

The first half of the 2023-2024 Building & Ground Committee has been observing if the applications put into place the previous year have been successful or not. The committee is happy to report that the basement is completely dry, even during heavy rains, the window wells have covers, and there are yearly maintenance checks on the heating and air-conditioning units for the Garden Room and the boiler room for the sanctuary. Fire extinguishers, fire alarm system and termite inspection are all done on a yearly basis. The termite inspection company was switched to O'Donnells, saving us \$96 yearly and a regular maintenance program saves money over time and no sudden surprise costs.

There were a few areas of improvements that were pro bono, and I would like to thank Mike Flanagan for the restoration of the church's front door, taking the old finish down to the natural wood and applying several coats of a protective polyurethane wood coating on it.

Chris Weiwei took on the task of stripping out the crumbling water-soaked walls and window casings in the basement and remaking them from scratch, working whenever she could spare a few hours from home.

Alan Starkey requested the B&G committee allow him to hire John Bale of Hannibal to install weather stripping around the newly restored front church door and the bill would be paid by him. After receiving the invoice, the committee voted to have Alan pay \$225 to John Bale.

Thank you Mike, Chris and Alan. Your work and time has been very generous and much needed.

I was approached in October and asked if a handrail could be added to the wall going up to the meditation room (front turret) B&G is currently attempting to gather two estimates from different companies at this time. The staircase is very narrow and steep and it's unclear why a handrail was never installed previously as the turret room is utilized regularly.

The only unforeseen expense was from the kitchen fire door, which was accidentally rolled down and could not be rolled back in place as the metal door is supposed to be operable only during fires, when it automatically rolls down. Overhead Doors was contacted who determined that an inside pin was broken, had to be ordered and installed. There is now a large sign in place inside the kitchen at the top of the roll down door advising people of the operation of the door. Cost to fix the door was \$200.

End of report.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Gapinski, Chairperson