

America at 250: Striving for a More Perfect Union

As the United States prepares to mark its 250th anniversary in July, our congregation will begin a worship series titled “America at 250: Striving for a More Perfect Union.” Borrowed from the preamble to the United States Constitution, the phrase reminds us that democracy is not a finished achievement but an ongoing calling. Like faith itself, it invites us into continual reflection, repentance, and renewal.

Through scripture, prayer, song, and preaching, we will explore what the Bible has to say about justice, freedom, community, and our shared responsibility for the common good. Drawing on the voices of the prophets, the teachings of Jesus, and the wisdom of our Christian tradition, we will consider how our faith speaks to the promise and the unfinished work of American democracy.

This series is not about partisan politics, but about faithful citizenship – how we love our neighbors not only through personal kindness, but also by supporting systems and structures that uphold dignity, fairness, and inclusion.

As we approach America’s semiquincentennial, “A More Perfect Union” offers an opportunity to celebrate our nation’s highest ideals, to be honest about where we have fallen short, and to renew our commitment to a future shaped by compassion, integrity, and justice. Join us on Sundays from May 31 through June 14 for this timely and hope-filled series as we seek God’s guidance in the ongoing work of building a more just and beloved country.



~Rev. Marie

AMERICA AT 250 WORSHIP SERIES: STRIVING FOR A MORE PERFECT UNION

Sunday, May 31
“We the People”

Sunday, June 7
“With Liberty and Justice for All”

Sunday, June 14
“We Hold These Truths”

Summer Worship Schedule

Many of our parishioners have expressed an interest in partnering with our fellow UCC churches. So, we are excited to announce that over the summer, FCC will be worshipping together with the First Congregational Church of Rowley.

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO WORSHIP SERVICE AT FCC ON JUNE 28.

Session 1: Sundays, July 5, 12, 19, 26

Worship will be held at 9:30 am at the Rowley UCC.
175 Main Street, Rowley

Session 2: Wednesdays, August 5, 12, 19, 26, September 2

Worship will be held at 7:00 pm at FCC.
A light supper will be served at 6:30 pm.



THANK YOU, SHERRY!

A **GIGANTIC** thank you to **Sherry Kenney** for generously volunteering time and talent to paint the stairs in both the front and the side of the church! What an improvement!

This fresh new look not only brightens our space but also helps make our church safer and more welcoming for everyone who enters. We are **deeply grateful** for the care, hard work, and dedication shown in this project. Thank you for helping keep our church beautiful!





Blessing of the Animals



Sunday, June 21, 2026, 10:30 am
First Congregational Church
7 Andover Street, Georgetown, MA

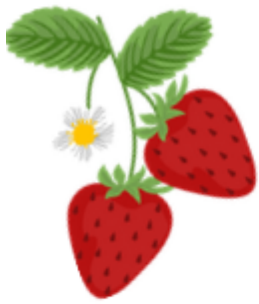
Everyone is invited to bring their pets
for a special blessing during our
outdoor worship service (in Fellowship
Hall if it rains). Stuffed animals are
also welcome!



If you have more of a "stay-at-home"
pet or if your beloved pet has left
this world, please bring a photo.

Donations of pet food, towels,
leashes, etc. will be collected for the
benefit of the MSPCA at Nevins Farm
in Methuen, MA.





STRAWBERRY SOCIAL & BAND CONCERT



**ENJOY THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER
ON OUR CHURCH LAWN**



**TUESDAY
JUNE 23RD**



6:00 PM – 8:00 PM



**LIVE BAND
PERFORMANCE**

Due to the increased cost of strawberries and supplies, monetary donations will be greatly appreciated. Use the QR code below for electronic donations or checks can be made payable to **First Congregational Church,** memo: Strawberry Social.

Raffle items are also needed!



**Any questions, contact:
EMILY KNAPP, JANICE MURPHY, KRISTEN ARSENAULT**

Living Our Faith This Summer



As summer begins, many of us find ourselves slowing down just enough to notice God's presence in new ways – in gardens and beaches, family gatherings, quiet mornings, and shared meals with friends.

The United Church of Christ reminds us that faith is not confined to worship services alone. We are called to live our values of compassion, welcome, justice, and love in our everyday lives and communities.

This season, may we continue seeking connection with one another, caring for our neighbors, and finding joy in the simple gifts around us. Whether through worship, fellowship, outreach, music, reading, or moments of quiet reflection, we pray that this summer brings renewal and peace to all.

Book Club



The FCC Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, June 24th at 7:00pm** to discuss ***The Martha's Vineyard Beach and Book Club*** by Martha Hall Kelly.

Set between WWII-era Martha's Vineyard and 2016, ***The Martha's Vineyard Beach and Book Club*** by Martha Hall Kelly follows two sisters who form a women's book club during the war, finding friendship and strength amid uncertainty and hidden secrets. In the present day, Mari Starwood uncovers surprising connections to the island's past while grieving her mother's death.

Blending mystery, romance, and family drama, the novel is a heartfelt story about resilience, community, and the lasting power of stories.

The Book Club meets **via Zoom** so everyone may join, near or far! Sign on by navigating to the church website. Then, select Ministries / What We Are Reading. The link will connect directly to Zoom.

Knitting Circle



June Gatherings

Whether you're an experienced knitter or simply interested in learning, everyone is welcome to join our cozy and friendly knitting circle.

Come enjoy conversation, creativity, and community with us starting at **7:00 PM:**

June 11

June 25

We'd love to see you there!



Men's Group



Saturday
June 13th



8:00 am



Cafe Sarina
Georgetown

All Are Welcome



Voting Results for FCC's Future

After our all-congregation visioning meeting on May 3, we took a straw vote (unbinding) with regard to parishioners' **preferences for the future of FCC**. We asked folks to rank six options in priority order. For those who were unable to attend the meeting, we also circulated a Google survey with the same question.

The majority of Individuals who attended the May 3 meeting ranked Option 6 (close to the public for a period of time and renovate downstairs) as either their first or second choice. The results were more balanced on the Google survey, with Option 2 (continuing as we are today) receiving the same number of top priority votes as Option 6. There was also a significant number of first and second choice votes cast for Option 4 (sell our building and if possible, lease back part of it or rent space nearby).

At the May Council meeting, it was decided that we should organize "Innovation Teams" to further explore Options 4 and 6 over the summer and report back to the congregation this fall.

Join an Innovation Team!

FCC's Council is seeking volunteers for two Innovation Teams. The "**Option 4 Team**" will look into the possibility of selling our church building and renting space for worship and other events. Rev. Marie has identified an organization that works with churches to redevelop their property, and, in some cases, the congregation has the ability to lease back part of the building without the cost and headaches of facilities maintenance. Members of the team would meet with that organization and with local commercial realtors and prepare a report of their findings.

The "**Option 6 Team**" would start to develop an identity for a "new" church/spiritual center; explore branding and marketing possibilities; create a draft calendar of community outreach events; and begin designing an interior renovation plan for Fellowship Hall and the Long Room.

If you'd like to join one of these exciting teams, please **contact Rev. Marie** ideally before June 7 (pastor@fccgeorgetownma.org).

Scouts Court of Honor



Everyone is invited to an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Ella Studer, Jordan Alves, Noah Shupenko, and Niam Shah at FCC on **Saturday, June 6 at 4:00 pm**. A casual dinner will follow in the Fellowship Hall.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

🌿 Each day we have an opportunity to lift in prayer many things – concerns, joys, confusions, doubts, and the needs of neighbors, friends, or family. What are your prayers for today?

🕊️ Take time to pray...

Be mindful that you are a beloved child of God. Breathe in that love, and breathe out any cares or concerns.

🙏 Prayers:

- For the people of Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo during the Ebola outbreak.
- For the families left bereft after the San Diego Islamic Center shooting.
- For the miners and their families after the coal mine explosion in China.
- For those who were killed or burned in the explosion in Maine.
- For comfort and healing for Sylvia, Lori, JoEllen, Lisa, Jacob, and Michael.
- For all who are graduating this year, may their future be bright!
- For our military personnel and for the people of the Middle East during this time of war. May peace soon prevail.
- That our leaders will rule from a place of wisdom, compassion, and restraint.

EVERYONE NEEDS A LITTLE GOOD NEWS!

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<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org>



June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 12 Noon Guild 3 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM Bells 7:30 PM Band	3	4 7 PM Band	5	6  EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR 3 PM
7 9:30 AM Bells 10:30 AM Worship	8	9 6 PM Finance 7 PM Band	10	11 3:30 PM Kasmarek Rehearsal 7 PM Band 7 PM Knitting	12	13 8 AM Men's Group Café Sarina 9 AM Kasmarek Recital
14 9:30 AM Band 10:30 AM Worship 6:30 PM Missions 7 PM Diaconate 	15 7 PM Band	16 7 PM Band	17 7 PM Council	18 7 PM Band 	19 	20
21 BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS 10:30 AM Worship 	22 7 PM Band	23  6-8 PM Strawberry Social & Band Concert	24 7 PM Book Club	25 7 PM Knitting	26	27
28 9:30 AM Worship Rowley Cong.	29	30	<p>Note Red=Church Service Black=Church Group Purple=Team Meeting Blue=Outside Group</p>			



Office Hours June 1 - June 13

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 AM - Noon



June 14 - Aug 30

Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Rev. Marie's Upcoming Office Hours

June 8, 10
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
or by appointment

Contact Information

Office Email: churchoffice@fccgeorgetownma.org

Rev. Marie's Email: pastor@fccgeorgetownma.org

Office Phone: (978) 352-8443

To Call or Text Rev. Marie: (978) 225-3086

