



First Free Methodist Church

3200 Third Avenue W.
Seattle, WA 98119

October 2011

It's been a year of many wonderful changes at First Free Methodist Church, including several new outreach programs and ministries that the church is starting. However, a tight economy, coupled with these new ministry efforts, continues to put a strain on our financial position. Below is a status report on our operating fund (the fund that runs the church) and our mission fund.

Operating Fund

The operating fund needs strong contributions support during the last two months of 2011 to support the staff and ministries of the church. Giving to the operating fund (which also includes our mortgage payments) is down 9% compared to last year. This has been slightly offset with good revenues from rentals of our facilities. We have received more than \$21,000 in facility rental fees this year compared to last year. However, our balance between operating revenue and operating expenses as of the end of October is a negative \$129,000. We usually have a good December in giving, but this negative balance is much larger than usual at this time of the year.

We are excited with the new and continuing outreaches which our staff is undertaking (along with many volunteers who have stepped up to support the programs). The Finance Committee and Local Board of Administration will be working on next year's budget over the next two months, and the response to our year-end needs will shape that budget as we go forward under Pastor Blake's vision and leadership. We continue to closely monitor our expenses while implementing our vision and growth goals. However, even with these measures, we will need a special response in November and December from our congregation. To that end, we are trusting that those who regularly attend FFMC will continue their generous year-end giving patterns so that we can close out the year in the black (positive balance).

Mission Fund

Monthly mission support requirement have been met for the year-to-date. Presently we have a \$2,300 balance in our missions fund as of October 31, 2011. Our monthly missions support is approximately \$6,700 per month. Thank you for your continued support for these wonderful outreach programs which are a part of First Free Methodist's mission of spreading the good news throughout the world.