

Minutes of the Finance Committee
First United Methodist Church, Santa Rosa
Wednesday, September 18, 2019 — Carriage House

Present: Sam Cox (Chair), Janet Tonkin, Jack Dupre, Larry Wofford, Naomi Niimi, Mike Ferrel, Peg Ferrel, Kris McKelvey, Joan Gates, Tokasa Buinimasi, Janis Brewster and Laura Blum.

Sam called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. An opening prayer was offered. The minutes of the August meeting were approved by consensus.

New Bookkeeper

Janis introduced our new bookkeeper, Laura Blum who reviewed her impressive bookkeeping experience. She'll be working two days per week for FUMC.

July financial statements

1. We experienced another weak month in August, with total income of \$52,960, and total expenses of \$68,094, for a net loss of \$15,134. Our year-to-date loss is now \$11,926. Our year-to-date budget is a loss of \$17,739.
2. Pledged and unpledged giving for July and August totaled \$85,464 versus \$118,566 for July and August, 2018. This comparison is a singular explanation for our losses for the two months.
3. Our task, then, is to encourage giving during the fourth quarter. The finance article in the October *Roseleaf* does this.
4. Our Personnel expenses continue below budget and last year: \$256,029 year-to-date versus \$316,659 last year and \$285,735 budget.
5. Our operating cash continues to be stable, despite the losses, at \$66,165 plus \$37,550 in operating reserves and \$55,004 in mortgage account reserves.

Discussion centered on possible explanations for the two weak months, but nothing is apparent. About \$8K of the shortfall can be attributed to a few families leaving the church. Also, some families contributed their entire pledge amount early in the year.

Janis will send out contribution reports for 9-months YTD, which may spur some catching up.

2020 Budgeting

Notes will be sent to work areas requesting 2020 budget information. They will be due back around December 1.

Montgomery Cleanup Day, 9/28

Sam encouraged our participation.

Report from UMW

Peg was prepared to give a report on UMW finances, but decided to wait until next month and present a quarterly report.

The meeting closed at 7:31 PM with prayer led by Sam.

(Notes taken by Jack)