

MUUS NEWS ADDENDUM

THE FOLLOWING WAS INADVERTENTLY OMITTED FROM
THE SEPTEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

FINANCE TASK FORCE UPDATE

The members of the Financial Task Force include Christine Edelson, Ed Edelson, George Roberts, board treasurer Betty Bazin, and Jerry Ross as chair. Diane Langlois contributed much to the work of the Task Force and has now stepped off the project. Following submission of our Interim Report in April, the Board authorized the Task Force to continue its work with the goal of submitting a set of final recommendations by the end of September.



Perhaps two of the most important objectives the Task Force undertook was the development of “balanced” budget options for FY10-11 and the design of an annual fund drive that would both support this budget as well as build stewardship in the congregation. Working with the board, others in leadership, and the congregation as a whole, these tasks were largely accomplished and the congregation approved a balanced budget at its June meeting. The financial details of this budget were reviewed and confirmed by the board at its August meeting. Although not all the objectives in the original budget could be met, an increase in our minister’s time from 20 to 24 hours/wk was fully funded. And again, while not all the goals of stewardship development were realized, the congregation expanded its capacity to deal with and meet its financial responsibilities.

Throughout the summer the Task Force has continued to assess the financial operations of the congregation and research ways these could be strengthened. We’ve looked at:

- the handling of endowment funds
- day-to-day financial administration
- facilities management
- coordination of administrative activities
- an ongoing mechanism for financial planning
- stewardship development

In our work we’ve tried to be both innovative as well as pragmatic. We believe we will be coming forward with a set of recommendations that will help move the congregation forward in significant ways but which can reasonably be implemented within our available resources. We welcome additional input. Anyone in the congregation who would like more information on the work of the task force or has ideas to share is encouraged to contact any member of the task force.

Jerry Ross
Finance Task Force Chair
