

**Finance Meeting Minutes
Prospect United Methodist Church
January 12, 2012**

In Attendance: Carla Heister, Tim Krauss, Jane Pallokat, Sue Powers,
Chairman John Rioux, Pastor Bob Sorozan, Don Titus, and Jill Wilson

Minutes From Last Meeting: The minutes from the meeting of December 8, 2011 were approved with one correction.

Correction: "Chris Wilson responded that efforts were being made to pay back the Endowment Fund for money that was loaned from it for roof renovations. (\$54,927 gap)

Old Business: The annual Church budget for 2012 was approved at the Charge Conference on Sunday, January 8, 2012. There is a projected \$27,955 deficit for the 2012 budget. There were 100 pledges for 2011. There are 76 pledges for 2012. \$19,000 was received from people who did not pledge in 2011. \$25,000 was received in plate offerings in 2011. About \$4,000 was contributed in the "2011-has-13-months" fund-raiser.

The Finance Committee agreed to put the "13-month fund-raiser" on hold for 2012. Naomi McConnell will be asked to send 2011 contribution statements to all parishioners who pledged in 2011. They are needed for IRS purposes, and they will hopefully encourage people to get their pledges up to date. The Stewardship Committee will also send letters to all people who have not responded to the November, 2011 pledge drive. Volunteers from the Finance Committee will meet with John Rioux by February 2, 2012, and conduct a phone campaign directed at parishioners who have yet to pledge for the 2012 year.

New Business: The Committee discussed the question: Should the Stewardship and Finance Committees remain separate entities? It was agreed that they should remain two separate committees because their functions are different. At times, both committees should meet together.

Tim Krauss reported that Dave Corey is willing to help on a 2011 Church audit, but he needs a partner to assist him. John Rioux agreed to contact Don and Jane Workman about this. Bill Katt and Lane Ashworth were also being considered. Jane Pallokat

suggested that it might be helpful to post this need for audit help on the Church Conference bulletin board. The last Church audit was done in 2008 for the 2007 year.

Pastor Sorozan related that the New York Conference wants a weekly report from each member church on church attendance, charitable contributions, offerings, and small group meetings. Don Titus felt this was micromanaging our church and a burden on the volunteers and minister. Jane Pallokat felt the weekly financial report would be inaccurate. Pastor Sorozan said he would attempt to comply with the weekly reporting request, and the Committee agreed to supply him with the weekly offering counter sheet.

Jill Wilson inquired about where the money raised at the Victorian Tea would be placed in the budget.. Tim Krauss said it was in the General Fund, but he would check with Scott McNeil about where his group would like it spent. This touched off a lively discussion about whether or not Church groups were filing the designated form ahead of time with the Administrative Council and Finance Committee with regard to fund-raising activities. Some groups such as the Bargain Center and Church Fair Committee seemed to be exempt from this form requirement. Other groups (Men's Dinner, Renaissance Dinner, Music Tag Sale, and Victorian Tea) appear to have to file the form. Jane Pallokat stressed that this needs to be clarified. John Rioux agreed to bring the fund-raising request forms to the next Administrative Council meeting. He will also contact the sponsors of upcoming fund-raising events and remind them about the need to file the form and clear it with the appropriate committees before the events take place.

**Next Meeting: The Finance Committee will meet on Monday, February 13, 2012
at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Don Titus