

## **A Plea from Your Trustees**

As many of you are aware, during the warm days this year we have had a hard time keeping the interior of the Sanctuary and the Family Life Center cool. Within the last week it has become apparent that the large chiller outside of the Family Life Center is on its last leg. This unit is the primary source for air conditioning for both our Sanctuary and the Family Life Center.

Over the last two years we have made several “band-aid fixes” to the equipment. However, during a recent breakdown, it was determined that 50% of the chiller is now inoperable, and the other 50% is only operating at around a 45% efficiency. This is due primarily to leaks and mechanical issues within the 18-year-old unit.

The Trustees and Finance Director met last week and determined that for St. Andrew’s to maintain our level of community interaction within our church facility, the chiller must be replaced. This was voted on and approved. However, this comes with a cost.

There are a number of different avenues available for us to cover this cost. First, we can refinance our existing Family Life Center mortgage with the Western NC United Methodist Foundation (which holds our current note) and include the needed monies for the chiller purchase. This will increase our monthly mortgage payment from around \$1,995 to \$2,430.

Secondly, we are also going to ask the larger outside groups that use our church facilities if they would consider assisting us with a one-time financial donation.

Finally, we need to ask you, the congregation, to help. The more dollars that we raise from within the congregation, the lower the amount needed to refinance. You, the congregation, have never failed to provide support when there has been a financial issue with the church physical plant. We, the Trustees, have been good stewards of your donations in the past and will be once again. Any dollars you can contribute would be a help toward the replacement of this dilapidated chiller unit.

To replace the chiller we will need in the neighborhood of \$115,000 - \$120,000. It will take almost 17 weeks to obtain the new unit and we hope that the current chiller, with God’s help, will hold on a little longer. ***A charge conference will be held on Sunday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. with members of the Church Council to approve next steps.***

If you need more information, please call me on my cell at (704) 517-1561.

Yours in Christ’s work;

Kenn Bullock – Chair of the Trustees