

**Port Charlotte UMC  
Finance Meeting  
December 14, 2015**

Attending: Gary McCullough, Terry Hixson, Doris, Hixson, Carol Hansen, Nancy Bosserdet, Tom Wenck, Tom Marshall, Mike Sniecinski, Brian James, Chuck Kinter.

Pastor Brian opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the November meeting were accepted.

Financial report was given by Financial Secretary Nancy Bosserdet. At the end of November, the church's giving was good, providing a total for the year of \$736,639. This number is only \$36,000 less than the total giving for 2014. Nancy reported that we were \$3,000 in the red from the Expo.

Gary McCullough reviewed the budget and changes made since November's meeting. The significant changes occurred in the Staff-Parish budget. The Church Council added funds back into the budget, bringing the total budgeted amount for 2015 to a bit over \$784,000. The Council approved tapping the contingency fund for up to \$21,000 if necessary to achieve a balanced budget for 2016.

The CWM budget will be reviewed carefully in July; another tuition increase may be needed for the 2016 fall semester. Profits from CWM go into the General Fund of the church.

The Church Council approved setting the suggested donation for WNO at \$5.00. Gary asked the finance committee members to think about where profits from WNO should go and be prepared to decide at the January meeting. Choices include local ministries, the General Fund, Mission budget, and Trustees' budget.

Gary also asked that the committee members think about additional ways to raise revenue to balance the budget and/or replace funds from contingency funds. These ideas will be discussed at the January meeting.

Reporting the giving figures and budgeted needs to the congregation in the linear fashion we have been using in the bulletin is somewhat misleading. Gary suggested changing to a quarterly system based upon the history of our giving that usually follows a more quarterly format of 27% followed by 24% then 20% and 29% for the final quarter.

Having someone report to the congregation every other month beginning in February was decided upon.

Pledge card results still are not numerous enough to be very helpful. The group discussed reasons for so few being turned in and ways to improve the results in coming years. The need for a more informative stewardship program will be addressed by Pastor Brian and others. The possibility of using a Herb Miller program is being considered.

Gary McCullough asked the committee members to be prepared to review the Discipline and Financial Policies of the church at the January meeting.

Chuck Kinter reviewed and summarized the renovation project. We have \$658,000 in revenue and Phase 1 is paid for. If all pledges come in during 2016, we will have about \$100,000 for additional work. Chuck said we saved about \$70,000 on Phase 1 and were able to make several other improvements including exterior painting of the sanctuary, playground upgrade and improvements for the pre-school, and pressure washing the church roof. With \$70,000 saved, and \$54,000 was spent on additional items.

Church volunteers, especially in painting, accounted for at least \$10,000 in savings.

The meeting was closed with prayer.