

- Over the past year, most Home and Garden expenses have been related to addressing basic building maintenance needs, and included: chimney stabilization and repair, repair and adjustments to exterior doors, replacement of the automatic door opening mechanism at the alley door to the Alice Warren Room, and various electrical and plumbing issues.
- A generous donation from **Jerry Shipton** was used to complete the painting of the RE building exterior doors to match the new windows, and the church signboxes at the lot corners were repainted by **Karen McDowell**. Taking advantage of the church building closure more recently, **Reverend Pam** and **John Cooperrider** refreshed the sanctuary, living room, and church foyer with new paint.
- Another significant undertaking has been the ongoing troubleshooting of the new Mitsubishi heating and AC system, to determine how best to monitor and control temperature settings in individual rooms in the RE building. With multiple users of the RE building and different times, establishing appropriate procedures to ensure that the system is operated efficiently will be necessary to achieve the desired long-term cost savings; we are still in the “learning curve” phase of that effort! A “Tech Squad” has been established and is meeting regularly to address these issues, led by **Rokki Espie**.
- In the next year, funds permitting, the church will undertake some projects both necessary and aesthetic, including replacement of the fire doors into the living room and sanctuary, sealcoating and restriping of the parking lot, and some additional painting projects. While the available budget is not likely to ever cover all of the projects we would like to complete, the church will continue to stay on top of necessary expenditures as best we can.
- The **Beautification Task Force** (more recently dubbed the “Spiff Committee” or “SpiffCom”) led by **Karen McDowell** has identified some interesting long-term project ideas, in particular regarding redesign of the Church foyer, and upgrading flooring materials in the church and RE building. These will be refined and eventually presented for broader discussion, including consideration of how to fund some initiatives to “refresh” our church home in ways that could make it more comfortable and welcoming.
- Thanks to **Linda Liberacki** for always working to address minor maintenance issues quickly and for her ongoing assistance coordinating service visits and contractor work on-site. Work is underway on a building maintenance checklist to aid in assigning ongoing tasks and monitoring building systems, to lighten Linda’s workload and coordinate volunteer efforts.
- Thanks also to **Charlie Fischer** and his team of dedicated landscape volunteers for keeping our church grounds tended and beautiful. We benefit greatly from Charlie’s professional expertise in identifying and proactively addressing the needs of our mature trees and other significant landscape assets.