

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – SANTA ROSA
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES - FEBRUARY 28, 2018

The Finance Committee of Santa Rosa First United Methodist Church met on February 28, 2018 in the Montgomery Campus library. Present were: Joan Gates, Marty Thompson, Peg Ferrel, Lynn Chandler, Janet Tonkin, Tosaka Buinimasi, Mike Ferrel, Sam Cox, and Mary Brunet, Church Administrator.

1. Sam welcomed new members, and everyone introduced themselves.
2. Sam offered an opening prayer, and said he believes we can find the effective balance as a committee by taking our financial responsibilities seriously and understanding the spiritual foundation of helping manage the financial aspects of our church's mission.
3. Mary provided a brief orientation to our financial statement formats, both the income and expense statements and the fund balances, using the December and January financial packets as the examples.
4. Mary reported that we finished 2017 in the black, with an excess of revenue over expenses of \$323.50, including our mortgage expenses. Church members' giving in November and December was especially strong, considering the fires. Twenty-three members of our church lost their homes.
5. The January statement were reviewed by Mary. Because our pledge campaign won't occur until April due to the fires, we have asked members to continue their giving at least at their 2017 level. Giving was down 10.6% from January, 2017, but because of some one-time accounting adjustments, we still had a \$3,741 gain (\$791 including mortgage expenses). Total revenues were \$72,831 and total expenses, including mortgage expenses, were \$72,040.
6. The committee discussed the importance of members continuing to give at least at their 2017 levels between now and the pledge campaign, and the importance of our pledge campaign, inasmuch as we do not want to have a "fill the gap" mini-campaign later in the year.
7. Sam reported that we have approximately \$70,000 in our Fire Recovery Fund. Sam has been meeting with Pastor Blake and Norm Hardin, our Disaster Management Director, as to best approaches with this Fund. Our Conference consultants and UMCOR officials advise us to hold on to most of our funds for now because of new needs that will arise during the post-fire months ahead.
8. We will devote time at our next meeting to answering questions from committee members about the nature of any of the revenue, expense, or fund balance accounts within our reports.
9. Mike volunteered to serve as our recording secretary beginning with the March meeting.
10. Mike offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

