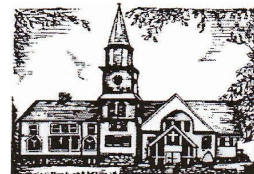


FRIENDLY MESSENGER

First Congregational Church, 1070 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602
www.fcc-worcester.org · Office: 508-752-4635 · office@fcc-worcester.org

January 2022



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

We saw the old year out with a beautiful Music Service prepared by our Minister of Music, Scott Yonker. The sanctuary looked amazing. What a glorious way to end the year! Now, as we ring in the new year and look back on 2021, I think we can all agree that we're happy to leave it behind us. I pray that 2022 is a happier, healthier one for everyone. A year of new beginnings: new hope; new faith; new joy and new love for us all. As God has seen us through the last two years of COVID running rampant, I know He will guide us through this one, too. 2021 was perhaps a little easier for many of us and 2022 promises to be even better.

I believe that there are some people who have lost some of their faith in God however, I also believe that the majority of us have become stronger in our faith. This New Year holds a lot of promise for all of us if only we remember to put our trust in Him.

In Isaiah 40: 30-31 we read *"Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."* And in Jeremiah 29:11 we read *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Wishing you the happiest and healthiest of New Year! May you praise the Lord for all good and happy things, and rely on Him if times get scary. He is always with you, always remember this and you will have a very blessed New Year!

God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile. Happy New Year!

God bless you,
Sue Anderson





Greetings Church Family! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. I sure did! I know you didn't see me but I saw you and what a pleasure it was! The sanctuary was decorated beautifully with poinsettias, candles, a Christmas tree and most important of all, a nativity. Did you see me peeking out from under the manger? I saw you! The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service was beautiful! I love the little battery operated candles that you held. They're much safer and much less messy than the real candles. The Music Sunday service was terrific, too! After you all left, I scampered through the parlor (cuz I know you have goodies after your services). I'm sure glad I did cuz I found some yummy stuff that was left behind....cookies and pie...candy and oh, all sorts of good stuff! It was extra special because I was going to go to my cousins for Christmas but with that darn COVID still looming around, I decided that it would be best to stay home, safely in my...errr.....your....church. Mickey and Minnie completely understood though. We'll get together another time once the air is cleared of those awful germs. They did send me a new hat and scarf that are sooo nice and warm! I went sledding in them but it was pretty cold, so I went back inside for a cup of hot chocolate. I knew you wouldn't mind and it warmed me right back up. Did you make any New Year's resolutions? I resolved to clean up all your crumbs in the parlor on Sundays and Tuesdays. Hahaha! Please don't stop leaving them! I hope you have a happy, healthy New Year! As always your faithful church mouse,
Nick





Why not join us for Fellowship on Tuesdays at 10:00 am? There's always coffee, tea, goodies and best of all, great company! We meet in the Church Parlor. You can help us plan our future meetings, too. We love going on outings as long as the weather is good. An easy craft is always nice, too.

We hope you'll join us this month!



Please try to have any articles or notices for our Friendly Messenger in by **Wednesday, January 26th** to get it into the February newsletter. You can **bring** them **to the office**, **email** them to the church office at office@fcc-worcester.org, or **call** the office at 508-752-4635. You can also contact me (Sue Anderson), by email at deegram@charter.net or call me at 774-253-0715.

Thank you!



13 Melanie Anderson
13 Connor Hill Johnston

25 John Hakkila

February

04 Richard Mason
20 Scott Yonker
21 Laura Waters

23 Doug Perkins, Sr.
27 Connie MacInnes

~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*



January

23 Phillip & Lorna Cardin

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We would like to keep Hampton Bagdasarian in our prayers and he also requests prayers for June Kemp; Connie MacInnes requests prayers for her niece Linda; Judy Mitchell requests prayers for her granddaughter, Ellanora; Donna Spaulding requests prayers for the safety of her son, who is serving in the Marine Corp; Susan Anderson requests prayers for her brother, Danny Waskevich. The Deacons request prayers for Ann Scherdell, Betty Dalbeck, Dr. Richard Hunter, Dolores Trzcinski, Jeanne Fassett, Paul Scherdell, Melanie Anderson and Joyce & Armand Thienel.

"Pray Without Ceasing"

I Thessalonians 5:17

If you have a prayer request or would like us to remove someone from our prayer list, please let us know.

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**CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION ON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022**

The Church Council requested that the Clerk call a Special Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 11 am. Two requests will be presented to the congregation at said meeting and they follow:

The first topic to be presented is a request by the Board of Trustees to authorize them to enter into an agreement to lease the kitchen. The Board was approached by Jessica Wayno who has a baking business and is looking to expand. She needs a well-appointed commercial kitchen in order to do so. Preliminary discussion has already occurred and the Trustees would like to proceed to a formal arrangement. Work is already underway to re-permit our kitchen.

The second topic to be discussed is to authorize the Trustees to spend as much as \$12,000 on refurbishing the parsonage. The work to be done includes, but is not limited to, the following: refinishing floors, painting, replacing older and defective appliances, etc. Work has already commenced on painting and defective lighting. The fridge and one toilet have already been replaced.

Any members wishing to attend the meeting remotely may do so using the following Zoom invitation:

Topic: Special Meeting of the First Congregational church in Worcester
Time: Jan 9, 2022 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89352889964?pwd=ajlPUlpIOTYxVjVhUkVhbnNkWXZlUT09>

Meeting ID: 893 5288 9964

Passcode: 551860

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,89352889964#,,, *551860# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,89352889964#,,, *551860# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 893 5288 9964

Passcode: 551860

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89352889964?pwd=ajlPUlpIOTYxVjVhUkVhbnNkWXZlUT09>

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Waters,
Clerk



Our Search Committee continues to work on its mission to find a new pastor for our church. As we continue our search, we rely heavily on our Lord's guidance and trust that He will bless us with His choice. We appreciate your continued prayers and support.



Carpet Fund



Our New carpeting fund is growing! Please continue to add whatever you can spare to the Teddy Bear jar in the narthex. Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

May God's blessings be upon you in this New Year!



"Life is an opportunity, benefit from it. Life is beauty, admire it. Life is a dream, realize it."—Mother Teresa



"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." —Eleanor Roosevelt





*Our Sincere Thanks to Those who have Adorned our Sanctuary with
Beautiful Poinsettias this Christmas.*

Ruth Nickerson ~ In Memory of Loved Ones Whom Have Passed

Robert Robertson ~ In Memory of Donna Mae Robertson
In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Prescott
In Celebration of the Season

Heidi Hinson ~ In Memory of Virginia & John Enola
In Memory of Mamie & Linwood Hinson

Donna Spaulding ~ In Memory of Roy & Catherine Spangenberg

Norman & Susan Anderson ~ In Memory of Our Parents
In Memory of Susan's Brother & Sister

Ann Scherdel ~ In Memory of Jeffrey Paul Scherdell
In Memory of My Parents, Doris & Kenneth Sundholm

Bev Bean ~ In Honor of My Great Grandchildren


Matt & Dawn Ahaesy ~ In Memory of the Ahaesy & Gibbs Family

Mac & Connie MacInnis ~ In Memory of Dan & Katherine MacInnis
In Memory of Linwood, Alice & Lenny Hodgkins

Hampton Bagdasarian ~ In Memory of Sadie Bedrosian
In Memory of H. Rose Bagdasarian
In Honor of All The Ladies of Our Church

*Please either take your poinsettias with you at the end of our Christmas Eve service or at
the end of Sunday's service unless you've chosen to leave them for our shut-ins. Thank you!*

Dates to Remember in January

01 All Day - 

02 10:00 am Church Service

04 10:00 am Fellowship

09 10:00 am Church Service

11:00 am Trustees Meeting

06 All Day - 

09 All Day - The Baptism of Jesus




11 All Day - National Step in a Puddle
and Splash Your Friends Day!



16 10:00 am Church Service

11:00 am Deacons Meeting

17 All Day - 

18 10:00 am Fellowship

23 10:00 am Church Service

11:00 am Council Meeting

25 10:00 am Fellowship