

The fall months for Building and Grounds have been filled with the normal maintenance associated with a structure of this size as we have tried to both keep up and stave off issues big and small.

The boiler has been turned on for the season following a visit from The Boiler Specialists and a clean bill of health was awarded after some slight repairs and cleaning. As we all are aware, the costs associated with utilities have risen considerably over the past year and we've experienced those same increases in regard to our heating and cooling here at LCC. The boiler system is an aging one and we've done our best to keep it up and running at an optimal performance level so we can maintain a comfortable environment for our thriving and busy church calendar.

Speaking of heating and cooling, we have finally learned how we can regulate the social hall air mover so depending on the space's occupancy. Up until now it has run continually but going forward we'll be able to safely turn off the unit and save some money from the budgeted utilities cost.

As the winter months approach, we have made sure that the snow thrower is up and running and we have ample reserves of ice melt so we can provide a safe and welcoming environment to all our members and guests. Railings were added going up the stairs to the sanctuary so that regardless of whether one is going up or down we provide a safe stairwell.

Looking ahead we see new and exciting usage in the chapel after some additional improvements to the space. Electrical upgrades will provide additional outlets and better lighting so we can take advantage of the new carpet. Plus, the ceremonial garden will see those new pavers installed once the weather breaks in the spring.

Recently implemented was a chance for members to submit suggestions or needs where the building could use improvement. On the door to the custodial closet by the parlor ramp is a box containing forms to reach out to the team so that we can continue to provide a safe and fully functional space.

So, let me conclude that the building is thriving almost as much as the congregation. It is a busy, bustling space that we hope is welcoming and inviting to all. We continue to do our best to keep it clean, warm and flexible for all those who hold this space dear.

David Spahr, Building and Grounds Chair