

Energy Efficiency Grant Helped Replace HVAC



Castleton United Methodist Church received an energy efficiency grant from the State of Indiana for the Ministries Center to help in replacing the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment that was installed in 1984. The project has now been completed and the temperatures are more equalized throughout the building.

Thanks to the efforts of Deanne Heidrich who identified the need many months ago, the Indiana Office of Energy Development awarded the church a \$37,500 matching grant allowing the church to replace the old HVAC equipment for half the cost. This grant was funded with federal stimulus dollars made available through the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. To read more about this act and other projects receiving similar funds, go to http://www.recovery.gov/About/Pages/The_Act.aspx.

The grant process was not an easy one. Deanne had to contact the Historic Preservation Department of Natural Resources to identify any historic building that may have been affected. Just the guidelines for the grant are over 10 pages in length, and there was special information required from the church's bank.

James Gettz and Deanne worked on a bid package and got competitive bids from multiple vendors. Although the application itself was only 6 pages, it required 10 attachments. The contract is 30 pages long with a multitude of legalese.

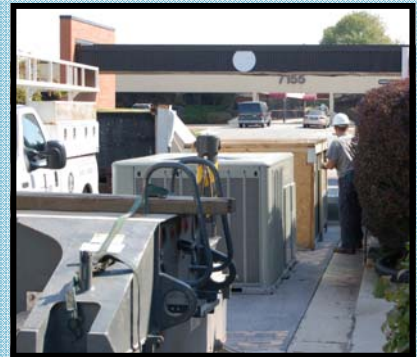
The new equipment has now been installed, and the church has already begun to realize a significant energy savings.



Huge equipment positioned to remove the old unit and hoist the new one into place.



The old unit coming down and ready to be hauled away.



The new unit being readied for installation.



The base of the new unit being put into place.



It is a long way over and a long way down!



The heavy work is almost done. Now for all the connections.

