



## Church Profile

### Why we exist...

Community Congregational Church exists to worship God through Jesus Christ, grow spiritually alongside others, encourage and build relationships, and to co-labor with Christ to meet the needs of society.

### Who we are...

We are a fellowship of believers in the Pinehurst section of Billerica called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and live out His Good News in our community and in the world. A priority of our church, since its establishment in 1923, is the teaching and equipping of the next generation so that they may service God according to their spiritual gifts and talents. Community is a welcoming, multi-generational church who values loving relationships. You matter to God and you matter to us.

### Worship Services

Our congregation worships together in a casual atmosphere on Sunday mornings at 10:30am. The sermon is central to our service, which also includes music, scripture, prayers and offerings. We share communion on the first Sunday of the month. After attending worship with their families for the first quarter of the service, children are dismissed for Sunday school and nursery. Services are typically an hour long, and are followed by a coffee hour in fellowship hall. The last Sunday of the month is 'Family Sunday'. This family service engages our youth in many aspects of the worship experience from greeting people as they come into the church, to reading scripture passages, to using their musical talents to honor God.

We have a vibrant and dedicated Worship Team who carefully select both contemporary praise songs and traditional hymns to enable and encourage worship. We sing songs that focus on spiritual truths and reflect God's glory, so feel free to sit or stand, however the Spirit moves you! Our worship team includes a pianist, two guitarist, and vocalists.

### Program and Events

Throughout the year, we have several programs for adults, youth and children, to which we also invite friends and neighbors as an opportunity for outreach in our community. These programs include Sunday school classes for preschool through High School, adult Bible studies on Sunday morning and during the week, adult and youth Alpha classes, Vacation Bible School, and Youth Group. Special events include Christmas Pageant, Easter Sunrise Services, Children's Sunday, Worship Arts Night, Women's Community Networking Event, hosting the Gordon College Women's Choir and inviting guest speakers from the various missions that we support. We also participate in our town's annual Yankee Doodle Weekend.

## Church History

The roots of our church are grounded in Mrs. Selina Lloyd's Sunday school. It was in the year 1915, that Mrs. Lloyd saw that the boys and girls of Pinehurst had no religious training, so she opened her home to them and began a Sunday school. At first only a few children came. But soon news of the Sunday school spread, and in a short time the attendance reached 100 children! Mrs. Lloyd was forced to seek a larger venue and, thus, the first Sunday school was well underway.

As the children flocked to Mrs. Lloyd's Sunday school, their parents became interested in what they were learning. However, there were no church or religious services available to them in the Pinehurst area. So in 1916, they formed "The Pinehurst Chapel Association". At first, services were held in people's homes. But soon attendance grew and they moved to a local hall. Sadly, the war in Europe and poverty at home bankrupted the activities of the promising Chapel Association.

However, even though the Association broke up, the seed of our church had been planted. For on September 21, 1923, the "People's Community Church" was organized and the first pastor, Rev. M.H. Sweet, was called. It was during Rev. Sweet's ministry that land on which our present church is located was bought. On a Sunday afternoon in October of 1924, the cornerstone of the first church was laid and dedicated.

In September of 1929, the Rev. H.L. Coole was called as pastor. Under him the name of the church was changed to the present one, the "Community Congregational Church".

Over the next two decades, membership in the church grew exponentially and they soon outgrew their current church building. A Building Committee was formed and plans were started for building a new church. The mortgage of the present church was burned and the bills on the parsonage and the land were paid off. The church and all its property were free of all debt and obligation.

Now it happened that in 1947, the current pastor, Rev. Leslie Perdriau, was offered a supply of church hymnals from the Christian Church in Rye, NH which was merging with another local church. Rev. Perdriau was told that the edifice of the Christian Church was for sale and would he be interested in buying it. After careful inspection by the Building Committee, the church in Rye, NH was approved for purchase. Over the next four years, the current church was torn down, and the church in Rye, NH was disassembled and transported to Billerica. In 1951, the church was completed and dedicated as the "Community Congregational Church" of Pinehurst and is the church that we worship in today.

## Building

Community Congregational Church is a handsome example of colonial architecture, with a brick façade and traditional spire. It is ideally located on Rt 3A in the Pinehurst section of Billerica and is only 10-15 minutes from three major highways. Our attractive sanctuary has comfortable seating for <150> people and a recently updated sound system. The sanctuary level also includes a small library, conference room, secretary's office, pastor's study, bathroom, kitchenette and nursery. The lower level includes a large fellowship hall, a well equipped kitchen, two bathrooms and four Sunday school classrooms. The grounds include generous off street parking.

## Financials

God has blessed our small congregation. Over the generations, He has provided faithfully for the financial needs of our church.

2017 Annual Budget	\$93,895.00
2016 Income	\$95,596.00
2016 Expenses	\$84,752.00
Assessed Value of Church	\$1,250,600.00
Assessed Value of Parsonage	\$283,900.00

## Membership

Our church is blessed with <23> members and <20> friends of the church who attend regularly, but are not members. Attendance at Sunday morning worship averages about <30> attendees. <90%> of the members and attendees reside in Billerica and the remainder live in the surrounding communities. Membership breakdown by gender is 60% female and 40% male.

## Staff

In addition to the interim pastor, there are three part-time salaried positions; a Secretary, a Music Director, and a Sexton. In addition to the staff, many committed volunteers also play an important role in facilitating programs that enhance the life of the church and impact our community.

## Organizational Chart

Church Council	Boards/Team	Committees	Staff
Moderator	Deacons	Hospitality	Pastor
Clerk	Missions	Women's Ministry	Secretary, part-time
Auditor	Christian Education		Music Director, part-time
Treasure	Trustees		Sexton, part-time
Assistant Treasurer	Worship		
Board Representatives	Finance		
	Pastor Parish		
	Youth Group		

## Community Partnerships

During the week, our fellowship hall, nursery and Sunday school rooms are used by the following businesses and organizations in our community; Alcoholics Anonymous, Music Together, Zumba Fitness, Daisy Scouts, and Harmony Montessori School

## Missions

In an addition to the following missions, our church supports local food pantries and donates socks to the homeless during the winter months. Total missions disbursement for 2016 were \$1,845.00.



Ministers to foreign students at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell campus.

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A home for single mothers during and after pregnancy located in Chelmsford, MA.

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Ministers to youth in lock-up in 40 states and 35 countries. This ministry leads bible studies in prisons, runs programs to help those in lock-up with transitioning to life after prison, and trains people to serve the youth.

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For more than 70 years, Wycliffe has helped people around the world translate the Bible into their own languages. We also help with language development, literacy and other spiritual and physical needs.

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A Christian faith-based outreach center in Lowell, MA providing people from local and regional churches and the community a place and opportunity to service those in need.

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Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world.

## Strengths and Challenges

Our church was founded to serve the children and their families of the Pinehurst section of Billerica. To that end, we are excited for the opportunities God will bring to do His work in our community. We are a caring church family of all ages who are committed to helping one another grow to be people of God, followers of Jesus. Our people have a strong gift of hospitality and Christ modeled compassion for those in need, whether it be financial, emotional or spiritual. We encourage all to use their talents and gifts for Christ so that they may bring his light into a darkened world.

We are seeking a pastor who is a true disciple of Christ and whose life has been forever changed by God's word and the Holy Spirit. And that he has been called by God to share the words and teachings of Christ that will lead us to greater spiritual growth and understand.