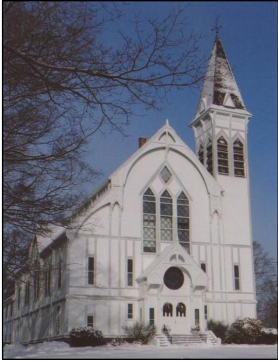


FROM the HILL



First Congregational Church of Georgetown

7 Andover Street, P.O. Box 200
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Telephone: 978-352-8443

Email: churchoffice@georgetowncongregational.org

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April 2018



I'm in my car, the early chill still keeping my muscles knotted. I drive through the countryside, lit only by

my car lights in the dark. Turning, and moving through the dark I finally come to a driveway that jumps out of the dark. Taking it, the gravel crunches under my tires, the potholes of spring shaking my car until I pull to a stop.

Stepping out, I follow a trail up the hill, the fallen tree branches and leaves crunching beneath my feet. A small golden light escapes up in the darkness ahead. I crest the hill and hear the crackling of the campfire beyond and below. Faces of those gathered around the flame look up and smile, lit by the fire in golden haloes. I come close to the warmth, and the sunrise begins to be full of streaks that match the flame and the light washes across the pond.

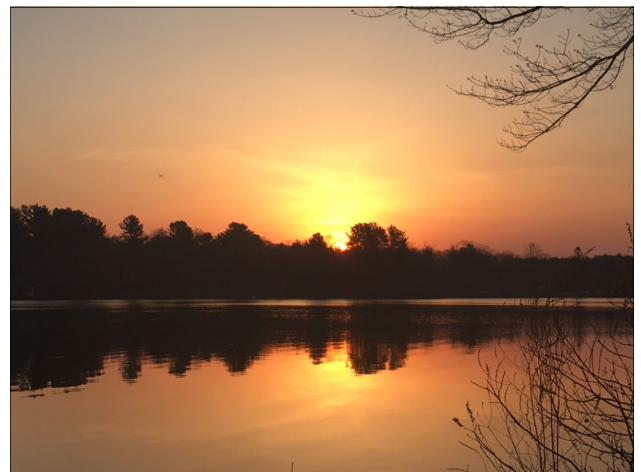
This is Easter morning, sunrise service at Camp Leslie. I know that this light is just a small taste of the light from Christ, but even the small taste brings the joy of celebration, because:

In Jesus was life, and that life was the light of all humanity. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not over come it.

John 1:4-5

Live in the Risen Life!

Rev Lorraine Edwards



HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Maundy Thursday—March 29, 2018@ 7:00 pm

Communion Candlelight Service with Music



Good Friday—March 30, 2018 12:00—3:00 pm

First Congregational Church Rowley

The Last Seven Words of Christ - come and hear local clergy as they each speak on one of the last seven words of Christ. Come for part of the time or join us until the end.



Easter Sunday—April 1, 2018

6:30 am Sunrise Service @ Camp Leslie (W. Main St. RT. 97)

7:00 am Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10:30 am Easter Service

11:30 am Egg Hunt on the lawn

Easter Egg Hunt—Come One, Come All!!



Christian Education would like to invite any and all children in the Georgetown Community to join us Easter Sunday for an Easter Egg Hunt on the front lawn of the church immediately following worship. Here is how it works!. We ask any members/friends of the congregation to bring a dozen or so filled eggs to Easter Sunday Worship. Drop them off in the Fellowship Hall prior to worship. All eggs are counted at that time and then "hidden" by our youth helpers.

At the end of worship all children who would like to find the eggs are asked to congregate in Fellowship Hall. After a count of all the children participating has been completed, a total number of eggs the child can gather is given. Youngest children are allowed to gather eggs first. Happy Hunting!

Greetings From the Diaconate

Spring is on the horizon, and as the anticipation of new growth awaits in our yards, gardens, homes, and hearts, it is a time to reflect upon the past year and anticipate new adventures ahead.

Looking back, we recognize the faithful friends that dedicated their time, efforts, creativity, and service for the Diaconate. We are so very thankful for Gladie Kneeland and Janice Murphy for sharing their talents with us in caring for our pastor, church, and community. Janice shared with us her dependability, creative ideas, ability to find a bargain, her cheerful smile, and her caring nature to accommodate for whatever is needed. With a calm and gentle spirit, she quickly came up with creative ideas for the Summer services. She gave delicious food, rides to doctor's appointments, last-minute preparations at the church, and organized our Christmas shopping outing that provided a beautiful new tree for the church at a good price.

Serving as Diaconate Chair, Gladie shared with us her beautiful words of encouragement, faith, and love. We are always delighted to see how much she enjoys the microphone! We looked forward to seeing if she was wearing her hair up then we know she means business! She's always thinking of others before herself. She organized our meetings, shared with us a beautiful and fun New Years celebration service and made us feel welcome in the church.

We very much appreciate all that Janice and Gladie they did for us and for setting examples of service with love. We appreciate all that they still do for us at church, in the community, and in friendship.

Looking forward, we welcome Rachael Angerhofer and Marie Birdsall to the diaconate! We appreciate their willingness and joyful attitudes to serve with us! Kristen generously provided a folder and materials for them, so they have an idea of what is ahead.

We invite everyone to get a copy of the Lenten book that Emily so graciously organized for our church, and we look forward to reading the stories and seeing everything that people generously shared!

As we dig out from the snow, watching it melt in the warming sunlight, we relate to the passage in Song of Solomon [2:11-12](#).

"For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land."

-Your Diaconate





Assignment	Day	Task
4/1		Easter Sunrise at Camp Leslie
4/8		Meet 7
4/22		Meet 8
4/29		Meet 9
5/6		Come early to prepare Communion.
5/13		Meet 10 Rehearsal for Pentecost Confirmation Service. Also make up day for any missed meetings.
5/20		Confirmation: Please wear nice clothes. Invite family and friends



New Member Sunday will be on May 6th

We will have two Saturday classes to introduce you to First Church, the UCC, and to get to know you better. To become a new member, you must be at least 14 years of age. Contact Rev Lorraine with any questions or an interest in joining at: rev@georgetowncongregational.org.

Celebrating Earth Day Sunday, April 15



Join us on Sunday, April 15th for worship with a message celebrating of Earth Day .

Following worship George Comiskey will have a special display set up for you in Fellowship Hall.

Storm Cancellations

In the event of a Saturday night or Sunday morning snowstorm or blizzard this winter, you can check with Channel 7 or Channel 56 (CW) for storm closings. If you want to know if church is cancelled just tune in 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.





Come check it out!

Christian Development has moved the nursery to the second floor into the nice warm classroom next to the office. We are awaiting our first guest to arrive.....

From the Member-at-Large

The Church Council is very interested in your ideas as to how we can grow spiritually as a church. How can we expand what we do well so that it reaches beyond our own walls? Please share your thoughts with me or with any of the Council members. Other thoughts and concerns may be told to me as well at any time.

Our Member-at-Large to the Council is Joanne Kelly.



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	Title	Author	Hostess/Location/Phone No.
Apr. 25, 2018	Britt Marie was Here	Fredrik Backman 2016	Pam & Carol Sheehan Location: Church Sheehan: 978-352-6329
May 30, 2018	The Red Coat: a novel of Boston	Dolley Carlson 2016	Dee Wyatt Location: Camp Denison (Lodge), 84 Nelson St. Dee: 617-957-6090
June 27, 2018	The Traitor's Wife	Allison Pataki 2014	Nancy Aberman Nancy's home: 199 W. Main St Nancy: 978-352-2793

Outreach News



Thank you all for your *super* generous support of the March 11th **One Great Hour of Sharing**. The final tally of this special offering amounted to **\$725!** We are blown away!

BLANKET THE WORLD WITH LOVE is the theme for our mission in April. For the last fifty years our congregation has sponsored the purchase of blankets for **Church World Service**, a very old and trusted institution that includes 37 Christian denominations, and helps people stay warm in the face of extreme hardships. Recipients sleep in Boston shelters; they are poor goat herders in the cold mountains of Bolivia and use blankets for their personal "tents"; they are survivors of the war in Syria and have carried their only possessions in their CWS blanket; they are the street people of Uruguay.

They could be us!

YELLOW stands for sun and spring! **We'll be purchasing yellow CWS blankets**, a lighter-weight blanket especially manufactured for spring and summer CWS recipients. Ten dollars will provide one person with warmth, comfort and love when they receive their yellow blanket. You may wish to purchase one blanket - or, a portion of a blanket, or multiple blankets on **Sunday, April 15th or Sunday, April 22nd** in time for spring distribution. If you consider writing a check, please make it payable to the First Congregational Church of Georgetown.

LET'S TAKE PART IN BLANKETING THE WORLD WITH LOVE!

Women's Guild News



BRING YOUR OWN SANDWICH LUNCH
Tuesday, April 17 at NOON
A PRELUDE TO MOTHERS' DAY

Gladie Kneeland joins us in this salute to our mothers as we near the special day for honoring them. Gladie and her Mom had a warm and sharing relationship. We know her stories will inspire others to share their memories, too!

Dessert: Sue Clay & Lilly Townsend

Devotions: Joyce Greene

Church Pantry Sunday is April 8th

Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays

9:30 am—11:30 am



We want to thank all for their generous donations to our Community Food Pantry! We have received a bounty of vegetables, soups, cereals, baking items. We still need the following items for the food pantry :

Following is a list of items that are in need:

Individually wrapped soaps Individually wrapped toilet paper
Paper Towels Shampoo Deodorant (men's & women's)
Dish soap Cleaning products (409, Lysol, sponges, etc.)
Toothpaste Tooth Brushes Coffee & Tea Canned Tuna, Chicken & Spam
Juice Boxes Bottled Juices

Donations of grocery store gift cards are always welcome. These enable families to get those perishable items that they cannot get at the food pantry.



Pet Pantry Items: We now offer pet food to help families keep their animal companions fed and healthy.

Canned and Dry Food Treats Cat Litter



“Soon you will notice that our church Giving Tree will have a new name for Spring – **“The Sharing Basket”**.”

There will be envelopes with dollar amounts indicating on-going church expenses. You are encouraged to take an envelope and donate as you are able. Please look for the display in the Narthex on Easter. We truly appreciate your support.”



Emily Aberman
Lee Ames
Michelle Brock
Zachary Brock
Betty Davidson

Robert Davidson
JoEllen Fielding
Isabel Gammon
Henry Gervais
Ella Greenfield

Elizabeth (Kalfin) Jones
Deb Lamoureaux
Miles Lucido
Haley Parsons
Nola Quigley

Our Music Ministry

Our music rehearsals are as follows:



Senior Choir: All welcome regardless of ability to read music. Only the desire to sing is necessary. Anyone under 6th grade please speak to Bob Knapp.

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm: 4/3, 4/24, 5/1, 5/22



Bell Choir: Ability to read music. Any age welcome.

Mondays @ 6:30pm: 4/9

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm: 4/17, 5/8, 5/15, 5/29

Tuesdays @ 7pm: 4/3, 4/24, 5/22,



Band: Instrument required. If you don't have one but can read music speak to Bob Knapp. There are always rhythm instruments if nothing else!!

Mondays @ 7:30pm: 4/9

Tuesday @ 7:00pm: 5/1

Tuesdays @ 7:30pm: 4/17, 5/8, 5/15, 5/29



Light The Church Fund

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 JoEllen Fielding at 978-352-6904.

Our Steeple Lights shine this month in loving memory of Joe Sheehan, from his wife Carol.



FLOWER CONTRIBUTIONS


If you would like to contribute flowers or make a monetary contribution for the Communion Table for an anniversary, birthday or a special occasion please contact Jaime Krenn at 978-352-7932 or the Church Office.



Thank you to Rich and Zachary Brock and Sam Orender for removing the tree that fell in our driveway during the last snowstorm.

Dr. Phillip and Betty Rosene

APRIL 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EASTER 6:30am Sunrise Worship 7am Breakfast 10:30am Easter Worship 11:30am Egg Hunt 	2 OFFICE CLOSED 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental	3 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental 5:45pm Staff Mtg 6:30pm Choir 7:00pm Bell Choir	4 7pm Boy Scouts	5 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental	6 7pm AA	7
8 10:30am Worship 11:45am Diaconate Confirmation Mtg.	9 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Band	10 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental 6pm Finance	11 7pm Boy Scouts	12 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental	13 7pm AA	14
15 10:30am Worship	16 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental	17 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Band	18 7pm Boy Scouts	19 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental 7pm Council	20 3pm GS Troop 62977 7pm AA	21
22 10:30am Worship Confirmation Mtg.	23 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental	24 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental 6:30pm Choir 7:00pm Bell Choir	25 7pm Boy Scouts	26 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental	27 7pm AA	28
29 10:30am Worship Confirmation Mtg.	30 4:30-8:30 Martial Arts Rental	Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am-12:00 noon. Rev. Edwards' Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:30am—12:30pm or by appointment.				

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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.