COMMUNITY CHURCH OF DURHAM
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WE SEEK TO BE...
Grounded in Faith
Filled with Compassion
Inspired & Committed to Action in the Broader Community
Alive and Relevant in a Rapidly Changing World

September 2023
Capital Projects Team Report #5 (last report was July 23rd)
Capital Projects Team: John Belcher, Doug Bencks, Scott Bogel, Marty Gorham, Don Smith

LEVERAGING OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DOLLARS!
Potential funding opportunities

The church is continuing to pursue two potential grant opportunities. One is from the US Department of Energy and is specifically set up for non-profits, including churches and the grant will be administered through designated primary grantors, who will then award specific grants to individual non-profit organizations for awards of up to $200,000. We have submitted a survey and notice of interest to Interfaith Power & Light, who are submitting to be a primary grantor.

The other is an historic resources grant through the NH State LCHIP program. We have been working with the NH Preservation Alliance, who helps entities across the state with their applications, and they have encouraged us to get a historic assessment report prepared by The Preservation Company. A comprehensive assessment report is required for any grant application greater than $50,000. We have talked with representatives from the Dover First Parish Church, which successfully applied for a $140,000 grant that was used primarily for major window restoration work. They worked with the Preservation Company to prepare their historic assessment report prior to submitting their grant application. So we are very optimistic that we can get a significant grant amount for our steeple, sanctuary windows, and/or front entrance work.

We have solicited and received a proposal from The Preservation Company, which totals $6,500, plus reimbursable expenses. The NH Preservation Alliance administers a small pot of LCHIP grant funds as a match for historic assessments like this. We have submitted an application to the NH Preservation Alliance for that grant match, which would then result in a cost of only $3,250-$3,500 for the church. We expect to hear by the end of September if they have approved our application for this matching grant for the historic assessment.

Doug Bencks