

### **Special Church Funds:**

Finally, the church gratefully accepts donations of all sizes to our various endowment funds. The programs, services, and ministries of the church are made possible by the financial support of our endowment funds. These funds include:

**The Chidley Scholarship Fund and the Jenks Scholarship Fund** provide support for seminary students

**The Eberle and Redmond Funds** support the church's youth ministry.

**The General Endowment Fund**, which supports the operating budget of the church.

**The Irwin Fund** for health ministries.

**The Poduska Fund** provides general support for the church

**The Prudential Fund, the Palmer Special Needs Fund, and the VanAken Fund** are used for maintenance, repair, and improvement of our physical plant.

**The Reno Garden Fund**, for the support and maintenance of the Reno Garden

**The Wallace Music Fund, the Music Endowed Fund, or the Music Restricted Fund** which each support our musical ministry.

**The Youth Pilgrimage Fund.**

## **Wish List**



First Congregational  
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## **First Congregational Church**

*a Christ-centered, nurturing community;  
growing in faith,  
serving in love, and  
welcoming all with joy.*

### **Capital Wish List**

In the spring of 2009, the congregation of the First Congregational Church in Winchester voted to embark on its first capital campaign in over a generation. Despite the worst domestic economic environment in over seventy-five years, almost \$1.2 million were pledged, enabling us to make vital repairs and improvements to our magnificent spiritual home.

While the generosity of our community made it possible for us to complete many projects, from the replacement of the slate roof, to the repair of the stained glass windows in the sanctuary to the upgrading of our Church School and Youth classroom spaces, we were unable to address many of the worthwhile capital projects we identified. With these unmet needs in mind, we are creating and updating this list with the hope that our building will be a suitable vehicle through which we continue to live out our purpose of being *a Christ-centered, nurturing community; growing in faith, serving in love, and welcoming all with joy.*



# WISH LIST

## **Potential Projects:**

**Sanctuary Organ (this is a priority):** The organ is over forty years old and is showing all the signs of needing more maintenance than the annual “oil change” to keep it viable for the musical demands of weekly worship. Likely cost is at least \$120,000. It may be possible to break the work into smaller parts, if funds become available that don’t meet this figure.

**Communication System (this is a priority):** The church needs a more modern internal system for use in emergency situations.

**Plumbing (this is a priority):** Some very old pipes need replacing.

**Chidley Hall/Dix Street Entrance Improvements:** This entrance presents challenges to people with limited mobility. There are two steps, no railings, and very heavy doors. To make this handicapped accessible would require a complete re-design of the entrance and the construction of an exterior ramp.

**Ripley Chapel Improvements:** This beautiful space needs a variety of improvements. Repairs are needed for the stained glass windows. There is a need for railings leading up to the chancel (which we believe would cost around \$1,500).

**Classroom updates:** Current classrooms have black chalk boards and no audio-visual capacity. We would like to change to white boards (**this is a priority**) and to explore having large screen monitors, speakers and lap-tops for each classroom. We’d like to have our WiFi upgraded so it works in all the rooms on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. (Likely cost for all of this would be in the region of \$9,000. That would include equipment and installation for the four 3<sup>rd</sup> floor classrooms, the Henry Room and the Forum Room.) We would also like a professional grade video camera, microphone and tripod for use with the Church School and Youth (\$1,100.00).

**Energy Efficiency:** Utility costs are one of the largest items in our annual budget. Investments that allow us to reduce these costs would free funds for core church programs. Of interest is installing solar panels on our flat roof.

**Church grounds:** Each spring the church lawns, trees and plantings are in need of restorative work. Upgrades would be helpful.

While this list contains some of the specific needs that have been identified by the leadership of our church, it is not meant to be final. Reading this, you may have your own thoughts or visions about ways to beautify or improve our church. The beautiful Reno Garden is an inspiring example of such a vision.