



Church House News

A Recap –

Almost a year ago we had a very engaging meeting to talk about the ministries of the Church House and to find a vision for what we can be doing at the Church House in the future. Out of that meeting came a long and exciting list of possible ministries that we could be doing. The congregation voted on what they felt the most passionate about, and out of that voting came a sense of where we would like to go with the Church House. Hospitality, welcoming, community, and service were some of the broader themes that came out of this process.

Since then, the Trustees started to look closely at what needed to be done with the Church House to make these ministries possible, and have found that there are a handful of things that need to be addressed before we can do any specific work. There are five concerns that must be addressed before we can do anything else (not in order of priority):

- Asbestos mitigation on the first floor
- Repairing the exterior stucco to the building
- Replacing the windows
- Updating the bathrooms, including making them handicap accessible
- Updating the heating system for the building

The Trustees are continuing to get the necessary information about the repairs that need to be done for the Church House. They have met with two different general contractors and are waiting to hear about estimated costs.

These basic, essential repairs are going to take a significant amount of money. The Generosity Committee is working with Lauren Doty, a fundraising consultant, to prepare and plan the capital campaign for the work that needs to be done. It is our hope that this campaign will begin in January.

We have not forgotten the vision and the list of ministries that so many from the congregation have expressed interest in. But to be able to go forward with any of those ministries, we have to address the above concerns.

Your input is essential. If you would like to help with the Trustees and the repairs, please talk to Pastor Malone or Jan Fletcher. If you would like to help with the fundraising, again, talk to Pastor Malone or Jim Hopkins.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate from asking anyone on the Trustees, Nancy Voccola, or the Pastor. Thank you for your continued support in repairing and renovating the Church House.