



THE PARISHIONER OCTOBER 2021

**THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST,
WOODBRIDGE, CT *since 1738***
An Open, Welcoming, and Affirming Church
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Telephone: (203) 389-2119
Fax: (203) 389-2110
Email: office@uccw.org
Website: www.uccw.org
CT Conference Website: www.ctucc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/uccwoodbridge

October 2021 Council Report

FCCW Church Council met with a quorum in September and received reports from the respective church committees, as usual. At this moment in time for FCCW we are moving in a positive manner and direction, and all is operating smoothly and efficiently. FCCW program component undertakings, eg: financial, personnel, sanctuary repair, worship, technical operations, search and renewal, stewardship, monetization, Christian service, etc. are moving ahead and addressing their respective program goals. The Treasure reports that we are still under budget and in good shape. Personnel reports that the new Office Administrator is exceeding job expectations and will begin to assume additional responsibilities regarding the administrative bookkeeping functions. Search & Renewal has recently interviewed four pastoral candidates and appears to be narrowing the field to one or two persons. A decision is close to being made. The Technical Committee is planning for updates to our computer systems. The two Amity High School interns, who are working with this committee, have been doing excellent work. Regarding restoration efforts, we are close to raising all the required funds and as far as progress, all you have to do is walk into the Meetinghouse to see the whole area taken up with scaffolding. You will know that restoration has begun! Meetings are being held with Town Officials regarding reviewing possible low-income housing plans and FCCW efforts for monetizing church properties. Stewardship, under the direction and guidance of its new chair, Scott Hunter, is reviewing all FCCW fund raising projects and plans for the 2021 Stewardship campaign. Deacons reports that guest ministers are in place through the end of December with coffee hours after church. FCCW's first, in a long, long time, community service social program, "Pie ala Mode" (which will have been held prior to publication of this Parishioner) is in place with cider and apple pie ala Mode being offered as FCCW's participation in Woodbridge's "Woodbridge Like Me" program on October 2nd.


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The Garden Club will also be conducting a flower sale and Boy Scout Troop 907 will be assisting FCCW with its booth as well as having their own scout booth.

All-In-All: FCCW is slowly but steadily moving forward while recovering from a variety of "bumps in the road" which we have faced, addressed, and overcome in the past year and a half. We still need more individual member participation in committee participation, program support and Sunday morning church attendance. Get involved! We need you-----and you-----and, yes, -----"YOU!" See you in church!

Respectfully submitted, Richard A. Prescott, Moderator




ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

FCCW Congregational meeting is postponed until Sunday, October 24th after the regular 10:00 a.m. worship service.

This change was approved by the Church Council at its September 7th ZOOM meeting.

More info:
<https://www.uccw.org/church-life>
(Zoom link invitation for this meeting will be emailed the day before.)



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: 203-387-4991



SANCTUARY UPDATE, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021



On September 8, David Riccio of the John Canning Company presented 'mock-ups' of proposed designs and colors for the repainting of the sanctuary ceiling to parishioners and friends of FCCW. David, Jackie Canning Riccio, and Peter Wirkijowski shared their decorative arts expertise with those of us gathered.

It was agreed to proceed with an intricate monochromatic grisaille on the ceiling and the north wall and a 'domed' blue oculus above the chandelier. Colors are historically accurate and were identified from chips of the ceiling dating back to 1880. The quality of the craftsmanship is outstanding. Prepare to be amazed.

Up above the 'dancefloor', the ceiling plaster has been repaired and a primer coat applied. The repainting will be accomplished using a technique known as marouflage which is combination of canvases prepared in the Canning Studios in Cheshire and the application of plaster and paint on site.

Fundraising must continue. An extraordinary \$138,200 has been received. The Phase One target is \$150K. Almost there! 'Grazie mille' to everyone who has already contributed so generously.
Sanctuary Committee



Quote of the month: *"God accepted the adornment of the Magdalene. We will devote some of our treasure.... to create a masterpiece of simple beauty which our forebears would know, and our next generation will admire."*

BOY SCOUT TROOP 907 OCTOBER 2021 UPDATE



Troop 907 is growing and has welcomed three new scouts this fall! A recruiting evening, "Escape the Indoors" was held September 23rd. Scouts exhibited fire-starting skills and had some fun cooking sliders and roasting marshmallows.

Interested potential scouts (ages 11-17) and their parents are welcome to visit this friendly and active troop any Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish House. Next events include the Town of Woodbridge Event, "Woodbridge Like Me" Saturday, October 2nd, and hiking the infamous Appalachian Trail.

Stop by to meet some great scouts and consider joining us on a road of integrity and adventure!

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.

Troop 907 Scouts Honor the Fallen

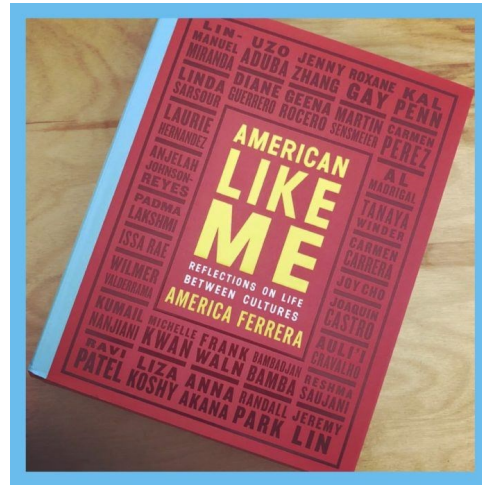
Memorial Ceremony in the Town of Woodbridge September 11, 2021

Scouts from Troop 907 led the Pledge of Allegiance to honor the fallen heroes and countless victims of the terrorist attack on the United States of America. This date marked the 20th anniversary of the heartbreaking tragedies taken place on September 11, 2001.



First Church of Christ Rings the Steeple Bell in Remembrance of 9-11

At 9:46 am on September 11, 2021, the bell at the First Church of Christ was solemnly rung 20 times to remember those who died, those who helped, and the families who were left bereaved 20 years ago when the United States of America was attacked.



**Come Support FCCW
on Saturday, October 2, 2021 at
“Woodbridge Like Me”
A Town of Woodbridge Event!**

We are excited to announce that FCCW will be participating in the
“Woodbridge Like Me” event, sponsored by the Town of Woodbridge,
on Saturday, **October 2, 2021**, morning into the afternoon.

The Woodbridge Road Race will also take place that day. The race will finish in the town
center, where various community groups will be conducting activities
sponsored by their respective organizations.

Our church volunteers will be offering seasonal delights, like fresh cider and
warm apple pie a la mode (\$2), a free scoop of ice cream for children, and much more!

We will also be featuring live music by singer/songwriter, Shawn Taylor
from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Come on over!

**To all future volunteers: For More information
Please call, email, visit our website, or check out our facebook page!**

Phone: 203-389-2119

Email: office@uccw.org

Website: www.uccw.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/uccwoodbridge





WEBSITE UPDATES

Sanctuary Restoration - View New Photos!

*Thank you Joyce Simpson for continuing to submit photos to our website!

If you haven't seen the photos of the Canning restoration progress, check out the Sanctuary page. They are beautiful! A schedule of restoration work is also available for reading.

Love Our Sunday Music?

Visit the Music page and find the titles and composers of hymns and other musical selections from Sunday Services. Learn more about Faye, Nenad, and guest musicians.

Guests and Archives

On our "Honored Guest" page, you can find photos and brief biographies of our guest preachers, including the dates of their visit to FCCW.

Simply click on the Service Date, (*as categorized by Guest Preacher*)

to be **instantly connected** to the live stream recording of that day's Worship Service!

Sunday Volunteers, Donations, and a Great Big "Thank You!" to All

Thank you to so many of you who have contributed so much to bring Sundays at FCCW back to life!

- **You** donate refreshments and services to once again make post-service Coffee Hours a joyful event to look forward to each week.
- **You** donate beautiful flowers to adorn the church in memory of loved ones and in appreciation of the Parish community itself.
- **You** play and sing inspirational music to uplift the spirit!
- **You** donate your time and talents to keep our technology up and running so that people all over the world have access to each and every Sunday Service.
- **You** read the holy scriptures and bring forth announcements to keep all informed and involved in parish life.
- **You** give of yourselves behind the scenes so that all may be free to attend Worship with an open mind and generous heart.

YOU ARE the gears *and* the love *and* the spirit *and* the life of this church, in the name of Jesus Christ, our God and Savior. May we all follow your example, as you follow the example of the Lord. Volunteer today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A lot of amazing stuff is going on at the church these days! Find out the "whats" and "whens" and learn how you can more fully experience parish life at FCCW!

Explore Your Site!

As always, you are invited to join the growing number of site visitors and explore all that is new and "under construction" on our FCCW website.

Facebook

FCCW Facebook page is growing in popularity! "Like" and Comment on your favorite photos and read about exciting events to come. Announcements like event/meeting date changes or postponements are posted here as well.

***YOUR** feedback is always welcomed, as our mission is to continue to improve!

Email Me!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like assistance in any way. I look forward to your suggestions and photo/article submissions!

growfirstchurch@gmail.com

Thank you for your support,
JoAnna Rubino

www.uccw.org

Calendar of Guest Ministers

Sept. 26th	Rev. Karl Duetzmann
Oct. 3rd	Rev. Raquel Irizarry
Oct. 10th	Rev. Martha Bays
Oct. 17th	Rev. Karl Duetzmann
Oct. 24th	Rev. Martha Bays
Oct. 31st	Rev. Walter Pitman
Nov. 7th	Rev. Hiram Brett
Nov. 14th	Rev. Walter Pitman
Nov. 21st	Rev. Karl Duetzmann
Nov. 28th	Rev. Raquel Irizarry
Dec. 5th	Rev. Hiram Brett
Dec. 12th	Rev. Karl Duetzmann
Dec. 19th	Rev. Janice Touloukian
Dec. 26th	Rev. Raquel Irizarry

FCCW OFFICE HOURS

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



ZOOM Invitations and Live Streaming



**Everyone is encouraged to gather
at the Meetinghouse for the 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Service!**

**If you are unable to attend in person, 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.**



Submission Due Date (Don't Forget!)

Submissions to be published in the
November 2021 issue of
"The Parishioner" are **DUE BY**
Wednesday, October 20th.

***Please submit articles and photos by email.
If you would like assistance
regarding Zoom, live stream, or website
accessibility, please contact JoAnna.**

growfirstchurch@gmail.com

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. Please visit the Bible
Study page on our website for more information and a list of weekly readings.

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

Marking Life's Passages

(Please contact the office with any birth or death announcements)

The Parishioner

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The First Church of Christ,
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Office Administrator: Lisa Tartaglino

Website and Publications: JoAnna Rubino

Audio/Visual: Charlotte & Emma Lindskog

NEXT PARISHIONER DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, October 20, 2021 (a firm date).

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