

The First Congregational Church, Canton Center

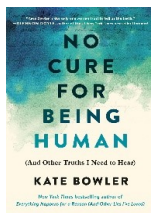
January 30, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers this morning are given by Casey Levine in loving memory of her mother, Susan Anderson, who passed away 14 years ago this week.

Offering Envelopes

For those of you who requested offering envelopes, they are ready for pick up in the Church Office.



Winter Book Discussion

No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Hear)
by Kate Bowler

Wed., Feb. 23, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

In her second memoir, Kate Bowler Duke Divinity School faculty & NY Times best-selling author) writes about her diagnosis at age 35 with Stage 4 cancer and the challenges of a newly limited and fragile life. As with her first memoir, Everything Happens for a Reason (and Other Lies I've Loved), this one is a deeply honest reflection on what acceptance of our finitude means. Regardless of what cultural messages we may receive, she says, the nature of life is that "we cannot out-eat, out-learn, out-perform our humanness." Fragility is part of the package; what would it mean to be able to acknowledge that? The book has been called "a sensitive memoir of survival."

Please obtain your own copy of the book and contact Rev. Brenda (pastor@cantoncenterchurch.org) to sign up for the discussion.

If you are interested but cannot make the date, please let her know.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We gather as a welcoming community in worship, learning, service and fellowship, to embody Christ's message of love, compassion and justice. Joining faith with action, both within and beyond our church, we strive to build a community that serves all.

An Open and Affirming Congregation.

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

The Missions and Outreach committee has committed to supporting Brian's Angels, an outreach organization for the homeless in Bristol. We have received word that they urgently need coats for men in sizes large up to 3xl and boots in sizes 11-13 (new or good, used condition). If you can donate any of these items, please drop them off at the church or call Martha Stansel at 860-693-1796 to make arrangements. Thank you.

The Missions and Outreach will also be collecting money for Holy Joe's Café. In 2006, members of The First Congregational Church in Wallingford started Holy Joe's Café to support chaplains in Iraq and Afghanistan by providing coffee to serve the troops. As stated on their website, "Holy Joe's Café has become a dynamic part of military Chaplains 24/7/365 service to the troops...in 70 countries throughout the world." As one chaplain explains, "Holy Joe's Café is a place where chaplains in makeshift chapels are able to bring a taste of home to the tired, the anxious, the angry, the lonely and the wounded. They all can get a gourmet coffee, a reminder that the world they willingly left behind still cares."

Our church has supported Holy Joe's for a number of years by having people collect change in labeled cups you can put in your car, on your kitchen counter, etc. If we're in church in February, we will hand out the cups. **If we're unable to return to in-person services, feel free to use any container you have at home to collect your change (or bills). We will provide containers in which to deposit your money in the sanctuary once we return.**

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

Ministers: Every Member

Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt

Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia

Duty Deacons: Casey Levine/Hugh Anderson **Camera:** Steve Byko