



THE PARISHIONER JULY 2021

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, WOODBRIDGE *since 1738*

An Open, Welcoming, and Affirming Church

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Telephone: (203) 389-2119

Fax: (203) 389-2110

A Letter from Church Council

FCCW's Church Council met, with a quorum on the first Monday in June in the Parish Hall. A quorum was present with some in attendance by ZOOM. All committee/board reports continue to show progress in the development and operation of our various church programs.

The Treasurer's report indicated that we had almost \$74,000, cash, on hand. Seventy-seven percent of our total of 2021 pledges has been received. Expenses continue to be under budget by approximately \$5000.00. Our overall financial conditions are stable.

Personnel reported that Lisa and JoAnna are communicating on a routine basis and that Lisa will now be proofreading the Parishioner. She has adapted well to her new position and will be taking on more office tasks and activities. The Technical Committee reported that we will be advertising for a person to assume paid responsibility for Zoom and Streaming services in the near future. In addition, in the Fall, we will be looking to utilize the Zoom and Streaming services of Amity High School students who need to work in community service projects as part of their student requirements. The Tech Committee is also investigating the installation of a "Tithe.ly" financial service in place of "PayPal". There was a great deal of discussion regarding this topic with a final decision to wait for a recommendation from Trustees regarding the matter. It was also reported that FCCW's GoDaddy license for the church Website has been paid for two years, with the account now in FCCW's name.

Christian Service requested some feedback from FCCW members regarding its recent article in last month's Parishioner. They also will be reporting on all FCCW's financial support given through them to all groups in the area. The Music Board reported that Nenad has safely arrived at his home country and will return in the fall, based on his new contract with FCCW. This Board is also considering a mail contact with inactive members of the church, in effort to encourage their returning as active members. A request was made to the Board to consider reactivating the Bell Choir as we begin normal operations.

Deacons reported that they are considering requests to begin Sunday Communion, as well as coffee hour after Sunday services. Al Jarvis and Bill More were thanked for recently conducting informal, after-service coffee hours. Their service has brought back this much needed after-church social activity. Building and Grounds reported that two trees on our property will be tended to; with one being trimmed of broken limbs and one dead tree to be removed. The work will begin in mid-June. First Church Women reported that they are planning some Fall activities and would appreciate some input and suggestions from church members.
(cont.)



Restoration continues to seek matching funds to the two fund challenges. While over \$86,000 has been raised, we still need to raise another \$150,000 by the end of the year. Also, all funds will be used for historic restoration and painting in the sanctuary itself and not for maintenance work in hallways and the narthex. Our Boy Scout troop participated in a recent Town meeting and conducted a camping trip to Vermont. The Court of Honor will be held on June 17th.

The Council spent a great deal of time on a motion from the Annual Meeting to approve the composition of members for an Asset Management Subcommittee, which will review the need for a monetizing program for FCCW. (For those, like me, who needed a refresher on the word monetizing: I looked it up in the dictionary and found that it means, simply stated, (my words) “to review and determine the monetary value of assets and property.” This subcommittee, which will report to the Trustees, will review, and determine the value of FCCW property assets, with attention to the use of the Parish House and property behind FCCW buildings, to maximize their use for the future monetary benefit and good of FCCW. The committee will receive pro bono services from an experienced consultant on the topic, Carol Martin. This matter is quite complex and much more detailed than I can report here. Questions should be directed to Trustees on this issue. Members appointed at this time included: Carl Lindskog, Penny Rogers, Walt Crosby, Scott Hunter, and Richard Prescott. FCCW Search and Renewal confirmed that pulpit supply through the Fall has been completed for each Sunday. They are also beginning applicant interviews for an interim minister. The Council approved the opening of all FCCW services and activities to no wearing of masks for vaccinated persons with those not vaccinated being required to wear masks.

Lastly, there was discussion about trying to get back to normal regarding coffee hour, communion, and the donating of flowers for Sunday services. All services will be provided in person in the Sanctuary with ZOOM and Live Streaming available. Look forward to seeing you at one or more of the services.

Respectfully submitted, Richard A. Prescott, Moderator



PASTORAL COVERAGE

Interim pastoral coverage is currently being provided by the **Reverend Janice Touloukian**. Rev. Touloukian is an experienced minister regarding personal matters and supporting those in need of pastoral advice.

She can be reached by telephone at: 203-387-4991.



SANCTUARY UPDATE, JUNE 23, 2021

Fundraising for Phase One of the sanctuary repainting has been aided by *two* generous 50/50 ‘matching’ challenges. The first \$15K ‘match’ (made by a church member) is now completed and raised \$30K! The second ‘match’ of \$20K (from a family in the community) is available through Sunday, July 4th. Donate *now* and double your impact. Thank you to all who have already contributed to this effort.

In addition to the \$100K SHPO grant, the FCCW needs to raise \$150k for Phase One of the sanctuary restoration. The Sanctuary Fund currently stands at \$95K.

A final review of the Canning agreement will take place at the trustees meeting on June 24, 2021.

Quote of the month: “Never have we seen an interior as beautiful as ours here at First Church. It is our identity.”

- B. Joyce Simpson



Make a Donation to First Church of Christ in Woodbridge— *online!*

It couldn't be easier to donate online.

Here's HOW:

1. Log on to our website: **www.uccw.org**
2. Click on the word “Mission” at the top center of the home page.
3. Click on the words “Opportunity to Donate” in the blue box below.
4. Click on the option “Online”, and follow payment instructions.

We accept PayPal and all major credit cards



Weekly Bible Study

All are welcome to visit our Weekly Bible Study that takes place every Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. Meetings are currently being held inside the Parish Hall or outside in good weather. All safety regulations must be followed when on the church grounds.

Copies of our safety regulations are available in the Parish Hall foyer. Please visit the Bible Study page on our website for more information and a list of weekly readings.

<https://www.uccw.org/bible-study>

TROOP 907 NEWS

JULY 2021 UPDATE

Woodbridge Boy Scout Troop 907 held its Court of Honor outside on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at the First Church of Christ in Woodbridge with nearly 50 in attendance. Bryan Brown received his Scout badge and Daniel Del Prete became a Second Class Scout. Church Moderator Richard Prescott welcomed all and even brought his membership card from the time he was a scout.

Troop 907 recently provided a color guard for the Woodbridge Memorial Day Service outside Woodbridge Center. They also had an eventful year, with a bicycling/fishing campout in Jamaica, Vermont, as well as Camp Pomperaug, Camp Sequassen, Deer Lake and Camp Whiting. There will be a canoe/kayak campout the weekend of June 25-27 also at Camp Pomperaug in Union, CT and this summer they will be attending Camp Sequassen the first week of August. A family cookout will be planned for the late summer.

This is an active and cohesive troop. We are always inviting prospective scouts and their families to join us on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in the First Church of Christ Parish House. The last regular scout meeting of the '20-'21 year will be this Thursday, June 24.

For more information visit <http://www.troop907.org> or contact Scoutmaster Tom Luciani at luciani33@sbcglobal.net or Committee Chair Rich Forselius at forselius@snet.net.



Boy Scout Court of Honor, June 17, 2021



FCCW Technical Committee News

Help Wanted!
First Church has been live streaming for several months. Now we have created a new position:

“Audio and Visual Specialist”

Job Overview

The individual will operate the production of worship services live streaming on YouTube (FCCWoodbridge), ZOOM and other online content. We are committed to project FCCW’s messages digitally to members and friends and to the wider community. The candidate should have experience producing video content, including live streaming and video filming. Capable high school and college students are encouraged to apply.

Skills Wanted

- Knowledge of Live Streaming video and audio equipment requirements
- OBS or other live streaming software on PC computer
- Photograph and produce videos of events
- No experience required. Training available.

Work Requirements

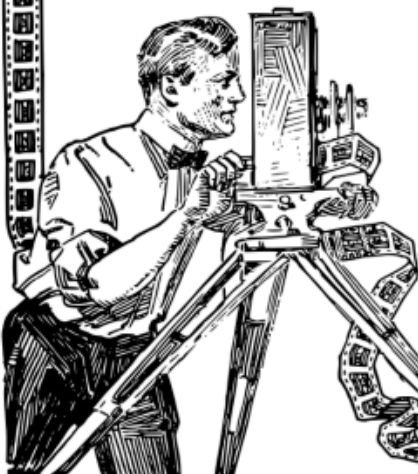
- Reports to Personnel Committee
- Initiate and manage live streaming and ZOOM, 2 hours, Sunday.
- Pre-arranged additional sessions day or evenings as needed
- Support planning meetings and work sessions up to 2 hours per week.

Interested?

Begin the application process on our facebook page: www.facebook.com/uccwoodbridge
or on the “Job Openings” page of our website: www.uccw.org
We are eager to hear from you!

Questions?

Email Jack Jones at jack41hi@earthlink.net
or call our office at 203-389-2119



Calendar of Guest Ministers

July 4th	Rev. Walter Pitman
July 11th	Rev. Hiram Brett
July 18th	Rev. Hiram Brett
July 25th	Rev. Raquel Irizarry
Aug. 1st	Rev. Walter Pitman
Aug. 8th	Rev. Walter Pitman
Aug. 15th	Rev. Karl Duetzmann
Aug. 22nd	Rev. Raquel Irizarry
Aug. 29 th	Rev. Walter Pitman
Sep. 5th	Rev. Walter Pitman
Sept 12th	TBA
Sept. 19th	Rev. Janice Touloukian
Sept. 26th	Rev. Karl Duetzmann

ZOOM Invitations and Live Streaming



How Do I View Sunday Service?

**If you are unable to gather with us in the Meetinghouse, not to worry!
If the clock reads 11 a.m. and you've missed Sunday Service, not to worry!**

All Worship Services are live streamed on our website and on our YouTube channel. Video recordings are available for viewing on our **website**, our **YouTube** channel, and on **Facebook**.

(www.facebook.comuccwoodbridge)

**Please look to your email for invitations and links to these resources.
We will continue to use Zoom for all of our Worship Services.**

*If you are having trouble with any of these church provided services, please email JoAnna at growfirstchurch@gmail.com



Submission Due Date (Don't Forget!)

Submissions to be published in the **August issue** of "The Parishioner" are due by **Wednesday, July 21st**.

FCCW OFFICE HOURS

The office is currently open Monday thru Friday,
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Marking Life's Passages

Births

Theodore Robert Stauffer
Born on May 7, 2021 to
Jeff and Mary Stauffer

Deaths

Virginia Butler Calistro
Passed on June 9, 2021

The Parishioner

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Email: jantouloukian@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Boyd M. Johnson, Jr.
Office Administrator: Lisa Tartaglino
Digital and Media Coordinator: JoAnna Rubino

NEXT PARISHIONER DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, July 21, 2021 (a firm date).

E-mail articles and photos to: growfirstchurch@gmail.com

JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CHURCH SERVICE 10 am Rev. Walter Pitman	Church Council – 6 pm	Ala-teen-7:00 pm Al-anon-7:30 pm AA - 7:30 pm	Bible Study – 10:30 am			Piano Recital 10:00 am
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
CHURCH SERVICE 10 am Rev. Hiram Brett		Ala-teen-7:00 pm Al-anon-7:30 pm AA – 7:30 pm	Bible Study – 10:30 am			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
CHURCH SERVICE 10 am Rev. Hiram Brett		Ala-teen 7:00 pm Al-anon –7:30 pm AA – 7:30 pm	Bible Study – 10:30 am	Trustee –6:30 pm		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
CHURCH SERVICE 10 am Rev. Raquel Irizarry		Ala-teen-7:00 pm Al-anon –7:30 pm AA – 7:30 pm	Bible Study – 10:30 am			