

**Brecksville United Methodist Church
Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes from Feb. 19, 2008**

In attendance: David Brown, Les Buttolph, Craig Czarnota, Kristi Eberhardt, Jim Houston, Janet Kleckner, Karen Oehl, Bob Price, Ann Rittman, Emily Vincent and guests Bob Carson and Stacy Parker.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

The minutes from the January meeting were approved as written.

Guests

Stacy Parker passed out copies of his fund raising ideas. Stacy currently serves as chairman of Gifts & Memorials, and he would like to help raise \$100,000 for the church. Stacy reviewed the brick paver program that could raise between \$25,000 and \$40,000 based on his estimates. Also, he presented ideas of outward marketing that included silkscreened sweatshirts and logoed mugs that could generate about \$5,000. The ideas received a preliminary approval from the committee.

Bob Carson attended the meeting to share his concern with the committee regarding the budget deficit. He advocated cutting expenses.

Treasurer's Report

Les reported that the number of pledges now stands at 224 with nine new pledges coming in after Ann's presentation to the congregation. The pledged amount is \$5,000 more this year compared to last year. The budget deficit is now \$39,254. The starting 2008 budget is \$489,821. The current 2008 budget is \$502,601. The capital campaign funds are \$121,115.77, and \$6,000 was recently paid to the architect.

Old Business

The committee discussed what kind of follow up should be done following Ann's presentation to keep the congregation informed of where we're at with the budget. It was decided that Ann will provide an update at the end of the quarter in *The Good Word* and announce something sooner during both services.

New revenue streams also were discussed. Following Stacy's presentation, Kristi volunteered to help him. Also, investigating a cell phone tower was discussed.

New Business

The committee discussed financing the improvements from the capital campaign and how much the finance committee needs to get involved in this. It was decided that this should be between Trustees and Gifts & Memorials and that the finance committee would be there to advise but not to administer. Gifts & Memorials would liquidate the appropriate assets and loan the money to ourselves (the church) for the Trustees to use.

The finance committee will advise in a letter that Gifts & Memorials and Trustees get their paperwork ready as the Trustees get ready to bid the projects, putting in writing the agreement between the borrower and the lender. Ann will request a copy of this borrowing contract be sent to the finance committee.

Next meeting: Monday, March 17 @ 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.