

**CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
December 9, 2008**

**IMPORTANT DATES
January 17th – Budgets are Due**

PRESENT: Coles Mallory, Chris Laudon, Kim Shute, Don Mallinson, Russ Milham, Bob Thorsen, Dennis Greene, David Pedrick, Kelly Bailey, Chris Yalanis, Bill Hawkin, Rick Shute, Beth Milham, Susan VanDerhoof, Halycon Westall.

PROCESS OBSERVER: Chis Yalanis

It was a day of celebration today for Channing Church with two exciting news items. First that Rev. Freedman and her husband Peter welcomed their first baby, Liza this morning. The second exciting news was announced by Dennis Greene during check-in. He announced that Channing Church has received a \$440,000 grant from Saving America's Treasures toward the restoration of the steeple. This grant constitutes the largest grant they have given this year. Don Mallinson said he will put together a timeline as requested by John Burnham.

MINUTES: The minutes from the November meeting were approved as presented.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – Coles

Coles stated that balancing the budget depends on three things:

1. The Economic Crisis does not impact the wedding revenue.
2. No new programs are initiated
3. The question of raises

The money for the Steeple Project needs to:

1. Invest money in most secure places.
2. We will need to have temporary financing in place since pledges come in over a 2 or 3 year period and construction will take place in 6 months.
3. There will need to be a separate person to handle capital campaign pledges.
4. There also needs to be a person to help Russ with the accounting for the grants. This can be an internal person.
5. An external audit needs to be conducted. Norm Moore is working on it.

Insurance Policy – Open Flames in Church

The Property Committee came to a consensus on the issue of open flames in the church and is recommending the following:

1. Candles would be allowed on the altar.
2. Prefer not to have open flames in the pews.

3. For rentals there would not be any open flames allowed anywhere except on the altar.

Russ suggested we take time to formulate the new policy. It was suggested that this may be our last candlelight service on Christmas Eve.

PROPERTY – Chris Laudon & David Pedrick

Furnace – The new gas furnace (350,000 BTUs) is on order from R.B. Queern. The flu/chimney liner is done. Due to a failed relay that was replaced on December 1st, the existing furnace failed 2 Sundays in a row in late November. The joint was loosened up when the flu was put in. The chimney needs repointing and new flashings are needed to stop leaks that are now occurring.

Chris L. reported that a contractor will look at the drainage outside the Sanctuary soon. Holly Grosvenor is working to develop all bid documents and will also develop a plan to bring all aspects together.

FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE

Interviews went very well. The report will probably be ready in early January at which time there will be a meeting with the Board and a meeting with the congregation for those interested.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Russ

- Russ expressed concern that the music department had gone over their budget. The problem with the organ and the sound system cost \$2,000 to fix.
- He received the Ballou District and UUA’s request for money but hasn’t paid anything yet.
- Structures North was paid thru November.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE – Beth

Beth presented the design of the Welcoming Congregation sign agreed upon by the Social Justice Committee. The congregation had opportunity to voice their opinion about the sign. Don made a motion and it was seconded by Russ that the Board approve the design of the Welcoming Congregation plaque as recommended by the Social Justice Committee with approval of the Property Committee.

MINISTER – SUBSTITUTION ISSUES – Chris Y.

Chris asked if there were any issues regarding Amy’s absence. Russ stated that payment for travel of guest ministers is .85 cents/mile. There were compliments to Amy on the handbook she put together. Chris L. asked about keeping Amy in the loop. Chris

Y. said she would appreciate being kept in the loop, but don't expect her to answer emails or respond on issues. Halcyon expressed thanks to Michele for all of the extra work she is taking on during Amy's absence.