**Finance/Stewardship**

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of several donors who responded to the call for special giving, we closed out 2017 very successfully! Operating Income finished the year at $212,416 – more than $9,000 higher than budget. While pledge income fell a bit short, the special gifts we received, plate collections, and income from the use of our building all came in higher than budgeted.

Spending for the year also finished better than budget. Operating expenses of $214,160 were lower than budget mainly in Building & Grounds (primarily due to better oil prices).

This all meant that instead of losing $15,000 as budgeted, our operating deficit was only $1,745. The Designated Accounts over the course of the year had a net reduction of $512. That brought our total cash change to negative $2,257. This does not factor in gifts of $3,500 that came in early for 2018.

The Financial Stewardship Committee is working with Session to outline the 2018 financial goals. There are some exciting ideas being discussed, so watch for a mailing in the next couple weeks!

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me or Terri Flanagan.

Jon Birdsall, Treasurer

