

First Congregational Church of Georgetown's monthly newsletter

May 2024

Dear Church,

June, here at FCC, is the month of the delicious Strawberry Social (June 20th this year) out on the church lawn (weather permitting!) to celebrate this season of fresh fruit, in a biscuit with whipped cream (or ice cream). Juicy strawberries and cream over a freshly baked biscuit. What could be better? God's love abounds!

June is also "Pride" month, when we take time out to celebrate humanity in all its iterations, each one of us made in God's image, fully loved and divinely inspired. We lift up and celebrate with pride all humans who identify as LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, and questioning). Here at FCC Georgetown, as an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ, we recognize and rejoice in God's love that is there for all God's children.

During Pride month, we are reminded by Jesus's teachings, that God loves Every. Single. Human. Being. God loves each person regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation, even and especially folks who are still on their path to discovering how God has made them unique. And as God loves, so too, we are encouraged and exhorted to love - Extravagantly.

This is the life-giving love that God introduced in the time of creation. Perfect love. And we, as a community of faith, strive to live and to love like Jesus did, with awareness of the Christ light within each person we meet, day after day.

As long as one person in the world suffers from persecution, hate crimes or other life limiting messages or treatment because of their gender or sexual identity, we, the Church, are called to advocate for these who have been pushed aside, punished or otherwise marginalized.

And during Pride month, we are encouraged to celebrate with our LGBTQ siblings, as they speak and live out their authentic identities, living into their fully loved selves, just as God intended on the day of their birth.

May God help us lead with love, just as Jesus did, fully and with abandon. In faith,

Rev. Holly

















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Shall FCC become a W.I.S.E CONGREGATION?

Let's explore this together. Anyone interested in learning more is invited to a meeting right after worship **(11:45 am) on June 2nd**, in the Guild room.

Some of you may wonder, What is a W.I.S.E. Congregation?

A WISE congregation/organization has joined the mission to being Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged in the Mental Health of the community and the wider world.

A small group of FCC folks attended a short presentation on this opportunity, and is interested in exploring this possibility further. All are welcome to join this meeting on June 2nd at 11:45 am to see if we might move forward here at FCC to become W.I.S.E.

In the meantime, if you would like to research on your own, go to this link below.

https://www.mhn-ucc.org/becoming-wise/#



Women's Guild - Final Meeting for the Spring

The Women's Guild is planning to hold their June meeting at the Roma Restaurant in Bradford on Tuesday, June 4th at Noon. Carpooling will be from the Church at 11:30 a.m.

We are hoping to have the small cozy room, near the river, that we've enjoyed in the past. We have reserved this room, but it is undergoing some renovation at present. We're keeping fingers crossed it will be ready by June 4th.

If not, there will be a setup for us in the larger room. A summer hiatus will follow during July and August, with our meetings resuming on Tuesday, September 3rd.

The Steering Committee: Jean, Joan, Judy and Nancy

MEN'S GROUP Saturday, June 8th @ Cafe Sarina

The Men's Group meets on the second Saturday of each month.





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Our 38th Annual

Spring Pops Concert



Featuring

The Dane Street Community Concert Band and The Avocates

Free Admission! All are invited!

Friday June 7th 7:30 p.m.

10 Dane Street

Beverly, Massachusetts

978-922-4235

Our Neighbors' Table's New Salisbury Market

Opens June 6th! 114 Bridge Road (Rt. 1), Salisbury

The Amesbury Market will TEMPORARILY closed for renovations. During the renovations, the Salisbury Market will be open the exact same hours as Amesbury.

Salisbury Market (Starting June 6th):

Thursday: 10am - 6:30pm Friday: 9am - 3pm Saturday: 9am - 1pm

After the 6-8 week renovation period, there will be TWO markets available to meet your shopping needs and you will still be able to shop a total of once per week.

Our Neighbor's Table Markets are open to residents of Amesbury, Boxford, Byfield, Georgetown, Groveland, Merrimac, Newburyport, Salisbury, South Hampton (NH) & West Newbury.

> www.ourneighborstable.org 978-388-1907



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GRADUATION SUNDAY! JUNE 9TH

Jillian Bridges

College of Charleston

Magna Cum Laude
BS Political Science
(Concentration in Philosophy and Law)
Minor in Crime, Law & Society

Holly Harris

University of Tampa
BS in Criminology
Minor in Law

Hannah Lamoureaux

University of Maine

BS in Business Administration,
Specializing in Marketing and Management

Lyla Schneider

Georgetown High School Valedictorian

Committed to WPI Bio / Bio Engineering



JUNE 14TH
JULY 17
AUGUST 21
SEPTEMBER 18TH
4PM - 8PM

Walk by Moonlight is an evening program by small businesses, for small businesses.

Explore Georgetown, get to know local establishments, and enjoy a fun community-based night out with friends and family on our walking tours.

FCC will have a table at this event! Come and join the fun!

GEORGETOWN

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Strawberry Social & Band Concert

Thursday, June 20th 6-8 PM

"Enjoy the First Day of Summer on our Church Lawn"

Help is needed with hulling, serving, set up and clean up. Sign up sheets will be available starting May 26th.

"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

In case of rain the social will be in Fellowship Hall. Any questions contact Emily Knapp or Janice Murphy



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Kaczmarek Studio Recital June 21st





Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, June 25 at 7 p.m. via Zoom**. Please note this is a departure from our usual Wednesday meeting due to church service on Wednesday. We will be discussing *Daughters of the Flower Fragrant Garden:* Two Sisters Separated by China's Civil War by Zhuqing Li.

For Zoom Link:

https://fccgeorgetownma.org/ministries/

857 9842 9936

Select: "Book Club', then 'What We are Reading'



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BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The Missions Team is partnering with The Community Giving Tree in their 2024 Back to School Supply Drive. Your contributions would be greatly appreciated! Please bring your school supplies to the Missions table in Fellowship Hall by no later than Sunday, June 23, and we'll deliver them to Community Giving Tree. Many thanks! Rachel, Nancy, Ruth, and Marie

BRAND NEW School Supplies Needed

Markers Pencil Sharpeners

Highlighters Glue Sticks

Crayons Single Subject

Colored Notebooks

Pencils Folders

Pens Lined Paper

Pencils Rulers

Pencil Scissors

COLLECTION DATES UNTIL 6/25

We are collecting open packages of the items above as long as they are **not previously used and in brand new condition.**

*We are also collecting gently used backpacks.

Boxford Giving Center, 572B Main Street,

Boxford

Lawrence Giving Center, 60 Island Street,

Lawrence



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Summer Worship Schedule edited!

Edited!

<u>Our</u> last Sunday service will be on **Sunday, June 30th.** as we transition to our Wednesday evening worship series.

We will start our Wednesday Evening worhsip series on **Wednesday**, **July 10th at 7 pm**. As we have done for years, we will gather for a simple meal at 6:30, with worship at 7 pm.

Potluck on July 10th to start our the summer.

Bring your friends, invite your neighbors. All are welcome at FCC G-Town! God is Love, Always.

Sunday worship resumes on September 8th.



Sunday, June 30th: 10:0am

The Lord of Life has given us one of the most beautiful blessings of this world - our beloved four-legged friends. On June 30th at 10:30am, the Church will return to our animals the wonderful blessings they deserve.

Weather permitting, we will hold the blessing on the Church lawn: Animals should be leashed or caged, or please bring a photograph of present or former friends to be blessed. In the case of rain, we will hold the service inside the sanctuary and ask that you bring a photograph of your beloved pet(s).

Also, in honor of our pets, we will collect any donations of new or used blankets, toys, and equipment, as well as pet food and monetary contributions, and give them to the MSPCA at Nevins Farm.



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Blac Purp	e: =Church Service k=Church Group ble=Team Mtg. =Outside Group					1
2 9:30 AM Bell Choir 10:30 AM Worship	3	4 10 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Women's Guild 7 PM Band	5 7 PM Boy Scouts	6 7 PM Band	7	8 8 AM Men's Breakfast Café Sarina
9 9:30 AM Woodwinds 10:30 AM Worship Achievement Sunday 12 PM Diaconate	10	11 10 AM Bible Study 6 PM Finance 7 PM Band	12 7 PM Missions 7 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Band	13 7 PM Band 7 PM Knitting	14 4 PM Walk By Moonlight	15 move night
9:30 AM Band 10:30 AM Worship	7 PM Band HAPPY BUNKER HILL	10 AM Bible Study 7 PM Band Newsletter DEADLINE	19 6:30 PM Council 7 PM Band Kaczmarek Rehears.	20 6-8 PM Strawberry Social	21 5-8:30 PM Kaczmarek Recital	22
23 10:30 AM Worship	24	25 10 AM Bible Study 7 PM Book Club	26	27 6 PM Christian Dev. 7 PM Knitting	28	29