

Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian

805 Main Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island, 02886 Tel. (401) 737-1230

The Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Clark, Pastor

August 21, 2019

Dear Members and Friends,

Eight years ago **TODAY** (*August 21, 2011*), I wrote a direct pastoral appeal to you regarding a unique opportunity to purchase a quality organ at a steeply discounted price. Suffice it to say for now, you responded more than generously, donating nearly **\$70,000** (*exceeding the needed goal by nearly \$15,000*) and allowing us to get higher quality options, finance additional renovations and all in all you made a HUGE contribution to the long term well-being, beauty and quality of worship in our sanctuary for years, even decades, to come! And now, for just the second time in the 23+ years I've been privileged to be your pastor, I am again making a direct appeal to your faithful generosity: In this **75TH ANNIVERSARY** year of our church's founding, I am asking you to help ensure the long term well-being, beauty and quality of our church building for at least another seventy-five years by donating to the **75TH ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**. It may inspire you to know that even before this letter was written, we've already received nearly **\$9,000** in designated donations toward our **\$75,000** goal!

Please take time to read through the below and enclosed information/correspondence. Also enclosed is a pledge form which you may submit (*via the envelope provided*) by mail, the offering plate, or bring in person to the church office. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Clark, Pastor

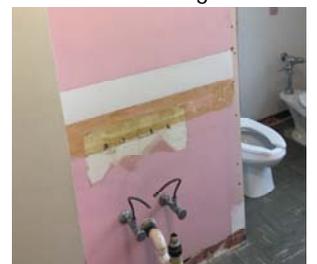


STEWARDSHIP/MEMBER CARE PASTOR'S ADDENDUM (*MAY 2019 FISHERMEN'S NEWS*)

Now that the **Lenten/Holy Week** seasons are over, along with the special offerings of the **One Great Hour of Sharing** and the **Heifer Coin Drive**, the church office is gearing up to prepare the mailing for the "official" launch of the **75TH ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** which concurs with the gala celebration of **GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY this November!** As something of a preview, I've excerpted selections from past **FISHERMEN'S NEWS** articles below:



(September 2018 Stewardship Committee article excerpt) THIS COMING YEAR MARKS THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN! Session has given the green light to establish a **75th Anniversary Capital Campaign Fund**. Over the years the church building has developed into a fine edifice serving the needs of the congregation and community. It has grown from a one floor basement structure to a full church building constructed above, an additional wing added, then another, two new sound systems, a new organ, new carpeting, air conditioning, a new boiler and almost countless additional improvements as noted on the next page. These additions and replacements have all been supported and paid for by the generous gifts of our congregation, as well as the gifts that keep on giving through the interest of bequests given to our Memorial Endowment Fund. The use and age of the building continues to take its ongoing toll, however. Your session, along with the Presbyterian Women, has recently undertaken the remodeling of the bathrooms outside the church offices. We are also discussing the pressing need of the replacement of the aging roof (of 30+ years) over the wings and other necessary improvements. These items are capital improvements that fall outside our normal operating budget, so will require additional support of the congregation.



(October 2018 Stewardship Committee article excerpt) And as many of you know, the church that grew out of that Sunday School will celebrate the **75TH ANNIVERSARY** of our founding in **2019!** Planning for a grand celebration is in the works, and a small task force is being assembled to organize the **75th ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** mentioned in last month's Stewardship article. Long-needed improvements are being envisioned, planned, strategized and/or are even now underway to help ensure at least **another** seventy-five years of vital mission and ministry at **805 Main Avenue!** Also mentioned in the article is the east wing rest rooms are undergoing extensive and much needed renovation/restoration (*a huge THANK YOU to the Presbyterian Women for funding much of this project!*), and as I write, the roofers have re-shingled the **entire** west wing and will (*weather permitting*) complete the east wing tomorrow. I am SO delighted to see this accomplished! The much-needed new roofing (*the previous shingles were aging and discolored when I arrived 22 years ago!*) matches the (*relatively*) new sanctuary roofing (**2010**), and will keep us covered at least forty more years, if not the full seventy-five!



(January 2019 Pastor's Page excerpt) Well, mark your calendars for the grand **75th Anniversary** celebration being planned for **November 17, 2019** to commemorate our November 12, 1944 charter! You'll be hearing frequently the number **75** in the months to come. Coincidentally, I actually started working on this page approximately **7.5** hours after the (*well-attended*) **75th Annual Meeting** of the Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian (*THANK YOU to all who worked so hard to prepare AND to all who so faithfully attended AND to all the new officers voted in who have stepped up to come on board!*), during which I mentioned that in the coming months we'll be conducting a **75TH ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** to raise **\$75,000** in commemoration of our **75th ANNIVERSARY** to help ensure our building will be in excellent condition for at least another **75** years ... beginning with repaying the loan for the vital restoration of the very roof under which this congregation will continue "... to help people love God more, help our members love each other more, and to render loving service to the world beyond our doors in the name of Jesus ..." for generations to come!

An excerpt from the Nehemiah sermon January 27, 2019 prior to the 75th Annual Meeting; full text is available at www.gccp.org

(beginning of excerpt) I'll state the obvious and point out that the purpose of Nehemiah's restoring and building the walls of Jerusalem was not just so the Hebrew people could have a nice wall. The wall was a means to an end. The "end" was to gather, contain, protect, identify and give a place of security and safety to the people of God in order that they may be re-rooted, restored, re-trained and raised in the ways of God ... that they might maintain their unique religious and cultural identity, in order that they and their families would not only survive, but thrive ... both now, and for generations to come. **On this Annual Meeting Sunday I'll reiterate that it is the same with the church. The superstructure and organization and the finances and the "walls" of this church are all a means to an end.** This beautiful center of worship wasn't built, maintained and upheld these past seventy-plus years just so we could have the nicest church building in town. The purpose of these "walls" is to gather, contain, protect, identify and give a sense of home and security to the people of God of this community that we might be rooted and trained and raised and encouraged in the ways of God. And we didn't spend @ \$75,000 nine years ago to thoroughly restore the steeple and the supporting superstructure just so we could have an eye-catching tower that would be the highest structure in town, or in order to hopefully attract a cellular phone company to install antennae so we might collect some rent (which has paid for that renovated steeple many times over, but I digress)! The primary purpose of the steeple is to **lift high the cross**, and proclaim to all who see that elevated cross that this building is set apart for a holy purpose of the highest value! Everything that goes on under that steeple's lofty perch and everything in this building's very architecture is meant to communicate God's grace in Jesus Christ and to create an environment where the people of God can find sanctuary, community, nurture, encouragement and be equipped for godly living. **And the "end" of this building, the purpose, is the spiritual restoration and awakening and training of those of us who gather here, which will benefit not only us, but our children, and our children's children and all who gather inside these walls under that lofty cross for years and years to come ... and the eternal benefits will last forever!**



During Lent, the Building and Grounds Committee under the capable leadership of Wayne Meunier brainstormed a list of forty (in keeping with Lent) items/projects for the foreseeable future. This is only a partial list of all that could be done, but it is a start! Some were already accomplished via Work Days; others are long term and will require capital expenditures from the 75th ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN and other sources. Also, as mentioned elsewhere and during the Annual Meeting, the replacement of the east and west wing roofs last fall was funded by a loan we anticipate paying from the 75th ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN. We are also constantly thinking of ways to improve, update and enhance the overall function, usefulness and appearance of every area of the church building; if you would like to offer suggestions, please contact any Building & Grounds Committee member!

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| 1.) Repair blue stone on front wall | 21) Emergency lighting maintenance and updating |
| 2.) Replace railings on front | 22) Install drop ceiling in the stage area |
| 3.) Repave back lot in front of church up to street | 23) Install drop ceiling in hallway east wing second floor |
| 4.) Repair soffit around front gable end | 24) Lower fire alarm and or smoke sensors etc. |
| 5.) Replace tile in back hall entrance | 25) Redo/refinish brass plaques in pews |
| 6.) Resurface all tables (fellowship Hall) | 26) Paint front gates |
| 7.) Balance chemicals applied to front lawn | 27) Downstairs bathroom ladies tile floor/paint/fixtures |
| 8.) Paint ceiling in balcony | 28) Downstairs bathroom men's tile floor/paint/fixtures |
| 9.) New drain on AC unit above balcony | 29) Clean pews in balcony and sanctuary |
| 10) Paint and paper the church office | 30) Restock pews with prayer cards, offering envelopes, and additional envelopes as needed |
| 11) Repair/renovate and perhaps AC all third floor rooms | 31) Clean and polish collection plates |
| 12) Drastically prune and/or remove overgrown trees | 32) Clean candle lighters |
| 13) Repoint the front steps | 33) Clean pulpit and all chancel items |
| 14) Repair/inspect/clean all windows & screens west wing | 34) Clean Lectern stand, benches and chairs in crib room |
| 15) Enlarge parking area, create more handicapped spots | 35) Carpeting in sitting room adjacent to narthex |
| 16) Frame in chancel pit and move the organ | 36) Clean choir pews |
| 17) Fire proof safe for archive items | 37) Clean and rake beds around back of church |
| 18) Replace tiles on stage (hardwood floor) | 38) Rake and clean area of outer parking lot |
| 19) Repair/inspect/clean windows in 29Eleven room | 39) Rake and clean grounds around building as needed |
| 20) Glaze windows in Sanctuary | 40) Address front façade area of church with long term solutions: repair/replacement of columns, resurface and/or repair woodwork |



**FOR YOUR FURTHER INSPIRATION TO GIVE GENEROUSLY, KNOWING THAT YOUR GIFTS WILL BE USED WISELY AND WELL,
I REPRINT THIS SUMMARY FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2018 FISHERMEN'S NEWS: THE (VERY) CONDENSED TWENTY-YEAR
REPORT OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE SUMMARIZED FROM THE 1997 – 2017 ANNUAL REPORTS
(and slightly augmented by the pastor's admittedly imperfect memory)**

1997: Power washed all exterior masonry, repainted east wing masonry. Scraped, primed and painted entire steeple area. Removed old carpeting from parlor; installed new carpeting. Installed new carpeting in pastor's office. Painted crib room. Repaired rotting exterior wood around door jambs, painted trim around all exterior doors. **1998:** Performed several major painting projects, including all east wing third floor class rooms. Repaired/improved sanctuary lighting and ground floor entrance hall. Installed back door security cameras for the church and music offices. Removed old sink/stove/refrigerator from the parlor kitchen and installed a new sink and cabinet. Installed new carpeting, wallpaper and furnishings in the crib room. **1999:** Installed new telephone system. Installed center ceiling light over the pulpit/podium area to improve reading conditions for worship leaders. Installed new entrance mats. Painted front facade of church. Placed formica on tables in the kindergarten room. Installed new sound system for the sanctuary. **2000:** Removal and replacement of the entire church heating/boiler system, including asbestos removal. Did extensive work to bring the elevator up to code. Upgraded sanctuary sound system to include new speakers, wireless mikes, a new amplifier and individual hearing units. Performed several painting tasks, including Grades 1/2, 5/6 and Kindergarten classrooms. Drafted plans for new front driveway and secured permits for same. Performed repairs to exterior lighting in the back parking lot. Roof valleys repaired. Gutters and downspouts cleaned, repaired or replaced as needed. Drywells were cleaned by the committee (*Rotor-Rooter quoted us \$1,500 to do this job; our cost: \$0*). Outside spotlights replaced and broken fixtures changed. Twenty Fellowship Hall table tops laminated with formica. **2001:** Installation and completion of the new front driveway, complete with removal of a very large tree. Eight-zone sprinkler/irrigation system installed. Landscaping, mulching and seeding of the front of the church property. Brick walls and columns for gates placed. Scraped and painted back wall of the church and entry doors. Replaced lighting system in back hallway. Removal and proper disposal of underground oil tank and fill and repaved the hole. Paved new side parking lots and line painted all lots. Replacement and upgrade of fire and burglar alarm to code. Entire boiler project completed with addition of new boiler controls. Plaque for donated sound system mounted. Damaged rain gutters repaired and replaced. Sanctuary and fellowship hall windows measured and new windows on order for replacement in 2002. **2002:** Entire Sanctuary and chancel painted and pews refinished. New acoustical ceiling placed in Fellowship Hall and rear hallway. New speaker system in Fellowship Hall. Full wall bookcase installed to house library in Adult Ed classroom. New fire alarm system completed to meet fire code. All sanctuary and fellowship hall windows replaced with energy efficient, maintenance free, soundproofed vinyl windows. New sensors installed on all exterior doors for burglar alarm system. All lighting fixtures and bulbs updated to energy efficient type. Replaced a main steam valve in heating system. Fine tuned new heating system controls for maximum efficiency. Painted Fellowship Hall, rear hallway and lavatory. New sign completed and installed in front of church. New carpeting installed in sanctuary. Replaced stair treads on landings in narthex. Replaced back stairway treads and mats. Air conditioning installed in sanctuary. Removed rotting tree from back of church. **2003:** Added two more handicapped parking spaces, rear of church. Tiled Women's Association storage closet floor. Repaired and added new equipment in two lavatories. Installed bulletin board in kindergarten room. Rearranged handicapped seating in rear of sanctuary. Illuminated choir area steps. Painted front hallway, stairwells, narthex and balcony area. Patched parking lot. Repaired gas leak in kitchen. Replaced boiler condensate pump. Established fire plan for all classrooms. Fine-tuned new heating and air conditioning system for maximum efficiency. **2004:** Installed new steam valve on boiler. Installed new pump and motor on new wing heating system. Installed rug and rockers in Cry Room. Installed new hardwood floor in parlor. Installed new stove in kitchen. Completed landscape work in front of church building. Cleaned out gutters, flower beds, replaced spot lights and touched up paint in back of building. Many other ongoing maintenance and cleaning tasks completed. Manned the grills for the church picnic. Conducted two All-Church Work Days with many faithful church members chipping in to polish, prune, vacuum, sweep, scrape, paint, haul trash, clean windows, scrub pews, disinfect toys, rake, trim hedges, weed, thatch the lawn, etc. **2005:** Steeple area was evaluated, inspected, sealed, scraped and painted. A RISE energy audit has been conducted. A "Deduct Meter" was installed on our lawn irrigation system, which will subsequently reduce our sewer bill. **2006:** Interior hall walls and exterior trip painted. Gutters and rainspouts cleaned and repaired. Installed a new CD recording device in sanctuary sound system. Painted outside trip on east sanctuary windows. **2007:** Installed forty-one vinyl replacement windows throughout entire east wing, thus completing the replacement of **all** windows in the church building. Replaced two exit doors. Power washed dirt and mold around the entire outside of the building. Installed new grease trap in the kitchen. Installed improved lighting and flooring in stairwells. **2008:** Painted interior and exterior trim of sanctuary windows and doors. Sealed cracks and repainted parking lot lines. Painted pillars and front façade of church. Initiated proceedings with T-Mobile for placement of a mobile phone antenna in steeple. **2009:** Full restoration and permanent siding of the steeple, with related roof repairs to stop leakage. Interior painting of hallways and doors. Installation of new faucets in rest rooms. **2010:** Full installation of T-Mobile/Omnipoint antennae with monthly rental paid to the church. Repainting of all church window shutters. Boiler expansion tank and pump replacement. Re-roofing of the sanctuary and steeple areas. Wireless internet routers installed throughout building. Installation of new toilets in second floor lavatories and downstairs lavatory by the rear door, and re-routed to connect to city sewer system, as our old septic system is clogged by tree roots in the side front yard. **2011:** New church organ purchased and installed. **2012:** Replaced landscape timbers in rear parking area, replaced bulbs of all parking lot lights. **2013** (*No official report this year in the Annual Report, but I know new parking lot signs were installed, many ongoing maintenance and cleaning tasks were completed, and the Committee manned the grills for the church picnic.*). **2014:** Conducted/oversaw comprehensive engineering survey of church heating needs. Applied permanent siding to décor and overhangs of the rear doors. Conducted repairs to church chimney leakage. Resurfaced entire rear and side parking areas and repainted the parking stripes. **2015:** Purchased new snow blower, replacing 40 year old former machine. Implemented National Grid Energy Savings Plan -- converting all lighting fixtures to LED, upgrading exit signs and converting emergency floodlights to single units. Fellowship Hall ceiling tiles painted. West wing window shutters replaced. A new high efficiency boiler system was installed for the west wing, replacing the former boiler system. **2016:** A Hartford loop was installed in steam boiler serving the sanctuary and east wing, along with a new thermostat system. Painted entire front façade, pillars and doors. Chimney leakage repaired with a short term (2-3 year) solution; this needs to be fully addressed as does the need for new roofing over the east and west wings. Hot water heater replaced. Women's lavatory stall doors widened and reconfigured to open outward. Church parlor renovated and refurnished by the Presbyterian Women. **2017:** Finished painting ceiling tiles in Fellowship Hall and two areas of the sanctuary damaged by water leaks. Improved (temporarily) halogenic lighting in the chancel for worship and concert choir performances. Installed window shading in 29Eleven room. New sound system installed with volume-control speakers placed in Kindergarten Room, Cry Room and Nursery; dedicatory plaque to the Braggers and Combs mounted in sanctuary.

THIS LINE FROM 2004 SHOULD BE ADDED FOR EACH YEAR: "Many other ongoing maintenance and cleaning tasks completed. Manned the grills for the church picnic. Conducted two All-Church Work Days with many faithful church members chipping in to polish, prune, vacuum, sweep, scrape, paint, haul trash, clean windows, scrub pews, disinfect toys, rake, trim hedges, weed, thatch the lawn, etc. "

Another reminder of your past generosity ... the \$75K structural refurbishing of our steeple and related roofing!

FISHERMEN'S NEWS

The Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian
805 Main Avenue; Warwick, Rhode Island
www.gccp.org

FEBRUARY 2010



STEEPLE DEDICATION JANUARY 24, 2010

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who helped make this celebration possible: to the Member Care Committee (*Elaine Magyar, chair*) for coordinating a delicious potluck meal; to the Flower Girls on Post Road for donating the beautiful bows and fifty yards of ribbon (*as well as to sexton John Pickup for literally going above and beyond the call of duty to secure the bows!*); to our special guests (*and master copper craftsman*) Jim Aldrich, his wife Maria and son Caleb, as well as Jim's apprentice, whose painstaking craftsmanship, thorough attention to detail, and characteristic thoroughness have worked wonders; to Buildings and Grounds committee members past and present (*Glenn Fairbairn, chair*) who've labored years to see this come to fruition; to all who so generously donated to our ongoing Capital Campaign; to all who were present to join in prayer and celebration, and to Treasurer David Dickerman, Trustees President Barry Baxter and members of the Stewardship Committee and Session for all the behind the scenes hours of strategizing, financial planning and paperwork necessitated to ensure timely payments in projects of this scope.

EXCERPTS FROM THE LITANY OF STEEPLE DEDICATION

As the steeple directs attention heaven-ward, it also serves as a unique witness to the community that this particular building is set apart for a purpose of the highest value. May this restored steeple proclaim to the community that we worship the God Most High, the Lord of Hosts, and that under this tower is proclaimed a message of high hope, heavenly aspiration, and grace which comes from above for all who will receive it.

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS, THE LOVE OF CHRIST PROCLAIM,
TILL ALL THE WORLD ADORE HIS SACRED NAME.

A reading from the Gospel of John: "I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen. No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven -- the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life."

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS, THE LOVE OF CHRIST PROCLAIM,
TILL ALL THE WORLD ADORE HIS SACRED NAME.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." Let us pray:

WE DEDICATE THIS STEEPLE, O LORD, TO YOUR HONOR AND GLORY. MAY IT CONTINUE TO HOLD THE CROSS AT HIGHEST ELEVATION FOR DECADES TO COME. UNDER THIS TOWER, O LORD, MAY THE FAITHFUL FIND SALVATION, AND THE CARELESS BE AWAKENED. MAY THE DOUBTING FIND FAITH, AND THE ANXIOUS BE ENCOURAGED. MAY THE TEMPTED FIND HELP, AND THE SORROWFUL COMFORT. MAY THE WEARY FIND REST, AND THE STRONG BE RENEWED. HERE MAY THE AGED FIND CONSOLATION, AND THE YOUNG INSPIRATION. AND MAY ALL WHO LOOK TO THIS CROSS DISCOVER IN FULLEST MEASURE THE HOPE IT PROCLAIMS, IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.



