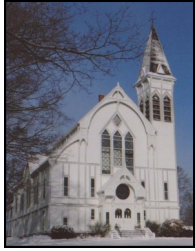


From the Hill



First Congregational Church of Georgetown

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January 2022



Let this be our motto for this New Year, from 1 Corinthians 12

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

As the Apostle Paul wrote to the church of Corinth, “our gifts are activated by one and the same Spirit . . . to each individually just as the Spirit chooses.”

Christmas and this holiday season of gift giving might be over till next December - that time to give or receive that special something individual enjoyment. And for us, as a faith community, we know that the extravagance of love and giving continues all year long. As Paul reminds the people, the call to faith is to use our spiritual gifts for the common good.

I have witnessed this in you, dear congregation. This concern for the common good. And as I turn my mind to this new year, my heart is full of gratitude for you: for this faith

community; for your curiosity; for your energy for service and outreach; for your love that you show each other.

I pray for each of you as we turn together to what's next. Considering the adventures of 2021, with COVID restrictions, our careful get togethers, and celebrations - what a year it was, full of twists and turns, with new challenges and chances to learn new things.

On the 23rd of this month, I will have been with you officially for one year. I am so thankful for you! Each one of you who have showed up, who have called; each of you who have baked pies or shortcake, whipped cream, painted the ceiling in fellowship hall (can one be sainted for that kind of effort?); each of you who have sought support or resources, who have worshipped together, in person or on ZOOM. Each of you who have written cards, sent flowers, called neighbors in need.

As we gather in worship, or in ministry teams or small groups, like Bible study or the Book Group, we each have gifts to bring to the table, and we each come in need to receive love poured out by the One Holy Spirit. We are each *fully loved, already and always*, from day one on earth. And we are connected, whether you come to give, or come in need of something more. The one Spirit is the Source of these gifts, freely given.

So, as we turn our hearts and minds to 2022, we are invited by Jesus, as expressed by his Apostle Paul, to use our gifts so that all who we encounter are lifted and

(Continued on page 3)

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 or lend a hand to any of your dedicated church teams. Think about giving book club a try. We sometimes surprise ourselves with our discussions and glean so much more when sharing thoughts than reading it alone. Dropping a cheerful note or card to another member who is alone (aren't we all in that boat?) In the world of today, a 'snail mail' card is really special!! We are offering two more activities this year: A knitting class to add beautiful prayer shawls to those who need comfort or mittens for those who not only need the warmth, but the thought they were made by hand with love. Also don your 'dancing boots' and give our line dancing class a whirl. Whatever idea comes to you, give it a try....you will always find support here to cheer on your endeavor.

Remember to live your life like someone left the gate open!

Antoinette, Emily, and Pam (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

Don't Forget to Pledge for 2022!

If you haven't yet made a pledge to the church for 2022, please take a moment to reflect on all the church has done this past year and hopes to do in the year ahead, and submit a pledge to support its ministry. Thank you to everyone who has already sent in their pledge card. Your support is important and very much appreciated.

Blessings from the Stewardship Committee,

Toni Cassidy, George Comiskey & Sylvia Johnston




loved. From such love comes the kingdom of heaven, made manifest here on earth.

Best wishes to each of you for a blessed and safe 2022.

With New Year blessings,

Pastor Holly




***First Congregational Church of
Georgetown***

*In cooperation with
The Northeast Association of the
Southern New England Conference
of the United Church of Christ*

**Cordially invites you
to
The Installation of
The Reverend Holly S. Brauner
As our next Settled Pastor**

**Sunday, February 6th, 2021
At Three O'clock in the afternoon
7 Andover St.
Georgetown, Massachusetts**

All are requested to wear masks in the building.
Clergy are welcome to robe and process. The color of the day is red



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
a just world for all



Each month we meet to talk about books selected by book club members. Meetings are held via ZOOM. If you are interested in attending, contact the church office or any of the people listed below. 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.

January 26

The Four Winds ©2021 464pp by Kristin Hannah

February 23

Facing the Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in World War II ©2021 560pp by Daniel James Brown

Georgetown Peabody Library

To the Book Club at the First Congregational Church,

Thank you for your donation to the Georgetown Peabody library in memory of your friend, Karen L. Young.

We have added this donation to our Memorial Gifts account. This account is used for funding a variety of programs, buying books and other materials, hosting author visits and other special events at the library. At your request, we have purchased two books in Karen's honor. The titles are below:

Windswept: Walking the Paths of Trailblazing Women by Annabelle Abbs

Flower Flash by Lewis Miller

A memorial book plate has been added to each book in remembrance of Karen.

Sarah Cognata
Library Director



Annual Meeting January 30, 2022 - It will be here before you know it!

Please prepare your team's **Annual Report** and send to: churchoffice@fccgeorgetownma.org by Friday, January 7th. Teams are asked to get their **2022 Budget** to the Finance team ASAP so they can prepare a report for the January Finance Meeting.

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 shared at any time.

Your Member-at-Large to the Council is Susan Stead, 978-697-1982 email: susan.stead5@gmail.com.

Christian Development



The Christian Development Team would like the ladies of the church to save the date! Mark your calendars for May 6-8, 2022 for a Women's Retreat getaway. Toni Cassidy is providing a wonderful location and Pastor Holly will facilitate this opportunity for us to grow in our faith fellowship. More information will follow!

JANUARY



Gabe Angerhofer	Henry Edwards
Benjamin Brock	Kevin Southwick
Brendan Comiskey	Laura Zalewski

Storm Cancellations

In the event of a Saturday night or Sunday morning snowstorm, 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.



Men's Group

Men's Group will meet on the **second** Saturday of the month at Café Sarina 8:00 AM.

Thank you

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and emails during my recent battle with Guillain-Barre Syndrome. Thank you also to Pastor Holly for her inspirational visits and to those who reached out to Chris with offers of help and words of comfort. It has been a long struggle, but I am well on the road to recovery. I believe it was the power of prayer that helped pull me through this.

Thanks be to God.

George Comiskey



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 Bob Knapp at 978-352-7489.



January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 10:30 AM 7 PM Diaconate Meeting 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	3 7-9 PM Theatre Workshop	4 4:45-6:15 Girl Scouts 6:30 Bells 7:30 Band 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	5 Missions meeting 7PM Boy Scouts	6	7 Annual Report Deadline 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	1 Happy New Year!
9 9:30 Bells 10:30 AM Worship 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	10	11 4:45-6:15 Girl Scouts 6:30 Bells 7:30 Band 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	12 7PM Boy Scouts	13 6PM Finance	14 Newsletter Deadline 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	15
16 9:30 Band 10:30 AM Worship 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	17	18 4:45-6:15 Girl Scouts 6:30 Bells 7:30 Band 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	19 7PM Boy Scouts	20 6 PM CD Meeting 6:30 PM Council	21 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	22
23/30 9:30 Bells 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Annual Meeting 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	24/31	25 4:45-6:15 Girl Scouts 6:30 Bells 7:30 Band 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	26 7PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Book Club ZOOM	27	28 7-10 PM Theatre Workshop	29



2021 Christmas Flowers



Given By

In Memory or In Honor Of

Nancy & Richard Aberman

Frank Scale

Rachel Angerhofer

Todd Angerhofer

Kristen Arsenault

Loved Ones

Toni Cassidy

Loved Ones

Marie & Tom Chaffee

Our Families

Joan Chatterton

Donn Chatterton

Dave Clinton & Joan Chatterton

Russell & Dorothy Clinton

Donna & Steven DeSisto

Donald E. & Muriel R. Gordon

JoEllen Fielding

Karen Young

Erica Flynn

Loved Ones

Pamela, Wendy, & Jennifer

Marion & Richard Harding

The Harris Family

Laura & Herb Driscoll, Wallace Harris,
Carly Driscoll, Maureen Lewis

Sylvia Johnston

Loved Ones

Antoinette Jones

Ansilee Jones, Rachel Ann Taylor

Sharon Lee

Betty & Alex Bruce

Barbara Morehouse

Farmer Bob & our Parents

The Murphy Family

Jim & Betty Blomley, Benedetta Murphy,
Virginia Chappie, June Sheehan

Jean R. Perley

Loved Ones

Shirley Powell

In loving memory of my sisiter, Carol Bickford

Steve Pinto & Jamie Krenn

Florence & Joe Pinto, John Krenn

Philip Rosene

Betty Rosene

Pam Sheehan

Carol & Joe Sheehan
Janice Hall, Edward Sheehan

The Stead Family

Loved Ones

Gloria Webster

Floyd Webster, Paul Webster

Carole Young

Loved Ones

Warren Young

Karen Young

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Our 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.