

FROM THE HILL



First Congregational Church of Georgetown's Monthly Newsletter

February 2025

FROM PASTOR HOLLY

Dear Church, January 2025

As I close out my time with you as your pastor, I want to say thank you! And just like I wrote in my annual report recently, it has been fun and enlightening walking with you these past 4 years. You are kind people, with big hearts and very focused on taking care of each other. I have learned much from this show of commitment among you.

I appreciate all the gifts that are represented here in this congregation:

The gift of music – each and every Sunday, led and directed with trumpet, flute, French horn, and all the rest, including a guitar (!) and drums from time to time!

The gift of baking/cooking – church people love to eat! This place is no exception.

The gift of kindness – you are good to each other! And how good is that!

The gift of compassionate service – a core of authentic Christian faith is servant leadership. Serving one another, giving of self for the good of humanity. There are some of you who have a deep commitment to serving the wider community in this way. This is how they know we are people of faith.

The gift of commitment to this place – a small team of people is getting an awful lot done here at FCC. I wonder if others of you reading this might consider joining in the leadership to lighten the load of the small team of leaders. We learn so much more when we work together for the good of all.

I would invite you to consider how you might spread your gifts out and beyond these walls of the church. It is good to be reminded, every once in a while, that Jesus did not build a church, he built a movement.

In the Spirit of loving kindness, I leave you with this challenge: to consider how your hands and feet communicate to the rest of the world that: God is here, up close and personal; God cares deeply for each and every human walking this beautiful, broken world; Jesus showed us how to love and we follow in his path; and all are welcome to join us on this road.

You will be in my heart in the months ahead as you discern next steps for your faith community, and I pray that you count whole-ly on God's shining light to guide you.

In Faith, Rev. Holly Sawyer Brauner

STEWARDSHIP

We thank all those who have contributed to the 2025 pledge drive.

If you have not already done so, please take a few moments to fill out your pledge card and bring it to church, or mail it to
7 Andover Street, Georgetown, Attn: Collector.

We ask that you do what you can and please remember that every gift counts!

Thank you.

Toni Cassidy,
George Comiskey &
Sylvia Johnston

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

February 11th

Death Cafe - Coffee, Cake, and Conversation

2nd Tuesday of every month

Rowley Public Library, 141 Main Street, Rowley

Contact: angie#illstandbyyou.net

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Guild will take a winter hiatus and regroup at their Tuesday, March 4th meeting when we'll be welcoming Gladie Kneeland as our guest speaker. As always, we look forward to Gladie's visit, and at the same time celebrate the coming of spring!

The Guild sponsors the Coffee Hour Penny Bowl. These contributions of loose change and dollar bills is benefiting Fostering Hope, an organization based in West Newbury that seeks to support children as they enter foster care by providing basic necessities and personal care items.

Fostering Hope is a "bridge" between church communities and families who are fostering children, and the children who are in need of the loving care provided by these families. As a congregation, we are learning how we can help build that bridge! Your support is greatly appreciated!

Jean, Joan, Judy & Nancy,
The Steering Committee of the Guild

W.I.S.E. CHURCH MEETING - FEBRUARY 16TH

There will be a W.I.S.E. Church meeting after worship on Sunday, February 16th.

SENIOR CITIZENS' FREE LUNCHEONS

All seniors are invited to join us for our 2024-2025 Senior Citizens' Luncheon gatherings at Byfield Parish Church in Georgetown.

These luncheons help provide an opportunity for seniors to gather in community over a hot meal and devotional time.

Luncheons are FREE to ALL attendees. Come as you are and join us! All luncheons begin promptly at 11:30am and hot lunch is served at 12:00pm.

Please RSVP by calling our church office at least 2 days prior to each luncheon, 978-352-2022.

BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE

2/26: The Witching Hour by Margaret Meyer

3/26: American Jezebel by Eva LaPlante

4/30: The Collected Regrets of Clover by Mikki Brammer

5/28: The Lioness of Boston by Emily Franklin

6/25: The Museum of Failures by Thrity Umrigar



As always, check the website for the Zoom link, under 'Ministries'

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MISSIONS TEAM

This year, 2025, the FCC Missions/Outreach Team will be lifting up and supporting a different mission/project every couple of months. More details forthcoming.

In the meantime, for January and February, we are collaborating with Our Neighbor's Table.

At this time, we are collecting the following items for our neighbors in need.

Personal Care Items:

Shampoo & Soap

Toothpaste & Toothbrushes

Deodorant

Razors

Feminine Products

Incontinence Supplies

Diapers sizes 4, 5 and 6

Please bring your donations to the Fellowship Hall and place by the Missions Bulletin Board in the Long Room.

Stay tuned for more information on the good work that you help do with the Mission Team's guidance.

And Thank you!

The FCC Mission/Outreach Team

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Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Rev. Holly's Office Hours:

Tuesdays 10AM to 1PM & Thu 9AM to 12PM

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



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Lunch and Learn: Authentic Church: Finding New Ministries Amidst Old Challenges

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025, 12 - 1 pm via Zoom

Hear Rev. Pam Werntz tell the story of her congregation's chapel camp, a summer program that came out of decision to embrace a challenge (low attendance in the summer months) and create a way to deepen relationship, build community, and above all, have fun together.

[Link to Register](#)

Community Organizing Inside the Congregation

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM ET

The tools of community organizing help us to listen deeply to the needs of a community and plan effective change. This interactive workshop will provide a brief introduction (or refresher) on the basics of community organizing. The skills introduced will help lay and clergy leaders respond to the congregation's needs and connect meaningfully with volunteers and community members.

[Link to Register](#)

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Traveling Chef

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 @ 12pm
Jazz Program @ 1pm
RSVP

February Crafts

Collage Art: February 12 @ 11:30AM
Jewelry with Deb: Pearl Bracelet: February 26 @ 10:30am

Helpful iPhone Tools

Wednesday, February 26th @ 1PM

Energize and Strength Class

Perfect for all fitness levels.
Thursdays @ 1PM

Ongoing Activities

BINGO: 2nd & 4th Mondays @ 12:30pm
Quilting Group: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 12PM
Mah Jongg: Wednesdays @ 12:30
Knitting / Crochet Group: Thursdays @ 9:30am

Council on Aging Website



February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Note Red=Church Service Black=Church Group Purple=Team Meeting Blue=Outside Group</p>						1
2 10:30 AM Worship 12 Noon Diaconate 3 PM GTW	3 6 PM GTW	4 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Band	5 3 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM Boy Scouts	6 6 PM GTW	7	8 8 AM Men's Group Café Serina 5 PM <i>Dinner Supper</i>
9 10:30 AM Worship  3 PM GTW	10 6 PM GTW	11 6 PM Finance 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Band	12 3 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM Missions 7 PM Boy Scouts	13 6 PM GTW	14 	15
16 10:30 AM Worship 3 PM GTW	17  WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY 6 PM GTW	18 10:30 Girl Scouts 4:30 Girl Scouts 	19 3 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Council 7 PM Boy Scouts	20 6 PM GTW	21	22
23 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 Annual Meeting 3 PM GTW	24 6 PM GTW	25 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Band	26 3 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM Book Club 7 PM Boy Scouts	27 6 PM GTW	28	