

WEEK OF October 11, 2026



From Woody: I realized that this week begins the 64th anniversary of the closest the world has come to a Nuclear War. It was the Cuban Missile Crisis and we got through it without an exchange of nuclear weapon loaded missiles between the United States and the Soviet Union. The main reason we got through it was a secret friendship that was forged through letter writing between President Kennedy and Premier Krushchev.

After a tough first in person meeting, the Russian leader sent JFK a letter saying that the two of them needed to work together to keep the world from being destroyed by the use of nuclear weapons. There were 26 letters exchanged and a friendship and trust between the two leaders forged. This enabled them to avoid a nuclear exchange and keep peace between the two nuclear powers.

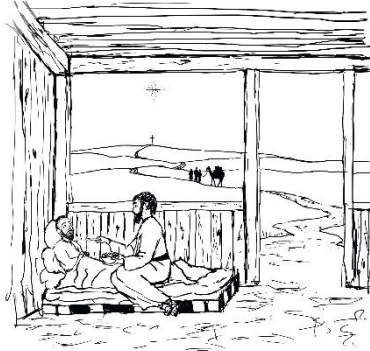
JFK received great support from his brother Bobby as they stood solidly against the Joint Chiefs who wanted to take the missiles out with our bombs before they could be activated. Years later we learned that some of them already were activated and there would have been a nuclear attack on us if we had attacked Cuba. As Krushchev put it in his first letter, the world was like Noah's Ark and even if we couldn't agree on who the clean animals were and who the dirty animals were, we were all on the Ark together. It can really serve as a model of forging friendships with those we don't see eye to eye with but can still work with. Thanks to those two men many of us who were in the line of fire were not fired upon.



Paul Revere Bell Progress: The bell has been removed from the steeple and moved to the old fire station, while the crews are working on preparing the Steeple for its return later in October. In the meantime the bell will not be ringing.

In the meantime, Click on the link below to see the many amazing pictures that Bill Vickery has taken of the whole process.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/9C9jj1a7CW46N2GL8>



Organ Meditations: Dawn Sweet will be returning to offer a series of five Organ Meditations beginning **October 18** and extending into June. We hope you will be able to gather with us for the journey she has prepared. We begin this season journeying with “The Other (Fourth) Wiseman” based on the story by Henry Van Dyke. Then we will take what we have gleaned from our Camino journey, “The Other Wiseman” and join with a seeker known as “The I.” (The previous journeys are not a necessary prerequisite.) “The I” is Jewish and is in

Bethlehem when Jesus is born and continues to see and hear Him as he teaches and goes about his ministry. “The I” continues to question whether Jesus is truly the Messiah. Please join us on this journey as we learn the conclusion “The I” reaches. May this story - journey also guide us to consider the relationship we have with Jesus and how our relationship is shared with our neighbors.

At the conclusion of the Meditation on **October 18th** the book, The Journey of “The I” will be available. There is no charge for the book, but if you can make a donation to help with the expense of publication it would be appreciated. Thank you. Hopefully reading and pondering the story before the Organ Mediation will create a more meaningful time of thought and prayer.



Peace Quote: Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures. And however undramatic the pursuit of peace, that pursuit must go on.... JFK Address to the UN

General Assembly, September 20, 1963



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