

## Grounds Ministry Report, 2021-2022

Ministry members: Susan Baker and Denise Martin co-chairs; George Lally, Amanda Morgan, Valerie Bidwell, Greg Evanylo, Joe Powers, and Walt Pirie

Valued helpers: Tom Bube, David Warner, and Daniel Volger

### Purpose:

- 1) Improve and maintain grounds (almost 6 acres) – plant material, natural areas, grassy areas, gardens, meditation path and stations with benches, water feature, labyrinth, bee corral, shelter and storage buildings, picnic areas, storm water control
- 2) Protect wildlife that inhabits the UUC grounds.
- 3) Welcome visitors and promote use of the UUC grounds

### Mission and Vision:

- 1) Provide areas for outdoor meetings, picnics and other gatherings
- 2) Provide habitat for wildlife
- 3) Provide a safe and beautiful place for meditation and solitude
- 4) Provide an area that welcomes UUC neighbors

### Accomplishments:

- 1) Repair winter damage caused by weather and snow plowing
- 2) Improve storm water drainage (extensive work on two detention ponds)
- 3) Remove maple tree in playground that was too close to the building; trim second maple tree in playground; remove dead willow tree
- 4) Add three new trees
- 5) Fall, spring and VT Big Event workdays – improvements made to grounds, mulching and chipping
- 6) Vinyl siding put on shelter walls, minor roof repairs to shelter and painting wood framing

Future Needs: a dead pine tree at the corner of the lower large parking lot will need to be removed. The shelter roof needs protective painting. The church board needs to appoint a playground committee to plan and care for equipment and space in the playground. There is an ongoing need for consistent helpers for grounds work.

The current co-chairs (Susan Baker and Denise Martin) will continue to play a part in the Grounds Ministry, but both are retiring from co-chair positions. Replacement(s) need to be found effective November 2022.

Expenditures: Landscaping - \$2216.73, Labyrinth - \$71.38, Playground - \$189, Snow removal - \$175, Mowing - \$550 (Note \$950.12 was spent for driveway ditch work and detention pond grading but was charged to "Contingency Fund")

Submitted by Susan Baker and Denise Martin