

November 19, 2021, at

First Congregational United Church of Christ

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Worshiping Sundays at 10:30 AM via Zoom and in person



Worship with Us this Pledge Sunday

Click here to worship with us this Sunday by Zoom at 10:30 AM as we mark Pledge Sunday and conclude our stewardship season's theme, "Rooted in Love." Peter Tracey will offer our Call to Worship, Karen Tramontano will provide a moment for stewardship, and Nora Marsh will serve as our scripture reader with a focus text from 1 Samuel (the story of Hannah). Dr. Karen Bartman will serve as our guest musician, and the First Church choir will offer a live-streamed anthem. Rev. Amanda will preach and bless our pledges. We remain in Phase 3 of our regathering plan, with open sign-ups each Sunday for up to 25 people worshiping with us in the sanctuary while others join by Zoom. [Click here](#) to sign up; there's still room for this and upcoming Sundays.

The digital worship folder is attached.

Following worship, we invite those in the sanctuary to join us for the Greening of the Sanctuary, and those joining us by Zoom to stay for our Zoom coffee hour. The optional discussion question is: What are you grateful for this Thanksgiving?

[Click here](#) to worship with us by Zoom this Sunday at 10:30 AM as we continue our stewardship season theme, "Rooted in Love."

Outdoor Children's Service: Nov. 21st

Our next outdoor service will be at Anacostia Park on Sunday, November 21st at 10:00 AM. We will meet near the Pavillion at 1900 Anacostia Dr., Washington, DC 20020.

[Click here](#) to sign up. We hope you can make it! And bundle up, as winter is approaching! If you have any questions or ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out to Rev. Sam at 202-294-5437.



Sign Up for In-Person Worship

We welcome all who feel comfortable to sign up to attend worship in person in our sanctuary. In-person worship is limited to 25 people per Sunday given our area's current case rates, and we continue to require masking and physical distancing.

[Click here](#) to sign up to worship in-person in the sanctuary any of the next 4 Sundays. This link will take you to the sign-up sheet and will always contain the next 4 Sundays. If you have trouble signing up with this link, please contact Kim Darling (kdarling@gmail.com).



Poinsettia Orders

As we plan for our Christmas Eve services, we will order poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary. We invite you to order a plant in honor of or in memory of a loved one and those names will be listed in the Christmas Eve worship folder. Please fill out either the digital form ([click here](#)) or the paper form enclosed in worship folders. You may pay online via Vanco or PayPal (indicate poinsettias) or you may mail a check (with Poinsettias on the memo line) to the church at 945 G Street NW, Washington, DC, 20001. The cost per plant is \$20. All orders must in received in the church office by November 28th

Palestinian Oil Sale: An Opportunity to Support SAAC

Dear First Church members and friends,

We rejoice in this season of gratitude and expectation. We look forward to a receding Covid19 dark cloud and welcome the chance to re-engage with family and friends over the holidays. What better time to start thinking about your holiday shopping. And as you ponder what to give to loved ones, consider our Palestinian Oil Ministry.

In partnership with other congregations in the DMV, we are selling olive oil and other items produced in the West Bank and Gaza. These sales support family farms, assure food security, and promote peace in the Holy Land. It also support the justice initiatives we are working on through our Social Action Committee.



For the Palestinian Framers: From the 2020 earnings, so far \$5,000 have been donated to Anera to cover the cost of transporting a container of emergency medical supplies to Gaza after the Israeli attacks in April-May; \$2,500 each to St. Luke's Hospital in Nablus for an emergency room monitor (with matching funds from American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem) and to Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem for its mobile mammography unit which serves rural women in the West Bank; \$316 to Anera's Gaza Food Security Program in conjunction with \$2,184 from a special fund-raising effort by our partner Trinity Presbyterian Church in Arlington, VA to fund one family garden in Gaza; and 20 bottles of olive oil for resale to help the Museum of the

Palestinian People in Washington, DC meet its cost of operation. A detailed report on OOM operations this year will be issued in early 2022.
For our SAAC Committee: We helped fund our work on housing, immigration and anti-racism.

Time is Short

We are taking orders through November 30, 2021 for mid-December delivery (local



DMVonly). See the ordering instructions below.

OILs for sale are:

- **Nabali Olive Oil** – from the Nablus region. Smooth and delicate, sweet and fruity; mild flavor perfect for salad dressings or to enhance the taste of any dish. **\$25 per half-liter bottle.**
- **Rumi Olive Oil** – from indigenous Surri olive trees, some more than 1,000 years old. Tangy, with hints of bitter, and a spicy, peppery finish, perfect for dipping fresh bread or enhancing flavor in cooking. **\$25 per half-liter bottle.**

Jenin Olive Oil – signature blends from farms near Jenin. Each batch has a distinctive and diverse range of flavors that will add distinction to any salad, spread or special

meal. **\$25 per half-liter bottle; \$30 per one-liter tin.**



- **Tomato or Olive Tapenade** – a spread for toast, dip, or condiment for pasta or meat. **\$7 per 130 gram jar.**
- **Za'atar** – beloved Palestinian spice mix of dried oregano, toasted sesame seeds, and sumac. **\$6 per 2.3 gram package.**

How to Pay

To participate in the Olive Oil Ministry, follow these three easy steps.

One: place an order. Send an email to Susan Saudek at saudeksusan@gmail.com. State "olive oil" in the subject line. Provide the item(s) and number of each item to be purchased. We will confirm your order and amount due. Please order early to enable us to make delivery arrangements.

Two: make payment. Pay electronically on the church's website: <https://www.firstuccdc.org/> by using the "olive oil ministry" tab on the "Vanco" link, or by noting "olive oil" when paying via PayPal. Or mail a check—memo line "olive oil"—to [First Congregational Church 945 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20001](#). *For electronic payments via credit card, please add \$1/item for processing.*

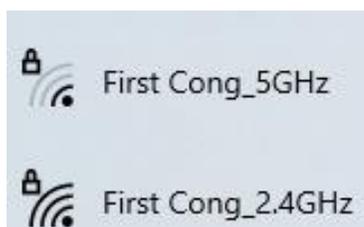
Three: sit back and relax! We'll drop off your order at church or deliver to your doorstep by December 15, 2020. We will contact you in advance to confirm delivery instructions.

Thank you!

The Social Action and Awareness Commission

Greening the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas: November 21st

The Worship Commission invites you to help decorate the sanctuary and narthex on Sunday, November 21st, following worship. We'll start at 11:45 am or thereabouts. Join us Lunch plans will need to be outdoors per regathering guidelines. Please let Lucille Dickinson know if you plan to help: lucilledickinson@aol.com.



First Church wifi password:

first1865

To avoid echo/feedback,
please mute your device when
taking part in group discussions.

Prayer List

Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of Peg Lorenz, following her death.

Prayers of healing for Hugh Bushmiller

Prayer for the mother of Cynthia Hobbs as Cynthia cares for her.

Prayers of healing for Bob Crossley as he recovers from a fall.

Prayers of healing for Priscilla Waters as she recovers from a back injury.

Prayers of healing for Liz and Lance Warren, as Liz recovers from a fall and Lance recovers from surgery.

Prayers of healing for Diane Brenneman's daughter Sara as she recovers from surgery.

Prayers of mercy for the people of Afghanistan and Afghan families resettling in the U.S.

Prayers of strength for the people of Haiti as they mourn those lost in the earthquake and begin to rebuild.

Prayers of comfort for the family of Joan King, following her death, and for this community who loved her.

Prayers for Monte Hillis and her husband Bert, as she faces the rapid onset of dementia.

Prayers of peace and liberation for Nicaragua, Cuba, and Haiti.

Prayers of healing for Dwan Reece's daughter, Maya, with long haul COVID.

Prayers of comfort for Grace Bassler following Don's death.

Byron Adams' niece, Valerie, undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

Prayers of hope for our Racial Justice Audit yearlong process.

All those who mourn the loss of a beloved one.

Families struggling to eat and make ends meet.

People's UCC, our sibling congregation.

Emmanuel Okorie-Dunn and Ellen Bushmiller, who serve as nurses.

Rev. Laura Johnson and Rev. Diana Gomez de Molina, who serve as chaplains.

Upcoming Events

Friday, November 19

7:00 pm A Requiem for Black Bodies performance & talkback
(at Howard University School of Divinity)

Sunday, November 21

10:00 am Outdoor Family Worship
10:30 am Worship: Pledge Sunday
11:45 am Greening of the Sanctuary

Monday, November 22

7:00 pm Monday Small Group

Tuesday, November 23

6:00 pm Drop-In Center for Homeless Youth

Sunday, November 28

10:30 am Worship: First Sunday
of Advent
11:40 am Coffee Hour

Tuesday, November 30

6:00 pm Drop-In Center for Homeless Youth



Ministers – Friends & Members of the Church

Senior Minister – Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

Associate Minister – Rev. Sam McFerran

Building Manager – Mr. Byron Adams

Administrative Assistant – Ms. Trista Dunlap

Sexton – Ms. Ines Marquez

Members in Discernment –Lynaya Morris, LaTayna Purnell

945 G Street NW, Washington DC 20001

Phone: 202.628.4317 • www.firstuccdc.org