

# FIRE RECOVERY REPORT

for Annual Meeting on June 21, 2018

We have recovered well from the March 29, 2016 fire. In 2016 we were out of the building, worshiping at Ballard First Lutheran Church until September 11, 2016 when we returned to Foster Hall for worship. Building work continued, and on January 8, 2017 we returned to the Sanctuary for worship. What a wonderful homecoming! There was still some more building work to do, and it continued until March, when the last of the projects were finished.

On December 31, 2017, we had \$9,170 left in the Fire Recovery Fund. That was supplemented in January 2018 with a final insurance payment of \$22,831, and we anticipate a payment of \$12,960 from Belfor, returning excess funds they received in the process.

Combined with the existing building funds, we now have about \$47,000 available for future building issues, upgrades, and repairs.

Our UCC Insurance allowed for repairs to an "as-was" condition. In addition, we were able to make some green upgrades through an insurance policy rider. Thanks to the generosity of donors, the 2014 Auction Fund-a-Need of upstairs renovations, and the conscientious work of our contractor Belfor, we were able to make some other changes and upgrades to the building in order to better support the programs and ministry that use the building. Based on recommendations from an ad-hoc committee and affirmed by the church council, the following changes and upgrades were implemented:

- Removed the aisle and chancel carpet in the Sanctuary and refinished the floors instead
- Moved choir railings from in front of choir pews and piano to south Chancel wall
- Replaced the Sanctuary pews with high-quality chairs for flexible seating
- Refinished floors in Narthex rather than carpet
- Remodeled main floor bathrooms from three to two "almost ADA" with air hand driers, automatic shut-off faucets, diaper changing tables, and upgraded accessible toilets and sinks
- Installed Coffee Bar in Gallery with microwave, refrigerator, and sink
- Replaced main floor water fountain with new wall ADA compliant fountain that also allows for filling of water bottles and coffee carafes.
- Added sound system jacks in the Sanctuary
- Installed Ethernet wiring and jacks throughout building
- Upgraded carpet throughout from replacement grade to high use
- Installed swing gate at top of interior stairs
- Installed new Gallery exterior door
- Replaced 12th Ave door lock
- Added new payment drops in office wall and furnace room wall into locked box

- Filled in lower windows in Gallery and Lobby
- Installed awnings at Gallery exterior door and parking lot door
- Added some locking storage cabinets in main floor hall
- Installed child-proof hardware in Nursery
- Installed three new furnaces, rerouting the Sanctuary ducts to heat from below rather than above, and adding three zones to allow for more efficient scheduling
- Installed mailboxes for groups downstairs
- Added vestibule, door & lock at base of stairs
- Installed locks on all downstairs kitchen cabinets
- Replaced chairs in meeting rooms throughout the building with standard stackable high-use chairs
- Replaced tables in meeting rooms with lightweight sturdy tables
- Installed flooring on Foster Hall ramp
- Rekeyed and added locks for all doors, with separate key designations based on user need and separating the building into an upstairs zone and downstairs zone
- Converted basement utility sink from wall hung to floor sink with tub surround
- Added automatic shut-off faucets and electric hand driers in downstairs bathrooms
- Moved door to downstairs ADA restroom to south wall
- Covered some openings in the foundation

I am grateful for the work of Belfor, and especially Ted Sitterly and Steve Thymian, and for Ron Jensen, the most recent adjustor from UCC Insurance. They got everything done and brought the project to a close. I'm grateful for the members and friends of St. Paul's, and their flexibility, graciousness, and encouragement. A church is a community, not a building, and this has been a magnificent and faithful community throughout the process, as well as before and after! And I'm especially grateful to Tim Devine for his vision and hope for this congregation, and for his patience, flexibility and articulation of needs and priorities. We are blessed indeed.

*-David Anderson, volunteer liaison to the fire recovery insurance and renovation process.*