



Christ Lutheran Church

Christ Church Comments

† May 2023

Christ Evangelical

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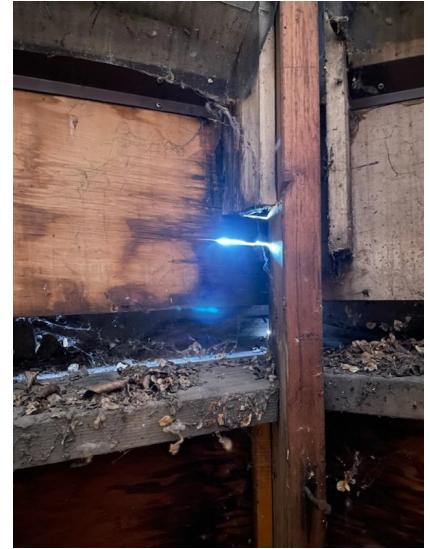
As many of you are aware, over the last few years we've had problems with water entering the steeple and causing damage to the ceiling in the rear of the sanctuary. This spring the property committee engaged local steeple experts to get an idea of what could be done about the problem. We worked with one firm based in Toledo, Ohio Building and Restoration, and another based out of Detroit, Detroit Steeplejack. OBR has done other work on our building in the past. Detroit Steeplejack has several positive reviews.

OBR's inspection revealed sizeable gaps that have developed in the steeple as the wood has degraded through the years. It is their evaluation that these gaps, and not the screened-in louvers, is the way in which water is getting into the building. As a temporary measure, they applied some caulk to minimize further damage. Detroit Steeplejack also inspected the steeple and came to the same conclusion - the wood has degraded over the years and needs to be repaired or replaced.

Another option would be to remove the steeple entirely. Church records and oral history indicate that the building was originally designed without a steeple and stood for at least a decade without it. Decades ago there was a consultant who worked with the synod who advised churches that they should all have both flat rooves and steeples. Several congregations in our synod are in the same position as we are, maintaining a steeple that was added on after the original building was completed.

If you are reading this article online, [you can follow this link to a folder](#) that contains bids from OBR and Detroit Steeplejack as well as photos of the steeple in its present condition. The bid from OBR is for the repair and

revitalization of the existing steeple. They estimate that it would need additional work about every five years in order to remain in good condition. There are two bids from Detroit Steeplejack. One is for the repair and revitalization of the steeple. That work is guaranteed for 15 years. The second quote is to remove the steeple entirely. Paper copies of these bids are available from the church office upon request.



Because of the size of this repair, the council has taken two steps:

1. Call a congregational meeting, as required by the church constitution, to approve one of these bids.
2. Authorize a special appeal to raise the funds necessary for this project. Our 2023 budget does not have the funds necessary to perform this work.

A congregational meeting is scheduled for May 7th following worship. This project will be the sole item on the agenda. If you have any questions about the project I invite you to reach out to me or to Carolyn Gardetto or Chuck Sanscrainte, property committee co-chairs.

Peace,

Pastor David

Take heart!
I have
overcome
the world.

John 16.33

Our pantry is seeing about 30 families a week now. Your cash donations are always welcomed, and your donations of food are needed too.



Personal care items: bars of soap, shampoo, tooth-paste

- Canned meat: Spam (or Spam like)
- Canned soup: (condensed is fine)

If you have any sturdy reusable bags with handles please bring them in.

Thank you to everyone who wished me a Happy Birthday, sent a card or handed me a card on Easter. I had a wonderful birthday and it was great to start it off by coming to church. I am happy to be back with my church family. Eleanor

GARDENS BEAUTIFICATION TEAM

No experience needed!

Folks of all ages, young and vintage alike!!

- If you have ever wanted to learn plantcare.
- If you enjoy being good stewards of God's Earth.
- If you have been looking for a way to help strengthen our community

OR

- get more involved here at church...

Please consider joining us in developing and implementing a new plan to beautify Christ Lutheran Church's grounds. We Need and Welcome your involvement!

A sign up sheet is now posted on the church bulletin board. You will be contacted in early May to line up our first meeting. If you have any questions feel free to contact Yvette Gronda at ygronda@gmail.com or (734)642-6024.

Rather than doing work that requires money the Gardens Team is asking that if anyone has perennials in their yard that need thinning please let me know and I will gladly pull some out for use at church. Yvette Gronda



HAVE YOU HAD A CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Please notify the church office with the details of your new address, **if you have moved, or have a new phone number, or are vacationing for an extended period of time.** This helps save postage on returned mail. All church contact information is found on page one.

The new website address for Christ Lutheran Church is:

christmonroe.com

News from around the church

Thank you to each of you who
"loaned" your Easter flowers for
our services. Not only did the flowers
look beautiful, the smell was
amazing! Laura Matthews

The Book Club will meet
May 25th @ Ann's.

*Note date change

The book Chasing History
by Carl Bernstein will be
discussed. *All are welcome*



Please mark your
calendar and plan
to participate!
**ANNUAL SPRING WORK
DAY 9:00 a.m. - noon
Saturday, May 6.**

A variety of inside and
outside tasks will
be tackled!



The Altar Guild is accepting donations to offset the costs
of making the artificial bouquets. These donations could be in
celebration of an event, in memory of a loved one, etc. any
amount is accepted. Contact Ann Link or Caryn Vavrick.

Please make checks out to Christ Lutheran Altar Guild

Scripture Readers

Thanks to Carol Miller for
organizing!

May 7 Geof Oetjens
May 14 Patrick Lewis
May 21 Polly VanAcker
May 28 Stephanie Hawkins

Ushers

Thanks to Patrick Lewis for
organizing!

May 7 Geof Oetjens
May 14 Patrick Lewis
May 21 Mary Jackel
May 28 Gary Huepenbecker

Assisting Minister

Thanks to Rusty Ward for
organizing!

May 7 Renee Merkel
May 14 Wayne Butts
May 21 Jim Jackel
May 28 Rusty Ward

CURRENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Summary Operating Statement

March 2023

YTD 2023

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Operating income	\$ 14,356	\$ 17,365	\$ 39,570	\$ 51,205
Operating expense	15,719	15,289	57,069	50,599
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (1,363)	\$ 2,076	\$ (17,499)	\$ 606

The loss that we have this month is due to largely from the repair of the
Elevator. The bills paid to have the repairs done was a little over \$3,000.
The total YTD loss is largely due to general giving being much lower than
expected and investments still not recovering due to slow market growth.