



*The Unitarian Church in Westport*

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## **Update on the 2019 - 2022 Capital Campaign**

Our very successful Capital Campaign to fund essential repairs and renovations to our iconic building is well underway. We have improved and upgraded the parking lot, installed a new concrete sidewalk in front of the church, and solved our flooding issues. We are ready to begin the next phase of the plan which concentrates on the sanctuary, specifically, restoring the skylight.

Unfortunately, the impact of the pandemic on the construction industry cannot be overlooked. It would have been nice to complete the work during the past year while we were all at home, but that couldn't happen. Even now, backlogs, delays, and lack of stock are affecting our progress. We cannot say exactly when work will begin, although we hope it will be soon.

We do know our beautiful building will be altered significantly for several months. Sadly, some trees on the grounds will need to be removed. Work on the skylight will begin from the highest point over the chancel area, and it will be completed one section at a time. Our worship area will be filled with scaffolds, lifts, and workers who may put up plastic sheets to seal off areas being worked on from the rest of the sanctuary. In order to manage the blinding glare we currently experience during services and video broadcasts, the new glass in the skylight will be translucent.

No matter what, we will continue to hold services in whatever available space we have.

Our Capital Campaign raised more than \$2 million from 234 donors, and we sincerely thank the 135 who have totally fulfilled their pledges. Our outstanding balance is \$400,000. The next scheduled payments are due on June 30, 2021. Unfortunately, the pandemic has altered the ability of some families to meet their pledges.

To those of you who may not have contributed to the original Campaign or who may be new members or friends of TUCW, we welcome your contributions. Donations can be made on our website, here: <https://uuwestport.org/thecapitalcampaign/donate/>.

### **Your Capital Campaign Team**

Kristen Leddy and Carol Seiple, Co-Chairs

Mary-Jane Cross

Catherine Onyemelukwe

Anita Pfluger