

From the Hill

First Congregational Church of Georgetown

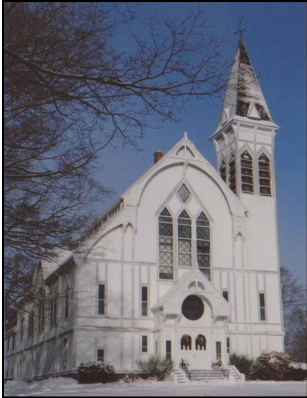
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January 2021



Dear Friends,

Saying “goodbye” is without question the hardest part of interim ministry. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of being part of your lives for a season; I am grateful. And please accept my sincerest thanks for the lovely Zoom celebration on Sunday morning!

As you head into the uncharted territory of a new year and a new season of ministry together, I encourage you to love and support your new pastor in every way you can – even and especially when she asks you to do something different from what you’ve always done! Embrace the journey!!

Remember every day that you are deeply loved by God. Set aside a time and place in your home to pause each day for time in God’s word. Read a Psalm or look at the passage you heard in worship the previous Sunday. Emmanuel, “God with us,” is not just a sentiment for the season of Advent, so celebrate God’s presence with you in every circumstance as the days unfold!

And so I leave you with these words from scripture, praying God’s very best for you in the journey ahead:

*But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his
mercies never come to an end; they are new every
morning; great is your faithfulness.*

(Lamentations 3:21-23)

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be
gracious to you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give
you peace.*

(Numbers 6:24-26)

In Christ’s sure love,

Dallas

Greetings From The Diaconate

Happy New Year 2021 from your Diaconate!

This is the time for reflection as well as celebration. In our lives we look back on the past year and all that has happened. It is the same as we reflect on our Church and our Church Family. Let us remember the goals we have attained, the happiness and the love we shared together. Of course, we would not be a family if we didn't share the good and the not so good...the laughing together until our sides hurt, the hard work of all, the warmth of the virtual hugs when we shed our tears....and the embraces and joy as we all move forward! Let us rededicate our lives to our purpose here. Perhaps it might be to offer to do a scripture reading, or be a church greeter (when we can) or lend a hand to any of your church teams, even virtual we have laughs and fun during our meetings!! Think about giving book club a try (it's a lot of fun and we surprise ourselves sometimes with all the knowledge we bring to the zoom screen. Dropping a cheerful note or card to another member who is alone (aren't we all in that boat?) Whatever idea comes to you, give it a whirl....you will always find support here to cheer on your endeavor. Remember to live your life like someone left the gate open!

Antoinette, Emily, Marie, Pam and Rachel (your Diaconate) have a New Year's wish for you and that is to become involved, to know you are cared for and to remind you here at The First Congregational Church there is always a friend who walks with you and beside you.

"God's love is so large it covers the world, but so small it can curl up in the corner of your heart."

Gladie Kneeland, Chair

Stewardship

2020 Pledge Payment Reminder – Just a gentle reminder to please bring your 2020 pledge payments up to date by December 31st. Your contribution to the ministries of this church are vital and much appreciated.

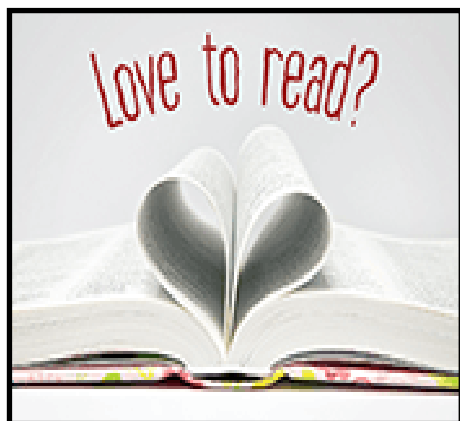
2021 Pledge Cards – We sincerely thank all those who have contributed to the 2021 pledge drive. If you have not already done so, please take a few moments to fill out your pledge card and mail it to the church. Please contact the church if you need a pledge card. Thank you for your generous spirit!

Toni Cassidy George Comiskey Sylvia Johnston



January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Office Closed Happy New Year!	2
3 10:30 AM 11:45 AM Diaconate Meeting	4	5	6	7 Annual Report Deadline	8	9
10 10:30 AM Worship	11 6PM Finance Meeting	12	13	14 6:30pm Council	15 Newsletter Deadline	16
17 10:30 AM Worship	18	19	20	21 5:30pm CD Meeting	22	23
24/31 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Annual Meeting	25	26	27	28	29	30



Each month we have a group of people who meet to talk about books selected by members. Meetings are held in different houses or at the church. If you are interested in attending a meeting, contact the Church Office or any of the people listed below to get directions to that month's meeting.

All are welcome and you do not have to RSVP to attend. Below is a list of the books they will be discussing in the coming months in case you want to get the book ahead of time or you might just be looking for a good read.

Date 2020	Title	Author	Location/Hostess/Phone Number
September 30	<i>The One-in-a-Million Boy</i> ©2017	Monica Wood	Zoom
October 28	<i>When Time Stopped: a memoir of my father's war and what remains</i> ©2020	Ariana Neumann	Zoom
December 1 (combined Nov/Dec)	<i>Redhead by the Side of the Road</i> ©2020	Anne Tyler	Zoom
2021			
January 27	<i>The Nickel Boys</i> ©2019	Colson Whitehead	TBA
February 24	<i>Simon the Fiddler</i> ©2020	Paulette Jiles	TBA
March 31	<i>In the Country of Women: a memoir</i> ©2019	Susan Straight	TBA
April 28	<i>The Last Train to Key West</i> ©2020	Chanel Cleeton	TBA
May 26	<i>Coco Chanel: Pearls, Perfume and the Little Black Dress</i> ©2018	Susan Goldman Rubin	TBA
June 30 or June 23?	<i>The Cactus</i> ©2018	Sarah Haywood	TBA



Gabe Angerhofer

Kevin Southwick

Benjamin Brock

Shirley Southwick

Brendan Comiskey

Karen Young

Henry Edwards

Laura Zalewski

Storm Cancellations



In the event of a Saturday night or Sunday morning snowstorm, you can check Channel 7 or Channel 56 (CW) for storm closings. If you want to know if church is cancelled tune to the TV listings on these channels. There is also a mobile app that you can download for free by searching WHDH in the app store and view storm status anywhere, anytime. We will also update our church Facebook page.



Light The Church Fund

Our steeple will be lit for the month in loving memory of our parents, Peachy, Neale, & Molly. From Tom Chaffee and Marie Birdsall-Chaffee.

Contributions for lighting the church can be made in memory of loved ones or in honor of someone special. If you would like to make a contribution or need more information please contact Bob Knapp at 978-352-7489.

Looking Back:

50 years ago:

Meatloaf Supper before the annual meeting held Thursday Jan. 28,
Until 1996 Annual meetings were held on Thursday evenings.

40 years ago:

John Rugayo, a ministerial student from Zimbabwe, spoke
of Christmas traditions in his home country.
Greeting you before church on Jan. 18th were Kim & Bob Knapp
Annual meeting Thursday, Jan. 29th

30 years ago:

The World's Most Dangerous Church Band begins.
Annual meeting 1/31

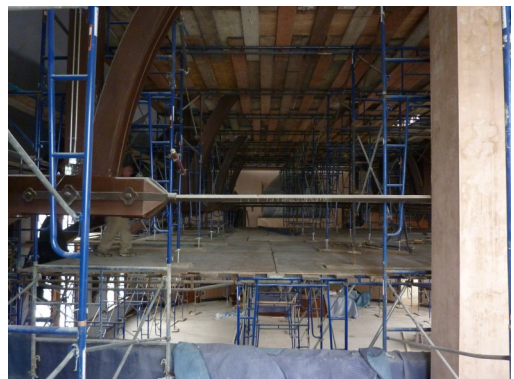
20 years ago:

Annual meeting Sunday Jan, 28th

10 years ago:

Sanctuary renovations near completion.

Pot luck lunch after January 30th Annual meeting.



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Our Church Mission Statement:
“To nurture those in our own faith community
and to act on our faith by reaching out to others.”
We are an Open and Affirming church of the United Church of Christ.