

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." Luke 24: 36b

When was the last time Jesus stood among you, near you, beside you?
When was the last time you heard, "peace be with you."?

You and I live in a land where fewer and fewer people profess to be Christian. At least, it seems, based on the polls taken regarding church life, fewer people are going to Church of any kind. Scholars tell us that we are living in a "post-Christian" world, as belief systems have changed over the last few hundred years.

When Jesus says these words, "Peace be with you," to his disciples he is reassuring them that his leaving this world does not mean he is gone from them, that he has left them behind forever. He goes on to show them that he is in fact the same person who has led them so far, that by his scars he is the one who endured suffering on the cross, and that, this is not the end!

"Peace be with you"- in other words, don't despair, be at peace. Yes, things will be different, I have transformed, just as my Abba God promised, so that I would always be with you, leading you. I did not leave you. I promised you this needed to happen so that you would see your role in bringing about God's kin-dom here on earth.

Studies in recent years, have found that fewer and fewer folks, and many young people have no real use for Church, or worship in its traditional form, but they still love Jesus. Respondents just say that the Church no longer serves them. Many say they love Jesus, still!

This is one way of getting at the notion of "spiritual but not religious". Organized religion is not helping, but following Jesus's example is still relevant and significant in our society. Jesus, the Christ, still influences our society; with his words, with his deeds, with his commitment to humanity.

So, how do we as a faith community respond to this reality? Is it simply by living as if Jesus is showing up in our lives as the Christ, hands still scarred, bringing us peace, to be with us?

Is it that simple?

Because, when we pause long enough to wish our neighbors peace, ALL our neighbors near and far, then we are assured that Christ is there in the midst, just like he promised so long ago.

I think it is that simple. What do you think?

In faith,
Rev. Holly



Women's Guild

Women's Guild Program, Tuesday April 2nd. This is a "Bring-Your-Own-Sandwich Lunch", at Noon, followed by a program conducted by a member of Georgetown's Police Dept. on the subject of scams. We'll hear the straight story on scamming and how we can protect ourselves from the myriad forms it takes. Your questions will be welcomed.

Jean, Joan, Judy & Nancy
The Guild's Steering Committee

**Women's Guild Program
Tuesday, April 2 @12pm**



Penny Bowl - Update

The Penny Bowl at our Coffee Hours, sponsored by the Women's Guild, is now saving donations for the work of the Community Giving Tree, located at the Second Congregational Church of West Boxford. This organization, in coordination with licensed social workers, helps underserved children living in the Merrimack Valley. Supplies for babies, collected year-round, are a top priority. Low-income families often have to choose between food on the table or a package of diapers. We can help by donating our loose change and dollar bills to the Penny Bowl while enjoying our Coffee Hour socializing. During the last two months, the Penny Bowl has gathered \$71.87 in donations! This demonstrates how amazing it is to save loose change! When we hit \$100, diapers and related supplies will be purchased and delivered to our next-door Boxford mission. **MANY THANKS!!**



The Penny Bowl has gathered \$71.87 in donations!

Women's Guild, Cont...

"**HEY, SAVE THE EARTH** is a dramatization AND dessert event planned for Tuesday May 7th @1pm, presented by the Just Peace players. Bring a friend or two to this event. We are asking for reservations so as to provide enough dessert! There is no charge. A basket will be available for donations for the actors if you choose to give one. **THE PRESENTATION IS AN ORIGINAL PLAY ABOUT THE BIRDS AND ANIMALS WHO SHARE OUR PLANT.**



**HEY SAVE THE EARTH
Dramatization & Dessert**

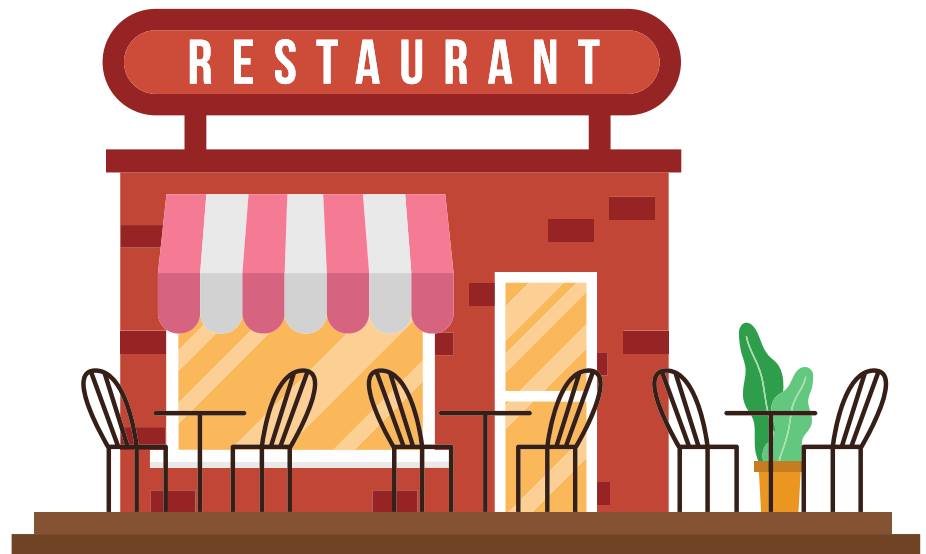
FREE

Tuesday, May 7 @1pm



Restaurant Outing

Tuesday, June 4th is scheduled for our noontime restaurant outing at the Roma in Bradford, a wonderful venue where we enjoy the privacy of our own room.



Tuesday June 4th

Calling All Graduates

Calling all graduates! Are you or a family member graduating from school? This graduation can be from kindergarten, high school, vocational school, college, and/or graduate school! Please let us know so we at FCCG can celebrate the achievement during worship on Graduation Sunday, June 9th. While we love the graduates to participate, attendance is not necessary for the church community to recognize such an exciting accomplishment. Send us a message or give us a call at the church office with the graduates name, where they are graduating from and any pertinent details you wish to share. Thank you!



Are you or a family member graduating from school?

Church Book Club

The First Congregational Church Book Club meets monthly from September through June, generally on the last Wednesday of the month. Book Club reads from a variety of genres including fiction, classics, non-fiction, memoirs and biographies. Members suggest and select titles in June for the following season.

Each month's session is on ZOOM but may be hosted by one or two members of the group, either in one's own home, in the Guild Room at church or at another site. Café Sarina and Camp Denison have been some favorite locations for the get-togethers. After a discussion of the book, everyone enjoys refreshments, provided



**Agent Josephine
Wednesday April 24th**

Men's Group

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

Next meeting is Saturday, April 13th.

**Men's Group
Cafe Sarina
April 13 @ 8am**



FROM THE HILL



First Congregational Church of Georgetown's monthly newsletter

April 2024

Movie Night



The Boys In The Boat
Saturday, April 27 @5pm



2024 Easter Flowers



Given By

In Memory or In Honor Of

Nancy & Richard Aberman

Thomas Scale & Avi Aberman

The Brock Family

Rodney Brock & Lorraine Jette

Toni Cassidy and Family

Loved Ones ♥

Marie & Tom Chaffee

Peachy, Neale & Janice Birdsall,
Chris Maller & Our Parents



David Clinton

Russel & Dorothy Clinton and Donn Chatterton

Donna & Steven DeSisto

Donald & Muriel Gordon

Pam, Wendy, & Jennifer

Marion & Richard Harding

Karen & Tim Harris Family

The Harris & Driscoll Loved Ones

Sylvia Johnston

Loved Ones

The Murphy Family

Benedetta Murphy, Jim & Betty Blomley
Virginia Chappie & Pam Adie

Jean R. Perley

Loved Ones

Shirley Powell

Loved Ones

Pam Sheehan

Joe & Carol Sheehan

The Stead Family

Loved Ones



April 2024



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|--|------------------|---|
| <p>Note: Red=Church Service Black=Church Group Purple=Team Mtg. Blue=Outside Group</p> | <p>1 6 PM GTW</p> | <p>2 Noon Women's Guild 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Band</p> | <p>3 7 PM Boy Scouts</p> | <p>4 6 PM GTW</p> | <p>5</p> | <p>6 6:30 PM Light & Dark JT Turner as Robert Frost (5 PM Pasta Supper)</p> |
| <p>7 10:30 AM Worship 6 PM GTW</p> | <p>8 6 PM GTW</p> | <p>9 10 AM Bible Study 6 PM Finance 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Band</p> | <p>10 7 PM Missions 7 PM Boy Scouts</p> | <p>11 6 PM GTW 7 PM Knitting</p> | <p>12</p> | <p>13 8 AM Men's Breakfast Café Sarina</p> |
| <p>14 10:30 AM Worship 11:45 AM Wired World 12:30 PM Diaconate 6 PM GTW</p> | <p>15 6 PM GTW 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Band</p>  | <p>16 10 AM Bible Study</p>  | <p>17 6:30 PM Council 7 PM Boy Scouts</p> | <p>18 6 PM GTW</p> | <p>19</p> | <p>20 10 AM Care Package Event New Heart Bible Chapel (Old VFW)</p> |
| <p>21 9:30 AM Bell Choir 10:30 AM Worship 6 PM GTW 11:45 AM Wired World</p> | <p>22 6 PM GTW</p> | <p>23 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Band</p> | <p>24 7 PM Book Club 7 PM Boy Scouts</p> | <p>25 6 PM GTW 6 PM Christian Dev. 7 PM Knitting</p> | <p>26</p> | <p>27 5 PM Movie Night</p> |
| <p>28 9:30 AM Band 10:30 AM Worship 6 PM GTW</p> | <p>29 6 PM GTW 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Band</p> | <p>30 10 AM Bible Study</p> |  | | | |

SAVE THE DATE



**Strawberry Social & Band Concert
Thursday, June 20th
6-8 PM**

“Enjoy the First Day of Summer on our Church Lawn”

**“Due to increases in prices for strawberries and supplies
monetary donations will be greatly appreciated.**

**Checks can be payable to
First Congregational Church
and note it is for the Strawberry Social
or contact Emily or Janice”**

Raffle Items Needed

More information will be in the May & June newsletters

In case of rain the social will be in Fellowship Hall.

Any questions contact Emily Knapp or Janice Murphy



First Congregational
Church of Georgetown

Presents

Robert Frost:

Light & DARK



Performed by JT Turner

Robert Frost was described by a friend as "a great poet but a bad man". Celebrate National Poetry Month as America's great poet comes to life in this highly-praised one-man show.

Saturday
April 6th
6:30 PM

Adults \$20
Students
Under 18 / over 60 \$10
Seniors
Families \$40
1 or 2 Adults & immediate
family under 18

7 Andover St.
Georgetown, MA

To order tickets on-line

Tickets available at the door

To reserve tickets and pay on
the night of the show call
978-352-8443

[Click Here](#)

PASTA SUPPER

Come early and
enjoy a pasta dinner
at no charge.

Free will offering
accepted

No charge
for supper



Free will
offering

Proceeds to benefit a
church mission project

April 6th 5-6 PM

On the surface, Frost seems to have been wildly successful. His four Pulitzers would attest to that. He wrote some of the signature American poems including "Mending Wall," "Birches," "Road Not Taken" and "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening."

All the while Frost struggled. He went to Dartmouth. He went to Harvard. But he never graduated from either. His first son, Elliot, died of the flu at age 4. A daughter, Eleanor Bettina, died three days after birth. A sister died in an insane asylum. His wife died in 1938, when he was 60. Another daughter, Marjorie, died in childbirth. A son, Carol, committed suicide. As Frost put it, "Everything I know about life I can sum up in three words: It goes on."

Recommended for ages 8 and up.

About J.T. Turner:

J. T. Turner is an award-winning professional actor, director & writer, member of SAG-AFTRA & AEA. He tours in-person and virtually throughout North America with his original programs about Dickens, Muir, Frost, Franklin, Shakespeare, Aesop, C.S. Lewis & Washington Irving, among others. For many years he, along with Sandy Nason, led MOONLIGHT PRODUCTIONS, a theater group that presented many



musicals and plays locally, many in this church. He has also shared his talents offering skits and special programs as part of our worship services.

Turner recently served as a historical consultant and commentator for The Travel Channel's "Salem Live", and is also a professional lecturer, fight choreographer, circus ringmaster, taichi/qigong/meditation instructor, and public speaking coach.

Order tickets below or call the church at 978-352-8443


Tickets will also be available at the door

Zeffy contribution is optional but helps our church receive 100% of the ticket price.

Any issues regarding ticket purchase please send a message [here](#) or call the church

Adult General admission


\$20.00

Child & Senior General Admission

\$10.00


Under 16 or Over 60

Family General Admission

\$40.00

For 1 or 2 Adults and immediate family under age 16

Did you know ? When you give on any other platform, up to 10% of your gift is used to cover fees. We choose to fundraise on Zeffy to receive 100% of your gift.

Select



OPERATION TROOP SUPPORT

HELP US  HELP THEM

Care Package Event

Open to the Public

Sponsored By

American Legion Rene J. Gagnon Post 211
and the New Heart Bible Chapel

**Come Help Us Pack Boxes
Shipping To Our Deployed Troops**



**April 20th, 2024
10 AM**

New Heart Bible Chapel (old VFW)
435 Andover Street, Route 133
Georgetown, MA 01833



**Donations of needed items for care
packages can be brought at this time.
Monetary contributions are always
welcome for postage.**

Over the past 21 years, Operation Troop Support has sent over a million packages to our military men and women serving our country through an overseas deployment. Due to the unsettled events across the globe, and the economic challenges here at home, we are asking for help in meeting the constantly increasing demand for items to allow us to continue our mission. If you are able to provide any assistance in this regard, our American soldiers will be extremely grateful.

The following items are needed (small sizes are preferred):

Supplies:

Pens, Black Markers, Business Envelopes, Copy Paper, Gallon and Quart Ziplok Bags.

Food Items:

non-perishable single serving items, such as Mac & Cheese, Ramon Noodles, soups
small 6-packs of applesauce, mandarin oranges, etc.
small cans of tuna salad, chicken salad, etc.
chips, cookies, crackers, pretzels

Toiletries:

Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, shaving cream (no aerosol containers)
Tooth Brushes, Tooth Paste, shaving razors, mouth wash,
Tissues, cotton swabs, band aids dental floss, gauze pads

Miscellaneous:

Paperback Books, Playing cards, puzzle books,
Greeting cards to send home, small notebooks
Postage stamps

In addition to the above, our postage expense is quite high, so monetary donations are always appreciated.

Items may be collected and dropped off at 16 Trinity Street, Danvers, MA. Please call the undersigned with any questions. Thank you for caring for our soldiers.

Dick Moody, LCol USAF (Ret)
Founder and Director
Operation Troop Support
978-836-2395

FROM THE HILL



Church Info

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ministers | The Congregation |
| Pastor..... | Reverend Holly S. Brauner |
| Director of Music..... | Robert Knapp |
| Organist..... | Emily Knapp |
| Sexton..... | Kimberlee Knapp |
| Office Administrator | Angie |
| Moderator..... | |
| Clerk..... | Toni Cassidy |
| Finance..... | Kristen Arsenault |
| Diaconate..... | Toni Cassidy |
| Property..... | JoAnne Kelly and Tom Johnson |
| Christian Development..... | Marie Birdsall-Chaffee |
| Missions..... | Rachel Angerhofer |
| Collector..... | Robert Knapp |
| Member-at-Large..... | Susan Stead |

Church Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Rev. Holly's Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

and by appointment (781) 632-8964

Pastor Email: pastor@fccgeorgetownma.org

Office Phone: (978) 352-8443

Office Email: churchoffice@fccgeorgetownma.org

Website: www.fccgeorgetownma.org



First Congregational Church of Georgetown
PO Box 200
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Georgetown, MA 01833

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978-352-8443

Our Mission:

“To nurture those in our faith community and to act on our faith by reaching out to others.”