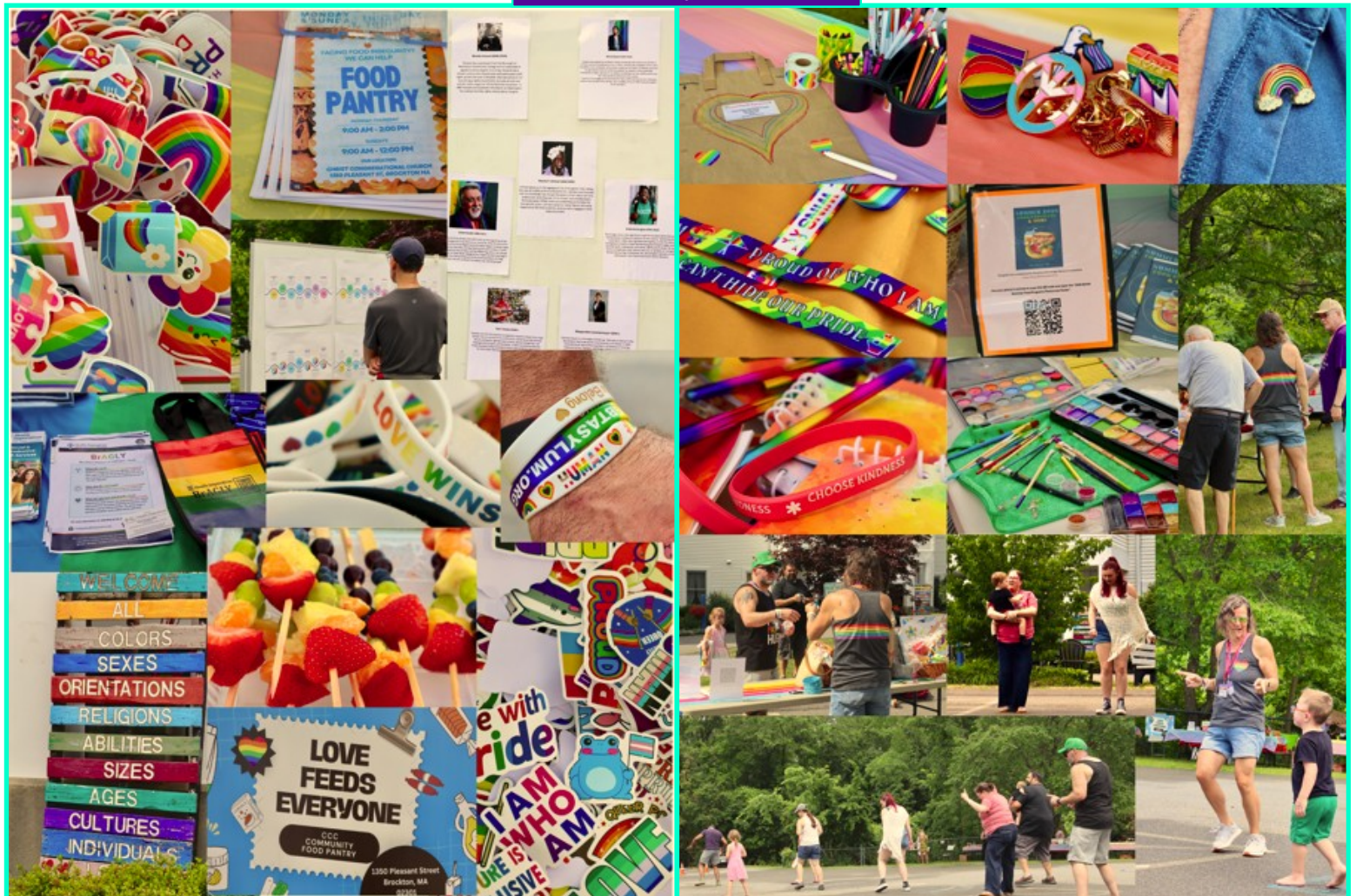


PRIDE PARTY





Our Pride Party was a beautiful afternoon full of joy and community building. It couldn't have been possible without generous donations of both time and treasures. Thank you so much to each volunteer who moved tables and put up tents, those who welcomed and conversed with attendees, each volunteer who cooked a hot dog, made a fruit kabob, and cleaned the kitchen. An especially big thank you to Sue Medeiros who coordinated all of the delicious food that we served, as well as a big thank you to Elizabeth Pratti for spending hours putting together biographies and a timeline for the event. It is the start of a lovely annual tradition that I pray continues to build community and signal to those who need a safe space to land that this is the place.







NOTES FROM ALEX

Aldous Huxley said, "After music, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is silence."

Silence highlights music by delineating where the sounds are and where they will go next.

Often I drive in complete silence. A lot can happen in that space, just like a lot often happens in the musical spaces of life as well.

I love your silent listening in church!

We would also love to hear your music! We love hearing what music you've loved hearing in church!

Let me know if you or anyone else would be interested in sharing your musical talents with us in church.

And enjoy the silence once in a while.

~ Alex Green, Music Director

MUSIC COMMITTEE



DO YOU LOVE THE MUSIC AT CHRIST
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH?

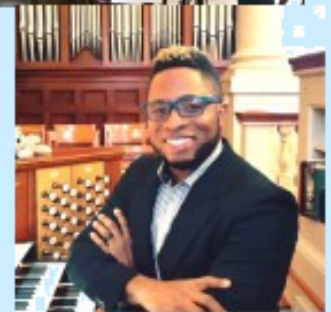
IS THERE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO
HEAR?

WHAT ARE YOUR IDEAS FOR
ENGAGING WITH THE MUSIC
PROGRAM?

Please join the Music Core Team during
Fellowship Hour on Sunday August 23rd
and share with us your ideas and input as
we plan our upcoming season.

FROM THE BOARD OF MUSIC

ARTS & MUSIC AT CHRIST CHURCH**2022 THROUGH 2026



Wishing all the best on your Birthdays

July:

Reagan Lacourse, Sam Fisher, Christopher Colby, Kevin Weatherbee, Cecilia Creedon, Donna Costa, Donna Hefler, Alexander Owens, Deana Colby, Carlos Carrillo, Penny Ackley, Abigail Murphy, Leo Larson, Holly Matisis, Nicholas Colby, Cody Cappiello, Chris Madden, Abby Quimby, Zachary Alden, Emily Swisher-Rosa, Brenda Wyss, Jenn Alden, Audrey Simmons, Andrew Howard, Max Flanagan, Brad Mitchell

August:

Mark Deyoe, Kate Howard, Stephen Bennett, Betsey Serjak, Candy Savage, Lisa Sparling, Eddie Poole, John Hagberg, Anna Camara, Rich Brosky, Jen Brosky, Greg Fernandes, Ann Clark, Karl Koza, Jayden Quintero

(listed in order of day of month from 1 to 31)



To All the Deacons and Friends of Christ Church,
Thank you for all your thoughtful cards sent to me. I miss you all and love hearing about church and friends.



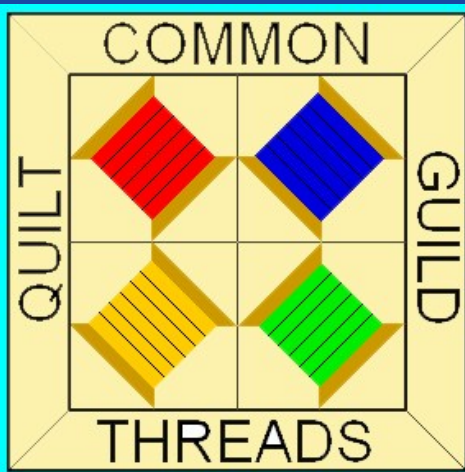
Love,
Diane Landerholm

To the Board of Deacons,

This note is long overdue, which I apologize for, that being said, Ed & I want to thank you for all your kind words that you've sent in lovely cards, as well as, the Poinsettia during Christmas, and an Easter Lily during Easter time.

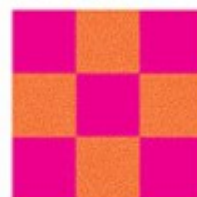


Christ is shining upon us with your kindness.
Peace, Julie & Ed McGillicuddy



We had our last guild meeting of the season on June 23rd. We had a delicious lunch and enjoyed 3 special desserts by Ricky, Linda and Janet, such a lovely treat. We talked about our new quilt room in the second floor wing. We have beautiful new storage cabinets and shelving. We will be moving in over the summer. We are all looking forward to our new location and are all very excited. We won't officially meet as a guild again until the 3rd Tuesday in September.

Happy Summer, Kristine



BOARD OF MISSIONS



Community Food Pantry at CCC

Shelf-stable, non-perishable donations to our church food pantry are always appreciated as we seek to help those in our community facing food insecurity. Please be sure to check the expiration date!. Monetary donations are also welcome. Donations may be dropped off at the church any time while the pantry is open:

Hours: Mon-Thu 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM and Sun 9:00 AM – 12:00 NN.

The **most needed summer food pantry items** tend to be high-protein staples, kid-friendly snacks, and shelf-stable fruits/veggies — especially because summer increases demand when children are home from school and free-meal programs pause.

Most-Needed Summer Pantry Items:

- Canned tuna, chicken, salmon and Spam
- Peanut butter or other nut butters
- Canned beans and lentils (black, kidney, chickpeas)
- Shelf-stable milk or protein shakes
- Shelf stable meals – hearty soups, stews, chili, ravioli
- Low sodium canned vegetables
- Canned fruit in light syrup

Pantry Staples That Stretch Meals:

- Rice, pasta, quinoa and oatmeal – whole grain options preferred
- Mac n' cheese
- Pasta sauce
- Cooking oils
- Spices & salt/pepper
- Sugar & flour
- Shelf-stable tofu

Kid-Friendly Summer Items:

- Applesauce or fruit cups
- Fruit cups
- Granola or protein bars
- Kid-friendly snacks
- Whole grain, low sugar cereals
- Instant oatmeal
- Juice boxes – 100% juice

Most Needed Pantry Extras:

- Individually wrapped rolls of toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap
- Menstrual products
- Shampoo, deodorant, soap
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Can openers
- Baby supplies – formula, diapers, wipes

Tip for Donating

- Canned goods with pull-tab lids are easier for seniors and those experiencing homelessness.



Please bring your bottle/can returns to church in fellowship hall. The money goes to the Christian Education Committee. Please turn in the TABS on the cans, it goes to children with Cancer. See the office for further information.



CONTACT US

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

1350 Pleasant Street
Brockton, MA 02301-2840

Tel: 508-586-3022

Web: brocktonucc.org

Email: office@brocktonucc.org

Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday:

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship Time: 10:00 a.m.

Crash the Choir dates this summer, if you dare!

Aug. 2nd

Sept. 6th

See you then!



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