

## “DO SOMETHING”

The old saying, “It’s easier said than done” runs through my mind from time to time. It’s easy to say something and then not follow through on what you just said. It’s even easier to just do nothing. A few years ago I was asked by my doctor if there was something I could do to try to lower my cholesterol levels. I immediately thought of two things that I could do. As a result, I’ve been working on those two things; and my levels have been declining.

As the finance chairperson, I am tasked with oversight of the church’s financial status and informing the members of that status. Like any organization, we have an annual budget that we come up with. That’s not the hard part. The hard part is finding the money to support that budget. Here’s what I can tell you:

1. Our budget for 2023 is \$156,749
2. Gilmanton UMC’s share is \$18,645
3. That brings Mondovi UMC’s net budget down to \$138,104
4. Divided by 12 months of the year, we need an average of \$11,508 or divided by 52 weeks, we need an average of \$2,655 to meet our budget
5. We have about 180 members on our church roll
6. If we divide our weekly needs (\$2,655) by our members (180), we come up with \$14.75 per week per member
7. Let’s divide our weekly needs by a different number of members, say 120. That brings us up to \$22.13 per week per member
8. Our weekly giving is nowhere close to \$2,655; therefore, it is getting harder and harder to pay our bills

I have always been a big believer in being a good role model – to our children and the people I have had the pleasure of working with and supervising. Like my cholesterol levels, there are many ways that I can personally “do something” to help with our budgetary needs. Maybe instead of stopping at Acoustic Café for that cup of coffee and scone, I’ll just pack my own coffee in my thermos and bypass the treat. Maybe instead of going out to the Friday night fish fry, I can make a home-cooked meal. The list is infinite!

So my challenge to you is this: Consider “doing something” to help meet our weekly financial needs and keep our church doors open. I pray that you will. I also pray that as you do this, God will bless you back many times. “Our God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all we ask or think.”

### **Ephesians 3:20**

God Bless You All,  
Kolleen Branger, Finance Chairperson