UUC Building Committee

Annual Report 2017

Purpose: The purpose of the committee is to maintain and safeguard the major physical asset of our congregation, namely the building. This includes not only maintaining the building, but things like fire safety. The Building Committee does things like ensuring that all the required inspections of our building systems are done, and that major repairs are done by qualified contractors. Minor work is done by our Facilities Manager, Joe Parrish, who is paid by the UUC to keep the building maintained.

Committee: Dave Lievsay is the committee chair, and Dan Brown, Patrick Feucht, Joe Parrish, and Tom Bube are members.

How You Can Help: When you encounter something in the building that isn't working, please tell Lisa. We walk through the building approximately monthly, and we can see lights that are burned out and similar things. We can't see if the refrigerator or coffeepot isn't working, and depend on you to tell us. We can't do everything that we would like due to budgetary and code limitations, but we can't look at fixing it if we don't know that something is wrong. Thanks.

Achievements: The Building Committee met a number of times during the year and discussed various facility related issues. One of the ways that we communicate with each other is by using the Work Log. This is a spreadsheet that lists all the things that we are aware of that may need to be done around the church. Joe discusses significant work items with the Committee before spending money or time on them.

All required inspections were done to ensure that our fire sprinkler system is working properly and that the water system meets code. A test of the fire alarm system was done on October 9, 2016 to ensure that everyone knows what the fire alarm sounds like, and what they should do when it sounds. On one of our regular monthly inspections last year, we found rot in a building column outside the nursery. This column and an associated beam were replaced by an outside contractor.

Future Plans: We plan to document more of the building so that future maintenance will be easier. This will include a list of the manufacturer and model number of lights, etc. We are also aware that we need to look at supplementing the seating in the Sanctuary as the manufacturer has discontinued the chairs we currently use.

Budget: Two items required expenditures above and beyond our budget. One item was replacing the rotted column and beam, which cost us an additional \$1,900. Another item involved some work by a contractor on our fire sprinkler system. This system is designed to be "dry" in normal conditions so that the pipes will not be damaged if they are subjected to freezing temperatures. We found that there was water in the system and we needed to drain it all out and fix the problem which caused it. This cost an additional \$450.