

## The Sanctuary Fund

April 2021

The Meetinghouse at the First Church of Christ (FCCW) has served the Woodbridge community for almost 200 years. As we now begin our effort to repair and repaint the Meetinghouse sanctuary yet again, we plan to restore the original 1886 grisaille/trompe l'oeil décor that can still be seen on the wall behind the organ. A sample is shown below on this page.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has enthusiastically embraced our plans and recently granted us \$100,000 in matching funds to be paid on completion of Phase One of the work - which will cost an estimated \$250,000. Phase One will include the ceiling, cornices, north wall, and re-installation of the plaster medallion above the chandelier. The SHPO has also approved our contracting with the renowned decorative arts company, John Canning Company, Cheshire, Connecticut to conduct the restoration work.

We need to raise \$150,000. Several generous donations from the wider community and from parishioners already have us more than one-third of the way to that goal. Donations have been made by individuals and families: some were given in honor of or in memory of past members or loved ones. Thank you to everyone.

Please support this effort to both celebrate the courage and foresight of our FCCW forefathers and to invest in our future by sending a check made out to the FCCW, memo line: Sanctuary Fund, to the church office at 5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT 06525. Pay Pal and all major credit cards can also be used to donate to the Sanctuary Fund at [www.uccw.org](http://www.uccw.org). Gifts of *any size* are most appreciated.

We look forward to welcoming you to faith services and to our many community activities in the future. Come hear our music and join us on this journey as the original beauty of the sanctuary décor is revealed once again.

ALL ARE WELCOME

