

From the Hill

First Congregational Church of Georgetown

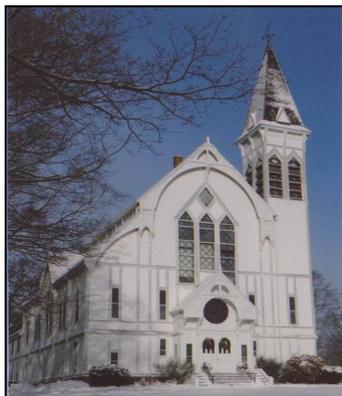
7 Andover Street
Georgetown, MA 01833

Telephone: 978-352-8443

Email: churchoffice@fccgeorgetownma.org

Website: www.fccgeorgetownma.org

February 2023



Often on Sunday mornings, I end the service with an invitation to “go and be a blessing to the next person you meet.” By this I mean, be a light shining in someone else’s darkness. Take a minute to listen more deeply when you ask someone, “how are you?” This could also mean, look with your heart to *see the light* in the next person you meet. Each of us have that light of love, some of us just have it more buried than others. In this connection, we may help *each other* shine a bit brighter.

Such is the work of ministry, as God’s beloved community. And in this way we will be blessed. In the “Sermon on the Mount” found in Matthew’s gospel (*Matthew 5:1-12*) Jesus shares a similar understanding of blessing, or what it means to be blessed. Just after calling his first set of disciples to follow, he sits on a hillside with them to prepare them for the trouble *and transformation* they will encounter by committing to follow him.

The Message[®] has the clearest translation:

“You’re blessed when you’re at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule. You’re blessed when you feel you’ve lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you. You’re blessed when you’re content with just who you are—no more, no less. That’s the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can’t be bought. You’re blessed when you’ve worked up a good appetite for God. He’s food and drink in the best meal you’ll ever eat. You’re blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full,’ you find yourselves cared for.

You’re blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world. You’re blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That’s when you discover who you really are, and your place in God’s family. You’re blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God’s kingdom. . . .

Blessed are you who follow Jesus’s teachings and ways of living, which are contrary to much worldly wisdom and strength.

And, may we each find our own way to *this* blessing, even if it takes a lifetime, striving to move more deeply into this invitation to transformation and kingdom living.

In Christ,

Rev. Holly

[®]From *The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language* by Eugene H. Peterson, Navpress, 2005.

You can find more of this translation here: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%205%3A1-12&version=MSG>

Book Group

February 22

Becoming Mrs. Lewis

Zoom 857 9842 9936



<https://fccgeorgetownma.org/ministries/>

Select: **Book Club, What We are Reading**



Shirley Powell

George Tobin

Gayle Fehlmann

Roberta Tobin

Carol Kalfin



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.

Storm Cancellations

In the event of a Saturday or Sunday snow storm, an email will notify you if in-person worship is cancelled. We will likely still gather via ZOOM.



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 with me as well, at any time.

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

100th ANNIVERSARY GUEST TEA
Sunday Afternoon, March 26, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
SPECIAL PRESENTATION
by Chris Comiskey

Women from neighboring churches are invited to our Anniversary Tea when our Church Historian, Chris Comiskey will give us the inside scoop on “The 1923 Woman”, her life, traditions, occupation, style, church activities, family activities, and how she places in history!

WE ENCOURAGE MEMBERS & GUESTS to dress up in a Twenties Era outfit, or if that is not a possibility, wear a hat, or headband, or flower in your hair!

All willing and able hands will be appreciated to help with this celebratory event! (The 5th Grade Girl Scouts, who hold meetings at our church, will assist us with serving. This program will take the place of an April Meeting.)

To Our Church Women and Their Friends!

Chris Comiskey is still looking for your vintage pictures. It could be your Grandmother, your Mother, your Auntie, someone in your family or extended family who is pictured as a child or an adult during the 1920's. Please dig out those old albums and if you luck out and find some, notify Chris, or Joan Chatterton. We will find a way to make a copy of your 1920's picture!

If you'd like to have some fun with outfitting yourself (for the Tea) in the *Twenties Look*, there are a zillion ideas out there for you, and Chris Comiskey will be glad to give you some help! She advises you to improvise with what you already have in the closet, or visit a local Thrift Shop such as the Salvation Army or Ruth's House in Haverhill, where you might find a great piece of clothing for very little expense. Although we think of the “flapper style” with the 20's, most women dressed very conservatively in straight, longer dresses with lower-than-waist sashes or ribbons. Also, you can go on your computer and Google “1920's dress ads and patterns.”



1920s PHOTOS NEEDED!

As many of you know, I am working on a presentation for the Women's Guild's 100th Anniversary celebration this year. I am still looking for photos of women who personified “the modern woman” of the 1920s and would love to include photos from everyone in our church family. To date I have only received a few, so I hope you will dig through your family archives and contribute to the slideshow. Pictures should be of women who were church members or are related to current church members or attendees, even if they weren't from Georgetown. In an effort to get more pictures, I will now also include photos of little girls. Photos must be from the 1920s or early 1930s and reflect the styles of the era.

You may send digitized photos to me at comgeorge@aol.com. Print photos can be given to Joan Chatterton or me to be scanned and returned. Please include the woman's name and how she is related to you.

So, let's dig out those old family photo albums and have some fun with this. The more participants, the better!

Chris Comiskey

Moderator's Message

Well, another Annual Meeting is in the books. There were some changes to things of the past and some things changed to help us look forward to in the future. What will those future things look like? That is up to you and me. Today I have taken a more active role in the church by accepting the nomination to be the Moderator. Rich Brock has passed the baton to me after seven years. His unwavering leadership through changes (especially COVID) has made it easier for those around him doing the Church's work. But he is not gone. He will take a more active role in Christian Development as we look toward the future.

One of the things approved at our Annual Meeting was the Vision Statement. This statement is meant to help us navigate the new course we would like to charter as we work together to find new opportunities for our church to show our love to others as God intended.

This past Sunday's scripture reading was from Matthew 5: 1-12. Matthew conveyed how we are blessed. Our time is now to share our blessings to others in our community, not wait for them to find us. What does that look like? Our new teams will work together to figure this out. Throughout this work, we need to keep our vision statement in mind, **"To nurture those in our own faith community and to act on our faith by reaching out to others"** as we choose new things to commit our time and energy in the coming year(s). Are you ready? Come see me or any of our council members and talk about what the future of our church looks like to you.

Your new moderator, Michelle Brock

Men's Group

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



We now receive mail delivery directly to the church!!

Please send all correspondence to:

7 Andover Street
Georgetown, MA
01833

Please note the P.O. Box has been discontinued.



February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7PM Boy Scouts	2	3 5-6:30 PM Girl Scouts	4
5 9:30 Band 10:30 AM Worship 3 PM Line dancing Girl Scouts 6-8 PM	6 10 AM CA Music class	7 10 AM Bible Study Bells 6:30 Band 7:30 6 PM Finance	8 7PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Missions	9 7 PM Diaconate 7-8 PM Evening Bible Study ZOOM	10 3-6:00 PM Girl Scouts	11 Men's Group 8:00 A.M. Café Sarina Movie Night 6 PM
12 9:30 Band 10:30 AM Worship 3 PM Line dancing	13 10 AM CA Music class Choir 6:30 Bells 7:30 	14 Valentine's Day 10 AM Bible Study 4-5:30 PM Girl Scouts	15 7PM Boy Scouts 6:30 PM Council	16 6:00 PM Christian Development	17 Girl Scouts 5-7 PM	18
19 9:30 Bells 10:30 AM Worship 3 PM Line dancing	20 Office Closed Presidents' Day	21 6 PM Madi Gras Pancake Dinner No Rehearsal 10 AM Bible Study	22 Ash Wednesday 7 PM Book Club 7PM Boy Scouts	23	24	25
26 First Sunday in Lent 10:30 AM Worship 3 PM Line dancing	27 10 AM CA Music class	28 Bells 6:30 Band 7:30 10 AM Bible Study				

First Congregational Church of Georgetown
7 Andover Street
Georgetown, MA 01833
www.fccgeorgetownma.org
(978) 352-8443



Inside This Issue

Pastors Message.....	1
Book Club/Birthdays	2
Women’s Guild 100th.....	3
Moderator Message	4
Calendar	5

We now receive mail delivery directly to the church!!

Please send all correspondence to:

7 Andover Street
Georgetown, MA
01833

Please note the P.O. Box has been discontinued.

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.