

## **BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

*Neil Sampson, Chair*

We currently have about \$1.14 million in the building fund, but we are unable to finance the building renovation project as currently proposed. While the proposed plan is our preferred alternative, we are very concerned about the ability of the congregation to finance the debt service that would be required.

After serious discussions, we agreed that it was important to keep this vision of a new building intact and to continue to seek ways to finance it. That will require continued congregational support and fund raising, but it is not possible at this point to estimate when those might be successful enough to allow the project to go forward. Part of the uncertainty lies in the cost of the project, since it is difficult to tell how much construction costs are likely to increase as we continue to delay implementation.

The committee noted the need for immediate repairs of the Christian Education building. We have been recommending that these repairs be deferred because the building would be demolished. Since we are now certain that no project can begin before this winter, we recommend that the essential winter repairs be undertaken immediately. Without them, it could become impossible to use the building this winter, and that would be unacceptable.