

Since we refinanced our \$5 million loan with Thrivent in 2005, we have reduced our principal balance to \$1.634 million in February 2011. Our debt service has been reduced from \$1,166/day to \$459/day. As approved in 2008, the intent of the Founders Campaign is that the savings from our continued efforts to reduce the debt will be redeployed to other areas of ministry and need. Without this program, our financial outlook at Bethany would be significantly worse than it is today. Thank you to those who lead and have participated in this vitally important, community effort to reduce our debt burden!

Staff Changes at Bethany

Our newest addition to Bethany's staff is Laura Romig, Audio-Visual Coordinator. Laura agreed to accept this position following Council approval in late 2010. Laura will support the expanding technology needs of Bethany's ministry including sound and video for the Sanctuary and meeting rooms. She has been working most recently to develop a plan to equip each of our meeting rooms with AV equipment that will easily and efficiently meet the needs of staff and visitors who lead classes and meetings on a regular basis.

Emergency Planning Task Force Implements CPR/AED Training

Through the work of Bethany's Emergency Planning Task Force, a program has been developed to provide CPR and AED training for Bethany volunteers and staff. On Saturday, Febr. 5, more than 30 ushers and hospitality desk volunteers, as well as staff members, participated in the 4 hour training. With two AEDs in the building (one near the Sanctuary and one in the BECC office), it is important that we are equipped as possible as a congregation to respond to an emergency. Thanks to everyone who participated. We plan to continue the program with training being offered in February and August of each year.



Dear Uncle BOB-

I'm sounding off on people at Bethany who don't give money to support the church. I have been around here now for nearly 10 years, and if there is one issue that "rots my cheese" it's people who, year after year, find one reason after another to not give one single dime to Bethany. I know it's not for me to judge, but I do feel that God put me, a poor little mouse, in this church for a reason. One of those reasons may be to help teach others about stewardship and what it means to give sacrificially to the work of the Lord through the church. For some reason, this is an issue that I cannot let go and I think God may have something to do with that.

It was interesting that as I have been thinking so much about this lately, another church mouse from the other end of the building started quoting favorite C. S. Lewis sayings – out of the blue! One of the quotes he rattled off, which is one of my favorite C. S. Lewis quotes, was the following: **“Nothing that you have not given away will ever be really yours.”** – C. S. Lewis

Need I say more? See you in church!

The BUSINESS of BETHANY

A Quarterly Newsletter from Bethany Administration



First Quarter 2011

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2010 Total Contribution Summary

Overall, total contributions to Bethany were down in 2010 compared to 2008 and 2009 (see summary below). For all that we receive we need to be grateful for the faithful support and generosity of so many people in this congregation. Since 2001, total annual contributions to Bethany have ranged from \$2.3 million to \$3.1 million.

Fund	2010	2009	2008
General Fund	\$1,914,014	\$1,933,905	\$2,087,742
Debt Reduction	\$263,245	\$388,450	\$580,494
Second Mile	\$25,168	\$61,363	\$50,266
Balloon Bash Fundraiser	\$0	\$0	\$65,698
Other Donations	\$100,454	\$24,720	\$53,346
TOTAL	\$2,302,881	\$2,408,438	\$2,837,546

Calendar Year (CY) 2010 General Fund Results

Although we are on a fiscal year budget cycle at Bethany (from July 1 – June 30), it is helpful (and hopefully not confusing) to review results on a calendar basis to gain insight and understanding. The results on page 2 show that although General Fund contributions were down in 2010 compared to 2008 and 2009, the operating income more than doubled in 2010 compared to previous years. The increased operating income is how we fund the Founders Campaign Savings fund and continue to pay down our debt.

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Founders Campaign for Debt Reduction Update

Through the Founders Campaign, we have been able to reduce our principal balance on our loan with five pre-payments totaling \$1,455,030 as follows:

January 2009	\$571,030	September 2009	\$386,000
January 2010	\$178,000	September 2010	\$225,000
January 2011	\$95,000		

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(2010 General Fund Unaudited Results continued from page 1)

Contributions	CY 2008	CY 2009	CY 2010
Member contributions	\$2,089,685	\$1,933,905	\$1,914,014
Year-end adjustments	\$28,551	\$0	\$0
Total	\$2,118,236	\$1,933,905	\$1,914,014
Expenses			
Personnel expenses	\$1,224,151	\$1,083,762	\$938,664
Program expenses	\$365,005	\$359,609	\$320,891
Benevolence	\$208,596	\$169,217	\$213,667
Interest payments	\$199,130	\$166,271	\$116,859
Total	\$1,996,882	\$1,778,859	\$1,590,081
Operating Income	\$121,354	\$155,046	\$323,933
Founders Campaign Savings	\$0	\$82,053	\$194,617
Capital Expenditures	\$17,304	\$10,553	\$11,232
Contribution to Debt Reduction	\$104,050	\$136,584	\$157,657
Net Income	\$0	-\$74,144	-\$39,573

2011/12 Congregational Budget Meetings Scheduled

As has become our practice at Bethany during budget preparation season, the congregational budget meetings for the 2011/12 budget will be held as follows:

- Sunday, February 27, 2011 at 10:30am in Room 208
- Sunday, March 20, 2011 at 9:00am in Room 208
- Sunday, May 1, 2011 at noon in Room 208

This is a series of meetings and each meeting will have different content. The first meeting will look at where we have been and where we are currently with our budget and financial position. The second meeting will provide an overview of major considerations for the 2011/12 budget such as new programs or staff positions. The final meeting will provide a preview of the recommended budget that will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on May 15. The Church Council invites you to participate and take advantage of this process!

May 15, 2011
Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation
12 noon in the Great Hall.

Facilities Corner

The Facilities Team has been working on several new projects for 2011. Two projects that will be submitted for Council approval in February include the remodeling of the office kitchen and a new floor for the altar area in the Sanctuary. Other projects that are currently in process include bathroom makeovers for the “old building” and reconfiguration of stalls in the “new building”. Also, the team is working on a makeover plan for the main church kitchen.

If you are interested in contributing to the ministry of the Facilities Team, please contact David Sather or any other member of the team: Dave Okes, Dave Malucky, Brian Tennien, Lowell Palmquist, Terry Pickett (Council liaison) and Joel Halvorson (staff liaison).

2011 Estimate of Giving Update

Our annual process to collect estimates of giving for the General Fund in 2011 was started with our Consecration Sunday celebration on November 14, 2010. The goal was to reach 600 commitments for \$1.8m. The results through January are summarized below for 2007-2011:



Estimates of Giving for 2011:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
New pledgers	185	94	124	74	97
Repeat pledgers	393	442	454	481	469
Total pledgers	578	536	578	555	566
New pledgers	\$337,864	\$196,811	\$198,978	\$154,508	\$142,880
Repeat pledgers	\$1,380,317	\$1,538,213	\$1,451,400	\$1,422,636	\$1,480,222
Total pledgers	\$1,718,181	\$1,735,024	\$1,650,378	\$1,577,144	\$1,623,102
Avg \$/EOG	\$2,972.63	\$3,236.99	\$2,855.33	\$2,841.70	\$2,867.67
Missing EOGs from previous year:		144	72	75	78
Missing amount (\$) from previous year:		\$320,126	\$188,888	\$168,012	\$154,720

This result indicates an increase in the number of estimates for 2011 versus 2010 with the average per estimate increasing slightly as well. Hopefully this result is an indication that we have “bottomed out” in this current economic environment and the way back.

If you have yet to complete your estimate of giving for 2011, you can do so at anytime by visiting www.bethany-denver.org. **The Stewardship Ministry Team will continue to work hard to get Bethany closer to the goal of 600 estimates for 2011.** Regardless of your situation and the amount you are able to give to Bethany, an estimate should be part of every member’s spiritual discipline and faith journey.