

FCCW Council, November 2021 Board and Committee Reports

Deacons (Charlene):

- The Deacons have removed the ribbons that block off every other pew in the sanctuary. We have noted that congregants learned to provide distance between others and consistently wear masks so we feel it is safe to remove these.
- The Deacons received a very nice ‘thank you’ note from Rev. Doe West, thanking us for inviting her to speak at our recent All Saints service and conveying her love to our congregation.
- The Holidays are approaching and we now have orders on line for Poinsettia plants. With Hart Nursery now closing before the holiday season we have chosen to use Sprucedale Nursery for our orders. All orders must be in by November 14, 2021.
- Rev. Kev, Bruce Lyman, Laura Bond and Ellen Bradley have worked hard at organizing our membership lists and believe they are in a much more user-friendly and simplified order.
- As a Board we reviewed the current Bylaws of the church and have submitted suggested changes to Council that relate to the Board of Deacons, that will be reviewed at the time of our meeting on the 9th of November.
- Due to the resignation of Ellen Bradley and no volunteers stepping forward to be of assistance in the church office, the Board of Deacons is highly recommending to the Trustees that a temporary service be engaged to supply this need until a permanent arrangement has been found.

Trustees (Sam):

- Removal of the old maples in front of parsonage is inching along, now with dialogue between Eversource and Frontier on ownership of the guy wire placed in the south tree. Rep. Pat Boyd and staff have expedited the conversation within the past week. We have engaged Roy’s Tree Service to do the necessary work of taking down the unsafe trees, once the guy wire has been removed.
- The contract for painting the exterior of the sanctuary is nearly complete, with Painters Pride of Framingham hired to do the work in spring of 2022.
- Resolution of issues in staffing the church office is in process, following Ellen Bradley’s resignation of October 13th.
- A false fire alarm called the three Woodstock companies to the church early on the morning of
- October 13th. The regrettable event revealed some deficiencies in our response system, which we are now rectifying.
- The trustees are evaluating a possible change in insurance coverage, given the dramatic increase in premium with the Insurance Board after the appraisal done in January 2021.
- We have purchased new lights for the Christmas tree on the north lawn. Take note on Christmas Eve!

Outreach (Jen):

- *TEEG Christmas Tags* – Tree with 75 tags will be located in hall between Harrison Hall and sanctuary from November 21st to December 15th. Blessing of the gifts on December 15th. Reminder articles will be in weekly bulletin and weekly “Sunday Worship and Announcements” email. Announcement during Sunday service will be made on November 21st (and additional services as needed).
- *2021 Disbursement of Funds* – checks were mailed to the following organizations on November 5th. Outreach to submit one article a week to be included in weekly bulletin and weekly “Sunday Worship and Announcements” email outlining each organization and their mission.

TEEG	\$500.00
Quiet Corner Cares – Sober Living House	\$1,000.00
Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement	\$1,000.00
The Last Green Valley – Education Program	\$500.00
Northeast Opportunities for Wellness - NOW	\$500.00

- *Woodstock Town Tag Sale* – The \$700 raised during the Woodstock Town Tag Sale on June 5th was mailed to TEEG on November 5th. Money to be used for their annual Thanksgiving food baskets.
- *Faith in Action* article – Continuing to ask members of the congregation to submit “Faith in Action” articles. The *Faith in Action* articles focus on members of our congregation that are passionate about and volunteer their time to a cause or organization (outside of FCCW). Goal is to inform and inspire others.
- *Hunger Action Book Discussion* – continue to discuss idea of having a 3-part book discussion around *Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Volunteers* by Elizabeth Mae Magill.

Stewardship (Paula):

- The Stewardship Committee continues to collect pledges.
- Thanks notes and follow-ups will happen in the next few weeks.
- The committee is working with treasurers to gather electronic pledge info.
- Initial deposits will be made this week.