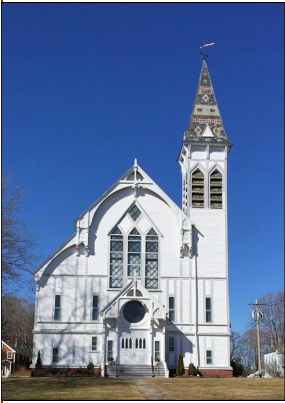


From the Hill



First Congregational Church of Georgetown

7 Andover Street, P.O. Box 200

Georgetown, MA 01833

Telephone: 978-352-8443

Email: churchoffice@georgetowncongregational.org

Website: www.georgetowncongregational.org

November 2019

Diaconate News

Greetings from your Diaconate,

As we enter the season of Stewardship and Thanksgiving we should pause and give Thanks for another successful Harvest Fair. It was wonderful to watch the community enter our historic church and enjoy the gifts of labor in our pies and turkey dinner, hospitality during white elephant sales, and in the generosity of raffle donations.

We encourage everyone to take some time for restoration as we prepare to enter another active season here in our church. This month we look forward to welcoming Reverend Dallas Bradel and look forward to hearing her preach on November 24th. We will enjoy stories of stewardship as we prepare for Stewardship Sunday and enter a time of Thanksgiving and counting our blessings.

At a time that can be busy with tasks to cross off the list we can refer to Galatians 6:9 which says "Let us not become weary in doing good for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up".

Blessings,

Alecia, Marie, Pam and Rachel






GRATITUDE game

Start a fun tradition by playing this game on Thanksgiving.





What you need:

- M&M's or other colored candies
- A bowl
- The list below (adapt the colors, as needed)

Red: a need God has provided for
Orange: a gift you've received
Yellow: something you've recently learned
Green: something in nature
Blue: a special memory
Brown: someone you love

What you do:

1. One at a time, people pick a candy and share what they're thankful for (according to the color).
2. Pass the bowl around and continue reflecting on God's goodness until all the candy is gone!



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.

Christian Development

We are offering classes for grades kindergarten-eighth. If there are any high school students interested in earning community service hours by helping with our Church School program, please contact the Church Office or the Christian Development team.

Remember children begin in worship and then leave during the hymn as noted in the bulletin. On Communion Sundays, children begin in Church School and return prior to communion.

Blessings to all of you.

From The Fair, A Sweet Thank You...

The Women's Guild appreciate all the sweet and tasty cookies that were donated to the COOKIE WALK! Many of you made DOZENS of cookies, bringing them in for the Friday sales and baking more Friday night for the Saturday sales! We are grateful for all the support our congregation gives to this popular table, including those bakers who are also involved with other aspects of the Fair. It is amazing to us that they do other tasks, yet take the time to bake for the Cookie Walk!

We received dozens of cookies from a former church member who now lives in Sanbornville, NH. She visited the Fair with her daughter, and brought a delicious array of cookies baked with love for her former church home.

Thank you all for your creativity in the baking department!

The Guild Gals, Keepers of the Church Fair Cookie Walk



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 any of the Council Members. Other thoughts and concerns may be shared at any time. Our Member-at- Large to the Council is Ruth Soper.

Stewardship News

You will notice that our "Sharing Basket" has once again appeared in the narthex. The basket contains envelopes which represent on-going church expenses. You are encouraged to take an envelope and donate as you are able. Simply enclose the designated amount and mail or drop it in the collection plate. Thank you for your continued support!

Blessings to all,
Toni Cassidy, George Comiskey and Sylvia Johnston
The Stewardship Team



Outreach News

Thanks to our Church Family for the super support of the World Communion Sunday **HOUSE OF PEACE Offering**. **Generous contributions amounted to \$583 to help the volunteers at the House of Peace** carry on with their work in embracing and assisting those who have been scared by war and persecution. As we have explained, in other reports, The House of Peace has made it their mission to focus on children who need the medical expertise of our Boston hospitals to heal their disfiguring injuries, while they provide a loving away-home that helps heal their spirits. Your offerings are very much appreciated.

Last year our church families enthusiastically provided "the trimmings" for many Thanksgiving dinners provided by OUR NEIGHBORS' TABLE in Amesbury! This amazing food pantry ministers to twelve area towns, including Georgetown. In partnership with the BOSTON FOOD BANK that provides the turkeys, and neighboring farms that donate vegetables, Our Neighbor's Table delivers boxes that include all the Thanksgiving dinner needs for families who need this help for the holiday. We are again asking you to support this endeavor.

Bags will be available for pickup on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10th. We are asking that they be returned on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17th so that we can get the items to Our Neighbors' Table in a timely manner. A list of "the trimmings" will be attached to the bag, asking for the following items: **Stuffing Mix, Instant Potatoes, Turkey Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Dessert Mixes** (brownies, squares, cake mix) **and a \$10 grocery store gift certificate** (ie: Market Basket for instance). We are confident that our families will be happy to reach out, and pick up a bag to fill.

And to all, as we count our blessings this holiday season,

Peace be with you.

The Outreach Team: Marion Harding, Martha Lucius, Mary Ann Nelson, Jean Perley, Carol Sheehan & Joan Chatterton

Women's Guild News

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF PLANS FOR THIS MEETING!

Due to the postponement of the October meeting program, **Gladie Kneeland will be our guest at the November meeting, November 5th.**

The morning work bee for quilts has been canceled for November. Quilt tying will be completed at a meeting (date to be announced) in April.

Therefore, in November, the Guild women will **meet at Noon for a "Bring-Your-Own-Sandwich Lunch"**, followed by a get-together with Gladie when she will share her stories of Victorian customs.

If you have any questions about this change, please get in touch with Joan Chatterton (978-352-8033).



Each month we meet to talk about books selected by book club members. Meetings are held in different houses or at the church. If you are interested in attending, 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 books that will be discussed 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 2019	Title	Author	Hostess/Location/Phone No.
September 25	<i>The Beantown Girls</i> © 2019	Jane Healey Note: Author is speaking at the Reading Public Library on September 17, 1 p.m.	Pam and Carol Sheehan Church Sheehan: 978-352-6329
October 30	<i>We Are Market Basket: the story of the unlikely grassroots movement that saved a beloved business</i> © 2015	Daniel Korschun & Grant Welker NOTE: Many copies available through the library system	Joanne Kelly & Carol Lutes Church Carol: 978-352-7208
December 4 (combined Nov/Dec)	<i>Gift from the Sea</i> © 1955	Anne Morrow Lindbergh	Karen Young 11 Monroe Street Karen: 978-352-2697
2020			
January 29	<i>The Stars are Fire</i> © 2017	Anita Shreve	Sylvia Johnston & Ruth Soper Church Sylvia: 978-352-7597 Ruth: 978-352-2500
February 26	<i>Cooking for Picasso</i> © 2016	Camille Aubray	Alecia Balduf 3 Bayberry Lane Alecia: 978-835-9094
March 25	<i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> © 2018	Delia Owens	Joan Chatterton 9 Bartlett Drive, Georgetown Joan: 978-352-8033
April 29	<i>Ask Again, Yes</i> © 2019	Mary Beth Keane	Peggy Smith & Marie Birdsall Church Peggy: 978-352-8741 Marie:
May 27	<i>The Only Woman in the Room</i> © 2019	Marie Benedict	Dee Wyatt Camp Denison Lodge, 84 Nelson St Dee: 617-957-6090
June 24	<i>Summer of '69</i> © 2019	Elin Hilderbrand	Nancy Aberman 199 W. Main St Nancy: 978-352-2793



Golf Outing Fun

October 20th was a beautiful Fall day, just perfect for the First Congregational Church' Semi-Regular Golf Extravaganza. Sixteen golfers assembled at Far Corner Golf Course in Boxford and played 18 holes with a Best Ball format followed by a hamburgers and hot dogs dinner. The fund raiser, which is considered part of the Fall Fair effort, netted \$960 for the Church and a good time was had by all. Among the golfers were Rich and Ben Brock, Steve Pinto, Joanne Kelly, Kirsten and Sam Orender, Richard Aberman, and George Comiskey. Helping to sponsor the event were Toni Cassidy, Sue Stead, Ashley and Michael Caron, JoEllen Fielding, Shirley Powell and Marie Birdsall-Chaffee. Many thanks to everyone for their support in making this event a success.

Friday Luncheon Thank You!

When a great team is behind you it makes the job so much easier.

Karen Young, Jo Anne Kelly, Carol Lutes and Toni Cassidy got the lobster and chicken ready on Thursday evening. Judy Lynn and Theresa Sullivan prepared the applesauce cake. Friday morning, bright and early, Lee Ames, Shirley Powell, Chris Comiskey, and Toni Cassidy prepared sandwiches. Our serving team included Ruth Stewart, Ruth Soper, and Sylvia Johnston.

Thank you to Michelle Bridges for helping with publicity.

This year we also remembered Ann Kelloway and Elisabeth Thomas. These special ladies helped with this luncheon for so many years.

Thank you to this incredible team!

We hope you enjoyed lunch!!

Janice Murphy



A Note of Thanks

Dear Friends,

Thank you very much for the lovely yellow rose that Carol and Pam Sheehan brought to me from the church.

Sincerely,

Sheila Kelly





2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7pm AA	2
3 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship 11:45 Diaconate	4	5 Women's Guild Lunch	6 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Band 7pm Boy Scouts	7	8 7pm AA	9
10 9:30 Bells 10:30 Worship	11 Office Closed	12 6pm Finance 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Band	13 7pm Boy Scouts	14	15 Girl Scouts 4-5:30pm 7pm AA Newsletter Deadline	16
17 9:30 Band 10:30 Worship	18	19 6:30pm Choir 7pm Bells	20 7pm Boy Scouts	21 6:30pm Council	22 7pm AA	23
24 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship	25	26	27 7pm Boy Scouts	28 Happy Thanksgiving Rental Langlais	29 Office Closed 7pm AA	30

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PO Box 200
7 Andover Street
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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.