Creating a Slideshow/Video to be Shown in the Meetinghouse

Below are some considerations that should be in mind when creating a slideshow or video to be shown in the sanctuary at FCC.

1. **Aspect Ratio**
   Although most newer computer screens have a widescreen (16:9) aspect ratio, the screen in the sanctuary has a 4:3 aspect ratio. If you are creating a project with a 16:9 aspect ratio and display it in the sanctuary, the images may be stretched vertically resulting in distorted images. Most video/slideshow software allows you to edit the aspect ratio as part of your project or design settings.

2. **Contrast (light vs. dark)**
   The sanctuary is a bright room and the projections on the screen can get washed out by that light. Dark images do not display well and should be brightened a bit. When using text over a colored background, a greater contrast between the text and background will make the text more readable. If it is not possible to change the contrast, you might want to consider adding an outline or drop shadow to your text. It is best to test your project in the sanctuary in advance (see #4.)

3. **Font/image sizes**
   A font size that looks good on your computer screen may be too small to be read when it is projected in the sanctuary. Bear in mind that some people can be reading the screen at a distance of 70 feet! Likewise, photos taken of people at a distance or a photo of a large number of people may look fine on your laptop but when projected on screen, the faces won't be recognizable (or people may be tiny.) Again, we recommend testing your project (see #4.)

4. **Test it first!**
   Have we mentioned that we strongly recommend testing your project in advance? You can come into the sanctuary with your project on a laptop and test it on the screen before spending a lot of time making adjustments that look perfect at your desk but may not work at all when projected. Please check the church calendar and email tech@fccsouthington.org to schedule a mutually-agreeable date/time.