

ELEVATOR REVIEW & UPDATE

In late September 2023 our elevator was found to be unsafe to operate during an annual inspection and was shut down. A closer examination determined that the hydraulic cylinder had sprung a leak underground and would need to be replaced. During October and November the Property Team sought out three competitive bids to cover the basic removal and installation of a new hydraulic cylinder. At the Fall Congregational Meeting on November 26 the Property Team's proposal to contract MEI Elevator to do the work was approved by vote of the members present. The total costs for the elevator repairs are still unknown because the hydraulic cylinder is underground and the channel, which is 20 feet deep, will have to be inspected once the cylinder is removed. The range of cost for the project is between a probable \$87,779 and a worst case \$111,205. The church has been aided in this project by a generous, anonymous gift of \$32,000 given by one of our families. The remainder of the cost will be paid for by taking a loan from the UCC Cornerstone Fund.

Following the Fall Congregational Meeting on November 26, a contract was signed with MEI on December 1, and an initial downpayment was made using part of the anonymous gift. MEI sent a small team of four workers to begin preparation work on December 5. They suspended the elevator car, secured it, took measurements, and ordered a new cylinder. After disconnecting the old cylinder from the car, they noticed about two gallons of hydraulic fluid had leaked into the pit area and they cleaned up that area. The workers stated that their work was done for now, until they receive word from the cylinder manufacturer that it is ready to ship. Estimated time of delivery for the new cylinder is 10-12 weeks.



38th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALE - THANKS!

Thank you to all those who helped make this year's Christmas Tree Sale successful. We especially appreciate the efforts of the Tree Sale Team - they ordered the trees, set up the lot, made bank deposits, filled in open shifts, opened the lot daily, took down the lot, and much more! We are so thankful to Don and Connie Cross for joining the team. We thank all of our church members and friends who volunteered to sell trees, including our friends with the Knellsville 4-H Club. The customers really enjoyed the ornaments we gave with a brochure about our December church activities. A special thanks to Church School who decorated the ornaments!



SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIP - TIME TO SURVEY INTEREST

For the third summer in a row our church has been invited to participate with the Pilgrim UCC in Grafton on a High School Youth Mission Trip. The group will be traveling to Ohio to work on Hiram Farm July 7-14. Hiram Farm is a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) non-profit, community project born out of the desire to provide inspiration and meaningful work...

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