

Building and Grounds Committee Annual Report April 28, 2024

Mission of the Building and Grounds Committee

It is the mission of the Building and Grounds Committee to oversee the maintenance and capital improvements of the FUUSM infrastructures and grounds to ensure the safety of its members and visitors and to enhance the FUUSM facilities and environment.

To prioritize and make cost effective recommendations to the Board of Trustees on projects to meet this objective.

FUUSM is fortunate to have a trust fund established by the Ting's whose purpose is to fund the major maintenance and capital improvement projects for the FUUSM facilities. Also the General Trust is used to fund projects. If it were not for these funds, our buildings would literally be falling down.

As of January 2024, Joe Baker has officially retired from the Building and Grounds Committee after many years of dedicated and excellent leadership. It is taking four people from the committee to fill his shoes. Thank you, Joe, for your years of service.

During the 2023-2024 Budget year the Building and Grounds Committee has overseen several major and smaller projects to maintain or improve the FUUSM infrastructure. These include:

1. Replacement of the old outdoor wayside pulpit with an electronic sign. This project was made possible by a gift from Shari Ballantyne in memory of Dave Ballantyne. (Work to begin summer of 2024.)
2. Replacement of old commercial stoves and installation of exhaust system in the kitchen.
3. Installation of outdoor lighting on the front of the church building
4. Repair of iron railing and mounting post along Putnam St. (second phase to start this summer)
5. Repair of RE building roof. (work to begin summer 2024)
6. Carpet cleaning – all carpets in the Church.
7. Numerous maintenance issues ranging from leaky toilets and sewer backups, ruptured hot water system in kitchen, HVAC maintenance, and general cleaning and grounds keeping activities conducted by the FUUSM staff.

We would also like to acknowledge contributions made by our "Church Lady" Dawn Hewitt and Building Steward, Wendy Frye whose attention to and prompt reporting of problems have prevented problems from worsening.

As our congregation ages, we find that many of the smaller maintenance issues are not being addressed. The Building and Grounds Committee plans to initiate once a month work parties staffed by volunteers from the membership and friends of FUUSM. Failing this, the Building

and Grounds will seek to obtain part-time maintenance services for many of the smaller maintenance items. These would be items that are less than a general contractor project but more than what our Building Steward/Cleaning staff can address.

Upcoming maintenance issues that Building and Grounds will be addressing include:

1. Pointing and Tucking of brick foundation on the RE building
2. Repair/refurbishing of front doors on the RE building
3. Repair of front doors on the church - weather stripping, latches, sagging, sealing/painting.
4. Obtaining a contractor for snow removal (our aging members are no longer able to do it).
5. Repair of water damaged plaster on 2nd floor of the RE Building.
6. Obtain and place AED device(s) and First Aid and "Stop the Bleed" kits in the church and RE building.
7. Review Fire Alarm contract and possible addition of other security measures/security contractor services.
8. Address loose carpet tiles in the Social Hall.
9. Repair and/or replace backup sump pumps in the court yard and Putnam Street side of the church.
10. Deteriorating wall surface and fungal growth on exterior facing walls in the kitchen
11. Repair broken church pews and social hall chairs
12. Install aluminum stair nosing on stairs from upstairs vestibule to social hall.
13. Address any issues identified by the UU Safety/Security Review Checklist initiated by Ron Rees.