

Update on Facilities Cluster Recommendations Regarding Building Projects:

As noted in the previous newsletter article; we recognize that bringing the building back to an acceptable level of maintenance and physical appearance impacts not only the health, safety, worship and event experience for our congregation, but also our ability to make the complex welcoming to community organizations and private individuals. Rentals are a source of income to First U.

Our wonderful facility is currently failing in its ability to provide a sheltering envelope to our congregation, slowly succumbing to the ongoing assault of the elements, particularly the rainfall events that it appears are permanently in our future due to climate change. The facilities cluster proposes that we must address this issue holistically, solving several current water related issues with the intent to restore our building's ability to resist water intrusion and damage; assuring many more decades of structural integrity and allowing the interior of the church to be refurbished as well, making it again an inviting and welcoming to facility to match our congregation.

We have proposed (along with a recommendation from Finance Committee) making the facility whole by withdrawing from the church Endowment Fund to complete the following projects:

- Replace Religious Education wing Roof
- Replace West roof (West of Fellowship Hall)
- Waterproof and repair the South Library Wall
- Replace several failing gutter runs
- Seal and repair water damage to Hosmer Room Bay Window.
- Address water intrusion of East Fellowship Hall wall.

Additionally, once the above projects are completed and the ongoing water damage stopped, existing funds in the Capital Maintenance Reserve Fund will be used for their intended purpose; restoring the interior of the building where needed and addressing safety issues such as the eroded sidewalk leading to the front door.

The facilities cluster is/will work with outside experts/contractors to find the best and most economical solutions to offer to the Council and Policy Board for consideration. With congregational support, we are confident that the First U building complex will be fully restored to faithfully serve our congregation and community immediately, and for the next century.

The Facilities Cluster focuses on maintenance of the church building and grounds with the intent to provide a safe and welcoming environment for the church congregation, visitors and any who may wish to rent/utilize the space for other activities. Cluster members include Clint Cruse (Cluster Coordinator/Facilities Chair), Karen Siegrist and Lisa Cary (Landscaping Co-Chairs), John Cuntz, Tom Finan, Mike Bray, Hunter Hart, Stan Birge, Jane Hoekelman, Alison Beehr, Rebecca Bolen, Luke Steffen in close partnership with staff liaison Lynn Hunt.