


Madison Heights Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

 149 Main Street  
Madison Heights, VA 24572

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## MADISON HEIGHTS MESSENGER

No. 17

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### Esprit De Corps

Esprit de corps is a French phrase that refers to the moral of the group. It is a feeling of pride, fellowship, and common loyalty shared by the members of a particular group. When I was in the Marine Corps we frequently experienced and endorsed the concept of esprit do corps. Many, if not most, of my fondest memories in the realm of organized religion also deal with the experience of fellowship during group activities. This connected togetherness enhances the religious experience in the life of the believer and motivates us to be proactive, instead of reactive, in various areas of doing ministry together.

On Tuesday, a handful of team members gathered together for a walk through of the facilities to look at and consider ways we may be able to enhance the existing property of the church. The list of items that we noticed has been printed and placed in the vestibule. Some of the items will require, group participation, financial resources, or board approval. Individuals are encouraged to look at the list and if there is an item that you are willing and able to do, feel free to take the initiative and handle it. The list will be updated as we progress. The team plans to meet monthly on the second Tuesday for facility maintenance and esprit de corps.

The initial facility to do list includes; spray and pull weeds, cut down vines by the front, replace Plexiglas over stain glass windows, replace mail box for parsonage, paint, door stops for doors, check the electric box in the balcony, clean up balcony, clean the stains on the carpet in the sanctuary, repair, replace, or remove split backs on pews, replace burned out lights in the sanctuary (four flood lights and one chandelier light), paint ceiling in sanctuary, stop door to sanctuary from slamming, paint trim in choir room, clean stain on floor in choir room, paint storage room wall with UGL Drylok to slow down or stop water from seeping in, left door bell is not working, replace broken secretaries desk, repair crack in wall in Sunday school classroom, replace two windows in Sunday school classroom that have cracks in them, replace ceiling panels in finance room, remove glue off of stall divider in men's restroom, remove paint on counter in men's restroom, replace ceiling panel in library, replace ceiling panels in pantry, paint back door, paint back steps, paint custodian closet, paint basement walls with UGL Drylok, haul away unused storage items, replace ceiling tiles in fellowship hall, hook up gas logs, ice maker is leaking, paint kitchen with UGL Drylok, clean up kitchen, paint trim in fellowship hall, paint outside door in Fellowship hall, clean outside windows, paint gutters, paint chimneys, spray and pull weeds in back, re-coat blacktop, paint parking lines, replace molding at roofline in back, clean out retaining wall area between Fellowship hall and driveway, replace oil tank (it is underground and probably leaking), clean windows on outside, cover hole in cinder block wall, paint outside.

The plan is to develop team work, fellowship, and esprit de corps. There are a few items that got handled as we were walking through the facilities. Not all of these projects are things that have to be done, some are questionable, some will require large team participation, some things are currently being handles, and some will require board approval. It is like I learned in the Boy Scouts in regards to pitching a tent. After selecting the site, you just need to get the tent up off of the ground, then you secure it, and then you make the necessary adjustments to get it as tight as possible. This is a first step of esprit do corps. Thank you for your support.

Thank you,  
*George*