

Weekly Update 2/27/19

President's Report:

Building & Grounds reported on their activities at the Board meeting last week. Already this year they have installed new chalice plaques on the pews, bike racks outside, a central dehumidification system, kitchen fan and stovetop cabinets, replaced the central air/heat in the rental unit, painted the exterior west wall of the building and the north wall of the fellowship hall, upgraded the assisted hearing system, and remodeled/furnished the old minister's office and Rita's new office. Coming yet this Spring will be a new cabinet for name tag holders, new LED lighting throughout the building, and solar panels on our roof. Future projects include the memorial garden that is in planning and repairs (replacement? Upgrades?) to our parking lot and handicap access. B&G is also looking at some housekeeping issues, like a railing/steps up to the sanctuary and possibly changing our tables/seating in the fellowship hall, and keeping an eye on our boiler and water infiltration issues. This is a lot of work—excellent work—accomplished by the Committee (Bob Finley, Dick Nienow, Andy Roberts, Dennis Cramblit, Henry Panowitsch, Dick Chambers, and Dave Schostag), and by others who have volunteered their time and talents (Dennis Siemers produced the plaques, Ken Davey did the kitchen cabinets and the name tag cabinet, Ted Downey tarred many of the cracks in the parking lot). Thank them when you see them—and maybe give them a hand (Spring Cleanup is coming!).

We have also had a call from Mid-America Region for the Chalice Lighter Program (<https://www.uua.org/midamerica/giving/chalice-lighters>) This Winter call is for two programs, both in Minnesota—Headwaters in Bemidji and Servetus Society in Fridley. In the past, we have received several Chalice Lighter grants, one for updating our new building and another for hosting Worship Workshops. One of the criteria for obtaining a grant is the congregation's participation in the program. There are usually three calls a year, with a minimum contribution of \$20/call or \$60/year. This is a good program that supports the development of congregations in our local area. If you are not already a participant, please consider it. If you have already contributed for this year, thank you.