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TAKING CARE OF OUR HOME SO THAT IT'S A WELCOMING AND SAFE PLACE FOR ALL

Here at Shepherd of the Valley, we take care of our home. And it's important to us that our physical space is welcoming and safe for all.

We will know we're successful in that when every person who enters our doors also feels at home.

How do you know you're home? When we feel as comfortable coming in the back door as we are the front door. When we can find our way around safely and easily. When we are warmly greeted. And when our needs are met.

This year, we're continuing to take steps toward this goal. We are making our home even more inviting, and easier to navigate by improving signage and updating our information walls.

Parts of our church home are over forty years old. Some areas need a little TLC, and others need a bit more than that. Did you know that our fire suppression system (sprinklers) in the Sanctuary needs to be updated? We have ongoing roof and HVAC maintenance. And items like computers and projectors have a limited lifespan.

Just like at our individual homes, the costs to warm and cool our church and to maintain adequate insurance are increasing. So is the cost to keep our parking lot and sidewalks clear of snow. These are just some of the ongoing maintenance items we have to think about this year.

The hope for *Centered in Christ* is to increase gifts and offerings by at least \$200,000. Pray for a generous response. We invite you to prayerfully consider increasing your offering to God for the coming year. Be ready to make your commitment known. You can submit your Statement of Intent on or before Investment Weekend, November 16 & 17, 2024, by placing it in the offering plate during worship or mailing it to the church office. With your help we'll not only say we care about our home, but we'll make good on that by reinvesting in it to welcome those of us who are already here, and those not here yet.

