



Consider Budget and Religious Education Post Prayerfully for January 31 Congregational Meeting

2010

Projection

Once again it is the time of the year when the Board of Trustees prepares the annual operating budget for the church. This includes income contributed by our members, preschool tuition, rent we receive, and donations by groups who use our facilities. This is the money we use to operate the church. It pays for salaries, utilities, supplies, services, repairs, taxes, and insurance.

For 2009 we will likely end the year with our operating expenses about equal to our income. However, this “balanced budget” was due to lower-than-expected expenses. Indeed, we had a gap between ministers and were without a Director of Religious Education for the entire year.

In preparing the 2010 budget, we have looked carefully at expenses incurred for the last few years and have estimated our income based on the pledging during this year’s stewardship campaign.

Our projection for 2010 is that there will be a deficit of about \$60,000 between our income and our expenses. This is due to the inclusion of a part-time R.E. Director in the budget, and a reduction in the amount pledged from 2009. When the church operates at a deficit, the difference has to be made up from other funds. Typically we would use money from the church’s Memorial Fund, that is, money that was given to the church as a one-time memorial or bequest. Memorial funds are also used for emergency repairs and other unbudgeted special projects that the Trustees or Council decide upon (In some cases the memorial funds are designated for a particular use). The current memorial funds could cover a \$60,000 deficit for about two years before being depleted.

Part-Time Versus Full-Time

R.E. Director

The situation is further complicated by the fact that the Personnel Committee has been unable to fill a part-time Religious Education Director post and recommends that the church recruit a full-time director, for which there are many more qualified candidates. However, if we plan for a full-time director’s salary for 2010, we would project an even larger deficit for the upcoming year.

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Join Our Great Church: New Member Class Planned

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming a member of KCC?

A New Member Inquiry Class will be held on January 24th at 11:15 at the church. At that time, Reverend Elizabeth and some of the lay leaders will give an overview of the church and answer any questions you may have.

We welcome you! ♦

Kensington Community Church United Church of Christ

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info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com

Rev. Paula J. Elizabeth, Interim Minister
John Hansen-Tarbox, Director of Music
Nina Deering, Organist
Connie Cleland, Preschool Director
Donna Hanson, Administrative Assistant

<i>Chimes</i> Editor	Marg Stark
<i>Chimes</i> Lay-out & Design	John Hansen-Tarbox
<i>Chimes</i> Production Staff	Millie Medigovich Beverly Patch

**Sunday worship at 8:30 and
10:00 a.m.
All are welcome!**



Missions Committee Has Many to Thank for Service at Christmas

Thanks to all you terrific, dependable, creative KCC volunteers who stuffed stockings; donated gift wrap, candy, raffle gifts and money; made decorations; helped setup on Friday before the Copley Y Christmas party and to those who participated on Saturday at the festivities. You helped make the Copley Y holiday party a great success and made it possible for more than 1,000 children and their families to have a joyous, fun-filled holiday experience.

Stockings and gift baskets were also delivered to El Nido for the annual holiday party. Thanks, again, stocking stuffers, and a special thank you to Carolyn Davis for the wonderful baskets she put together for the El Nido moms.

Susan Christison, Chairwoman ♦

Consider Budget and Religious Education Post Prayerfully . . .

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The Trustees and the Church Council feel that having a successful Religious Education program (especially a Youth Program) is essential to the future success and growth of our church. Without this we lose the ability to attract and keep families. If we cut the R.E. program to balance the budget, the church will most likely continue to shrink instead of grow. And to grow our program, we need a well qualified candidate, which we have failed to attract with the part-time salary and role.

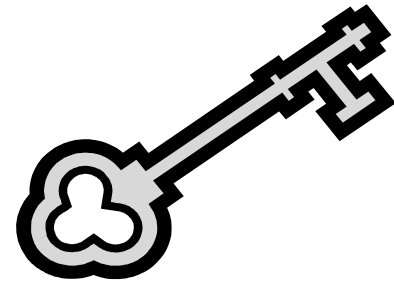
We need to think creatively about how we can fund a Religious Education program. The Trustees are considering the creation of a special fund to support youth programs. Donations to this fund would be used exclusively for this purpose. We have also considered a fund raiser that would raise money especially for R.E. programs.

We ask that you prayerfully consider how you might help us insure the future of our church's Religious Education program. If any of the ideas excite or inspire you, or if you would like to suggest any other creative ideas, please contact me, the Moderator, or another member of the Church Council.

Respectfully,

Jay Trischman

KCC Board of Trustees ♦



Safe Church Update *Creating a Policy that Works for KCC*

Safe Church is the term used to describe policies established at many United Church of Christ churches to prevent abuse and safeguard the physical and emotional health of members, guests and staff.

Many insurance companies require churches to have such policies in place before they are considered “insurable.” For the last two months, our congregation has been meeting in various forums, educating ourselves and exploring how to create a policy that makes sense for us.

At two congregational meetings, more than 45 of our members have gathered and considered case studies—real life stories drawn from our church and other churches. What should a female staff member, alone in the church, do if a stranger, who appears to be a bit disturbed, asks to be allowed into the sanctuary to pray? What should a parent do if her daughter says she was roughly handled and disciplined by her teacher in Sunday School? Should a youth leader be allowed to text young people within her fellowship group—at all hours of the day and night?

In particular, we are trying to establish the values that KCC members hold dear. From those values, we can derive guiding principles for drafting a Safe Church document. Look for more information about upcoming meetings. We appreciate your help in this important task.

--Marg Stark, Chair, Safe Church working group ♦

A Moment with Our Moderator

The new year of 2010 has arrived. (Do we now say twenty ten or two thousand ten?!) It is the 81st year that KCC has existed. As the KCC community enters into the new year, I encourage everyone to reflect the qualities that make KCC important to their lives and what we can do to improve upon them at KCC. We are in a transition time with an intentional interim minister. We need to define who we are as a group, the direction we want to go, and the journey we want to take into future. Reverend Elizabeth is here to help guide us through the process.

Decisions, Decisions

KCC is in the process of making a decision about our Director of Religious Education position. We must decide whether to invest in a full time or part time position. An R.E. Director will further establish youth programs and organize the Sunday School. The youth programs enable both youth and parents to participate together in educational, service and entertainment projects. The Director of RE would recruit, train and organize the volunteer Sunday School teachers. The Director of RE would likely also organize adult education, outreach to the Preschool families and outreach to the local community.

Adult education could include Bible study, and seminars on topics such as caring for elderly parents or discussions on newsworthy current events. Outreach to the Preschool families would increase our interactions and programming, and offer more to these young families. Outreach to the local community could include education for families going through financial challenges or to help family members with medical issues. The possibilities are endless.

The decision is: How much of God's abundant gifts

can we invest back into the community? Do we take the leap of faith and hire a full-time Director of RE?

The annual budget meeting is January 31, 2010. Please weigh these matters in your heart and communicate your thoughts to the church leadership before this important meeting.

--Rich Wayman, *Moderator* ♦

Preschool Celebrates the Season, Then Takes Christmas Break

The children went caroling in Kensington on December 10 and returned to the church very hungry & thirsty. Hot cocoa, cookies and treats were plentiful. We had a big turn-out and all that attended had great fun! The neighborhood enjoyed our songs and Christmas spirit as people came out of their houses and businesses to listen to the sweet voices of the children.

Back at school, the classrooms were busy and sparkly, as the children made gifts to give to their parents for Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. Santa made an appearance, too. The school closed after Fri. December 18 for a well deserved time-off for staff at Kensington Preschool. We return to school on January 4, 2010.

--Connie Cleland, Preschool Director. ♦





A Message from Our Interim Minister

It is the turning of a new year . . . a new decade. It is no longer two thousand something; it is now twenty something. A whole new way of being. And isn't that what Christ coming anew at Christmas is all about? A new birth, a rebirth, a continuing birth of life, presence, Spirit, energy all flowing and embracing us all. That multi-faceted gift of the Holy in our church and the world, as well as our individual selves, continues to unfold.

We are given the opportunity in a very "in-your-face" way at the New Year to let go of the old, and grasp for the new – the new that is offered to us through the movement of the Sacred One stirring in our life like the movement of a snuggling baby wiggling in those "swaddling" clothes. It is an exciting time, a mysterious time, an expectant time.

What will this year unfold? What will be revealed? What great and wondrous happenings will emerge? Hope abounds as the year lay in front of us awaiting our presence in consort with that of the Holy Spirit. What glorious accomplishments might be achieved? God is still speaking, still leading, still revealing. And we here at KCC have the blessing to listen, see and travel the path forward.

We have much already on our agenda for 2010, and yet, there is so much more that might, could, will happen as we tune into the Holy leading the way,

guiding us along.

I invite you to join me in celebration and thanksgiving that we can share this time together. God is still speaking, still leading and calling us.

It is my honor to be a part of the KCC quest as the decade dawns. Join me as the dawn turns to light of day and we discover where God is leading... May all of us, as the family of Christ, tune into that which gives us new life and live it out fully!

Blessings,

--Paula♦



Let's Play DEAL or NO DEAL!

The Trustees have a deal for you! We will personally match your donation of large rectangular and round tables (up to 12 rectangular and 4 rounds) to replace the aging and heavy ones we currently use. Tables cost on average is about \$85 each. Tony and Tom have graciously offered to order them on our behalf. So if you feel like "making a deal," contact Tom Wheeler at wmatwheels@cox.net or 619-482-9541.

We are also looking for donations of fold-up, soft, upholstered chairs from Costco, so pick up a folding chair or two for the church! Thank you!♦

2010 KENSINGTON CONCERT SERIES

in conjunction with 2010 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

All concerts feature Kensington & Talmadge performers!

FEBRUARY

KENSINGTON TRIO *Featuring "Café Music" by Paul Schoenfield & other appealing trios!*
NATALKA KYTASTY, VIOLIN
YURI KYTASTY, CELLO
RONALD MOREBELLO, PIANO Sunday, February 28, 5 PM, 80 seats
Kensington Café, 4141 Adams Avenue

MARCH

GREGORY PAGE *In conjunction with Ken-Tal Community Association monthly dinner.*
SINGER/SONGWRITER, GUITARIST
~with piano & percussion Wednesday, March 17, 6:30 PM
Kensington Community Church
4773 Marlborough Drive

JUNE

GARY PAYNE & Friends *Outdoors, at one of Kensington's most beautiful residences.*
A MANDOLIN CONCERT
Joined by **KENSINGTON TRIO** June 19, 5:30 PM, 80 seats
4249 Ridgeway Drive

JULY

TONY & GIOVANNA DI BONA *Nationally famous Italian entertainers perform classic & swing Italian music! (Sinatra, Prima, Francis & others.)*
~with Friends
ROMAN HOLIDAY ~ A FESTA! Friday, July 9 ~ Kensington Library Park, 5 PM

AUGUST

LINDSEY YUNG & Friends *An outdoor concert featuring a singer/songwriter, a rock & jazz-fusion trio & a jazz combo, all at a lovely Kensington home.*
TONY MOREBELLO
& his **KATYWOMPUS TRIO**
PITT WARNER & his Friends in Jazz Sunday, August 22, 6 PM
5217 Canterbury Drive

SEPTEMBER

SUE PALMER, PIANO *San Diego's Queen of Boogie Woogie Piano!*
DEEJHA MARIE, VOCALS
SHARON SHUFELD, BASS Kensington Library Park
September 10, 5 PM

OCTOBER

RITA CANTOS, MEZZO SOPRANO *Outdoors in a remarkable Kensington backyard.*
& **OLE KITTLESON**
STARLIGHT OPERA LEGEND! October 17, 5 PM, 80 seats
5249 Marlborough Drive

DECEMBER

AVA LISS, MEZZO SOPRANO *Annual Christmas Concert!*
KATHLEEN FOGARTY, SOPRANO
LILIANE CHONEY, PIANO
~with instrumental music Friday, December 10, 7:30 PM
HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL
ENSEMBLE conducted by **Laura Williams** Kensington Community Church
4773 Marlborough Drive

Tickets \$24, concert & reception ~ Available January 1, 2010 at Kensington Video.
Net proceeds of KCS given to Friends of Kensington-Normal Heights Library.



In Our Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Kathleen Andrews

Bill Atkinson

Denzil Atkinson

Brian Brewster

Charlotte Frank

Diane Guerra

Joan Mayer

Ron Morebello

Jean Skripek

Bill and Joyce Stark

Marilyn Tarbox

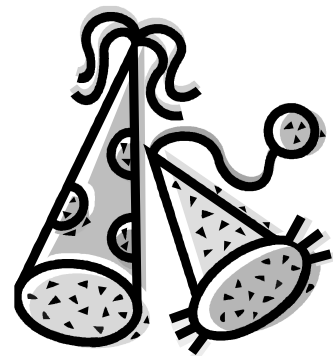
Janis Wilson

and

Mildred York

January Birthdays

6	John Gutierrez
7	Howard Wilson
8	Douglas Atwater
12	Jennifer Negre
15	Paula Elizabeth
16	Alex Lesniak
22	Louis Wargo, Katie Trischman
26	Joyce Fogg
29	Carey McCoy
30	Heather McCoy



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UPCOMING EVENTS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
PLACE: LANDER HALL
WHEN: SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, AFTER SECOND SERVICE
QUORUM NEEDED FOR IMPORTANT BUDGET DECISIONS

SEE THE FULL CHURCH CALENDAR
AT WWW.KENSINGTONUCC.COM