



**First Church Squantum  
Congregational**  
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## Annual Meeting Jun 12 after Worship

The Trustees and Deacons have settled on June 12 for the 2022 Annual Meeting of the First Church of Squantum. In addition to receiving the annual reports of the staff, boards and committees, the congregation will also receive updates on the budget, capital campaign, repairs to the church & parsonage, and proposals for sound systems for the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. What a remarkable year we have had! Let us celebrate what God has done in our midst and look forward to how God might be leading us together!

# The Light

*“We know that all things work together for good, for those who are called according to Christ’s purpose.” — Romans 8:28* June 2022

## Adding Energy to Grow

by Rev. Doug Gray

Remember when you were getting ready for a baby to come? There were classes to take, nurseries to get ready, physical health to take care of, health-care to arrange, names to pick out—all sorts of things to do to get ready. And that all took time and energy, didn’t it? But for our babies, for our partners, for our future, it was all worth it!

In a sense, our church fellowship is doing something similar—trying to help our fellowship into a new place after COVID. Before COVID, we understood that we had to add energy for our fellowship to get better—that’s why worship was so good we were growing, why our fellowship decided to step up for Impact Squantum (our capital campaign), why our Vacation Bible School was so vibrant—and it’s time for us to prioritize God in our lives again, to add energy to our fellowship, so that we can continue to grow!

Whether it’s a garden we are growing or a kid or a project or a relationship, if we want things to get better and grow, we will spend time and energy. This summer, won’t you give some thought to how you might add energy to the life of our fellowship? See “What Can I Do to Add Energy?” elsewhere in this issue.

## Worship Schedule for April

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title or Event</u>	<u>Reading/Scripture</u>
6-5-22	<b>Pentecost • Communion</b> True Freedom in Grace: How Rules Fit in the Gospel Life	Galatians 3:15–25
6-12-22	<b>Annual Meeting Sunday</b> True Freedom in Grace: Children of God	Galatians 3:26–4:7
6-19-22	<b>Father’s Day</b> True Freedom in Grace: Two Religions, Two Ministries	Galatians 4:8–20
6-26-22	<b>Guest Preacher: Rev. Joy Matos</b> Pastor Doug and Sally Padilla in Wichita for the NACCC Annual Meeting.	TBA
7-3-22	<b>Communion Sunday • July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend</b> True Freedom in Grace: Grace to the Unfruitful	Galatians 4:21–31



## Sunday School: Great Stories and Families of the Bible

It's official! Sunday School is continuing through the summer this year. This summer, each week students will explore the amazing stories of faith from the Bible. Who are some amazing people we can meet? How are they related? What can we learn

from them about life and love?

Each week is something new, so you can head out on vacation

and know you'll have fun in Sunday School when you get back! Thank you, Cynthia, for helping our kids know they are loved as they get to know God's love better!



## No Bible Study June 27 or July 4!

Pastor Doug and Sally Padilla are away at the NA Annual Meeting in Wichita, KS for June 27, and July 4 is...well... July 4. ☺

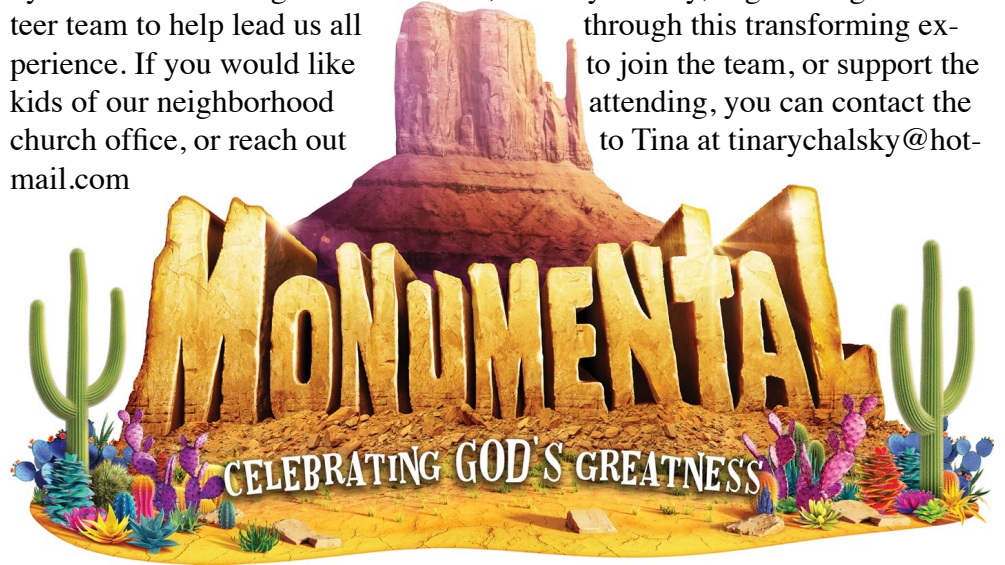
# “The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not be in want.”

— Psalm 23

## Monumental Vacation Bible School

### August 1–5 Evenings

Planning your summer? Looking for a “monumental experience” of God’s love for your kids, grandkids, and neighbors? Have we got something great for you! We’ll have catchy music, hilarious skits, fun games, creative science, and, best of all, learning through the Bible how much we are loved by God. Our amazing Director, Tina Rychalsky, is gathering a volunteer team to help lead us all through this transforming experience. If you would like to join the team, or support the kids of our neighborhood church office, or reach out to Tina at [tinarychalsky@hotmail.com](mailto:tinarychalsky@hotmail.com)



## Porchfest, June 25, 3–7p

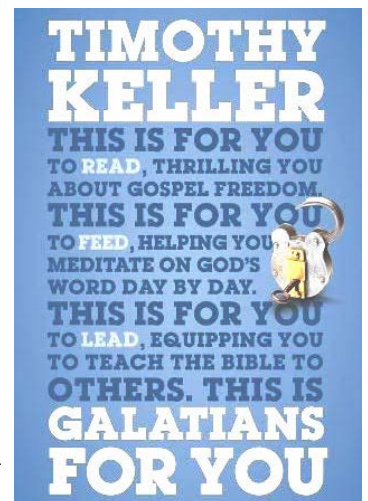
Last year, we fed the neighborhood, and brought in more money in donations than we would have by charging! Talk with Ellen or Judi to sign-up!

## True Freedom in Grace Monday Night Bible Study, 6:30p

What happens when we put God’s grace in the center of our lives? It changes everything! Timothy Keller writes, “The book of Galatians is dynamite. It is an explosion of joy and freedom which leaves us enjoying a deep significance, security and satisfaction—the life of blessing God calls His people into.” Continuing this month, we will explore Paul’s letter which



has on more than one occasion changed the world! Literally! Gone are the days of our enslavement to the measuring rods of the world, our parents, and other Christians. Now begin the days of the Lordship of Jesus Christ—but how does that mean freedom? Come with your questions and doubts. Come discover the life-changing hope at the core of life with Christ! Pastor Doug will be drawing on Timothy Keller’s book, *Galatians for You* (2013) as the foundation.





Above: The new portable PA system is a JBL Eon 208p. It has powerful sound and a beautiful design! Want to see it up close and personal? Hang around after worship for a tour.

### Thank You, Trustees! Temporary Fix to Sanctuary Sound

In May, the Trustees authorized the purchase of a portable PA system. This system is intended for use in Fellowship Hall and for outdoor events (like Porchfest), but we had a growing whine from interference from the cellular antenna. Though not enough to solve our issues in the long-run—see “Sound System in Need of Upgrading” elsewhere—the PA system has eliminated the interference. Thank You, God! And this portable system will open new opportunities for better events going into the future! Thanks to the Trustees for their help in making it so we aren’t distracted by the high-pitched whine ☺

### Birthdays in June

- Eileen Wainwright 6/13
- Stehanie Melnick 6/14
- Geno Bolden 6/23
- Val Richardson 6/28
- Kira Zlatanova 6/29

### Anniversary in June

Doug and Cynthia Gray 6/29



## “What Can I Do to Add Energy?”

We are so glad you asked! You could really help us grow into the future! Here are some quick ideas:

- Come to worship!** It’s the best thing we do for God, for each other, and for ourselves! Worship realigns our lives, so that all that we are and all that we do has more grace.
- Find something that feeds your heart and the heart of your family.** If it’s Bible study, great! If it’s helping with Sunday School, wonderful! Maybe we need to start some new groups or events? We let some things go during COVID, and it’s time to make things new!
- Find a regular way of helping our fellowship** for 1–2 hours each week.
  - Office help.** Before COVID, our office help was working 15 hours a week, and we chose not to fill that position, so we have lots to do around the office each week: bulletin boards that need updating, papers to copy, files to organize, sign-up sheets to update, reminders to send out, music to print and organize and more
  - Cleaning help.** Before COVID, our custodial staff was working 10 hours a week, and we chose to cut those hours in half, so we have lots of cleaning to do each week that our cleaning person doesn’t have time to do.
  - Yard help.** We have lots of weeding, trimming, and care that needs doing around the church and parsonage.
  - Fixing help.** We have lots of minor fix-it tasks around the church and parsonage: repairing tables and chairs, fixing gutters, replacing shutters, getting outlets to work, putting in doorstops, fixing soap dispensers, replacing light bulbs and thermostat batteries, etc.
- Help with one or more of our summer’s big events.** These are some of the ways we are going to be a blessing to our community:
  - Porchfest is June 25. Ellen Ogilvie and Judi Buckley are organizing that. We still need help setting up and cleaning up.
  - July 4<sup>th</sup> Float. Allison Williams is helping with that. We will need volunteers in the design and preparation departments, and then lots of help the morning of.
  - Vacation Bible School. Tina Rychalsky is directing again this year. We need help from decorating to leading stations to being a group leader and going around with the kids.
- Read the Bible and spend time in prayer.** Does this sound odd? But it’s true! As you think about God, you make space for the Holy Spirit to work in your life, and that makes all of what we do together better!



## “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

— Philippians 4:13





## Critical Needs at ISS

Inter-faith Social Services (ISS) is Quincy's outstanding, integrated services organization. (For more information, see elsewhere on this page. Here are the critical needs for donations this month:

Tuna  
 Canned meat  
 Cereal or oatmeal  
 Peanut butter & jelly  
 Healthy snacks for kids  
 Juice boxes  
 Shelf-stable milk, Rice  
 Canned soup  
 Mac & Cheese  
 Canned fruit or vegetables  
 Dry or canned beans  
 Condiments (incl. salt & pep)  
 Salad dressing  
 Gluten-free foods  
 Low-sodium canned items  
 Cooking oil / Olive oil  
 Diapers (size 4, 5 & 6)  
 Baby wipes  
 Personal care items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar soap (unscented), shampoo, wash

You can deliver them yourself, or you can leave them in or near the ISS bin in the Narthex. Every week or so, a Deacon takes the church's donations over to ISS from us. Your donations really do make a huge difference! Thank you!

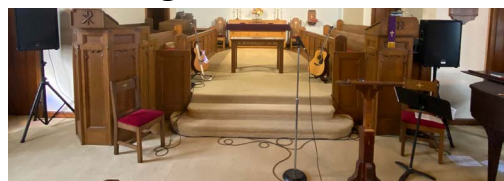
## Sound System in Need of Upgrading

Our sanctuary sound system is aging and not up to how dynamic our worship could be. Parts of the system date back to the 1960s or 1970s. The remainder of the system was purchased by our previous pastor, Rev. Mike Robertson, 12–15 years ago. While some of this may have been adequate for then, we are running into some major issues.

- 1. Wireless Interference.** Ten years ago, the broadcast frequency spectrum was changed. These changes made all our wireless mics useless—they get bleed through from emergency channels like the fire station.
- 2. Old amplifier not shielded** against the cellular antenna. That whine we had until recently (See “Thank You, Trustees!” above) was just going to get worse. The older amplifier wasn't designed for this environment.
- 3. Growing cord hazard.**



*Our old sanctuary amplifier, the culprit behind the high-pitched whine. See “Thank You, Trustees!” elsewhere in this issue.*



*You can see some of wiring concerns in the front.*

- 4. Not enough microphone jacks** and pick-ups. Only one good mic.
- 5. Better sound for online livestreaming.** Not just for Sunday worship, but for community events and special occasions (weddings, baptisms, funerals, etc)
- 6. Hearing assistance devices.** Everybody should be able to hear better.
- 7. Ease of use.** Since we want our space to be used by outside groups, we want them to be able to use the sound easily.

Having a professionally installed sound system will make such a difference in our worship service. For one thing, it will mean people will be able to hear better, and what they hear will be better sound quality—and so much of what we do is about listening and hearing. For another thing, because a professionally installed sound system just works, leaders and worshipers don't have to wonder what mic goes where, or be distracted by wondering if one of the ushers is going to trip on a wire, or will the sound work for this speaker at this place. The goal is for our worship of Jesus Christ—to be front and center and the focus of what we do!

## This Is My Church

*It is composed of people just like you and me. It will be friendly if I am friendly. It will make generous gifts to many if I am generous. It will bring others into fellowship if I bring them. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of faith and service, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these. Therefore, with God's love, I dedicate myself to the task of being. All these I want for my church.*





# HAPPY Father's Day!

Tell your Dad how great he is! Name three words starting with D, A and D that could describe your father.

**D** \_\_\_\_\_

**A** \_\_\_\_\_

**D** \_\_\_\_\_



Name some of your Dad's favorite things and then draw a picture of you and your Dad together!



Food \_\_\_\_\_

Sport \_\_\_\_\_

Hobby \_\_\_\_\_

Dessert \_\_\_\_\_

Friend \_\_\_\_\_

Movie \_\_\_\_\_

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### Where We Love Kindness

**Pastor:** Rev. Doug Gray 608- 436-6263

**Chaplain:** Rev. Clara Sparks 617-773-3724

**Student Minister:** Sally Redondo Padilla

**Accompanist:** Miles Fellenberg

**Moderator:** John Smith

**Treasurer:** Recilla Westerbeke 617-328-8422

**Chair, Deacons:** Ellen Ogilvie 617-328-0189

**Church Office:** 617-328-6649

**Church Office Hours:** Mo–We, Fr, Su 9a – 12p