

Property Committee Annual Report 2010-2011

Large projects, small projects, daily maintenance, planning for long range improvements... all of this keeps the Property Committee busy each year.

Our focus this year was on the safety of all who use this fantastic 3 building facility. After almost 2 years of discussion and research, we moved forward with plans to connect the fire alarm systems within the facility, and update the entire system to bring it up to code (because of the age of our buildings, we had been "grandfathered"). In the past, each building had a separate alarm system. This means, if there was a fire in the Parish House, the fire alarms in that building would sound, but may not be heard in the Sanctuary or Religious Education/White Wing building. You may notice new "strobes" (lights that flash when the fire alarm is sounding), new & more "pull stations" (wall mounted pull handles that activate the alarm system), and someday soon you may hear the loud ring of the fire alarm system, since we do plan to conduct a fire evacuation drill in the near future. Please acquaint yourself with the emergency exits from each building. If you are unclear about these exits, look for the lighted "exit" signs near the doors, or ask a Property Committee member.

Last summer's exterior painting project was the South side of the WW/RE building. Also, the North side of the Parish House is in the process of being "touched up" under a contractor's guarantee for a painting project finished two summers ago.

In September, Amy Bucklin led the dedication ceremony of the Peace Pole donated by Shirley Rayburn. THANK YOU, Shirley, for that lovely gift to the church. And THANK YOU, Amy, for all your research & hard work to make that beautiful event so memorable.

The annual Fall Clean Up of the Property saw a massive amount of hard-working volunteers who used leaf blowers, rakes, and tarps to clear the entire Property (including the cemetery) of leaves in record time (we were done before noon!). THANK YOU to all who helped with our Fall Clean Up. You rock!

Just before winter hit hard, we were able to get a contractor to install an extension of the metal handrail along the walkway from the Lemon St. lot down the steps toward the sidewalk on Lowell St. This helped ensure a safer walk through snow and ice for those who park in this lot throughout the winter.

This winter, Scott and Max Shepherd worked hard to shovel off the Groom's Room roof, in order to prevent a snow shed incident like the one that smashed the Sanctuary window in January of 2009. Thankfully, we have come up with a long term solution that should prevent the Shepherds from having to shovel for years to come. Instead, Scott has generously donated his time to build a more angled roof on the Groom's Room after the Property Committee spends a Saturday morning this June taking off the existing roof and roof deck. THANK YOU, Scott!

This spring, we conducted a Spring Beautification of the Property that, yet again, was only completed because of the hard work and dedication of volunteers. THANK YOU to those who helped weed, rake, plant, and spread bark mulch.

As always, I am overwhelmed and impressed by all those who volunteer their time to help with maintaining the Property. An especially big THANK YOU to the Property Committee members; Rob Bate, Amy Bucklin, Muriel Credle, Penny Guild, Mary Licking, Sandy Martinage, Jim Thorp, Bob Sampson, Scott Shepherd, Kurt Steinbrueck, & Mike Wilt. Things would not have been accomplished this year without them!

Respectfully submitted by Jenn Morton, Chairperson- Property Committee