

## In This Issue

Church Credit / Debit Cards  
Free four-month trial!  
Upcoming Webinars  
QuickBooks Tip of the Month

## Featured Article

Credit or debit cards can simplify purchases and reimbursements for an organization. However, it can be difficult, or even impossible for a congregation to obtain credit cards. We have found a solution for this dilemma ...

## Upcoming Webinars

QB Topics 3:2 (Payroll) Thursday  
November 13, 10am EST

QB Topics 3:6 (PEX Card  
overview) Thursday November 13  
and Thursday December 4, 1pm  
EST

Bookkeeping 1:1 (1st of 3 parts)  
Thursday November 20, 1pm EST

Bookkeeping 1:1-3 (all in one  
hour) Tuesday November 25,  
10am EST

QuickBooks for Congregations  
2:1-2 (2 parts) Coming December  
9 & 11

**\$25 per session**

## Webinar Registration

## Past Issues

## Join Our Mailing List



## Paper or Plastic?

Many church leaders have asked about obtaining credit or debit cards for church staff use, as a matter of convenience, and in some cases, necessity for certain products or subscriptions. In recent years, banks have been reluctant to issue credit cards to non-profit organizations, since they do not have an "owner" whose credit can back up the cards.

Some churches have found that their credit cards were opened under the personal credit of a former Treasurer, which then requires closing the cards and re-applying every time the Treasurer changes.

Other congregations have found that the big banks won't issue cards to them because they don't have adequate "income."

We have found a vendor that solves this dilemma, by issuing fundable pre-paid debit cards. [www.pexcard.com](http://www.pexcard.com). I've said a number of times that if I were going to design the perfect product for a congregation, this is how I'd do it.

## PEX Cards

Congregations often have a need for credit or debit cards, for online purchases, or postage, or to eliminate the need for members to pay for purchases and then wait to be reimbursed.

PEX Cards are prepaid Visa debit cards, set up on one account that is controlled by the Treasurer or Bookkeeper through the [pexcard.com](http://pexcard.com) website. An unlimited number of cards can be issued.

You set up permissions so that the Treasurer can move money from the church bank account to the PEX account, and then either the Treasurer or bookkeeper or office manager can fund the individual cards as needed -- even instantaneously if necessary!

You can obtain cards for staff members, or for lay leaders. For the flower committee, or Sunday School teachers, or the dedicated person who keeps the coffee and tea cupboard stocked.

Then, by funding each card with a minimal amount, you provide a way to keep track of spending. The activity can be monitored online and downloaded directly into QuickBooks.

Interested? Here's how to try it out for free:

1. You apply for a PEX card account, supplying information about your organization and the primary applicant. There is NO credit check involved -- and a turnaround time of 1-2 days.

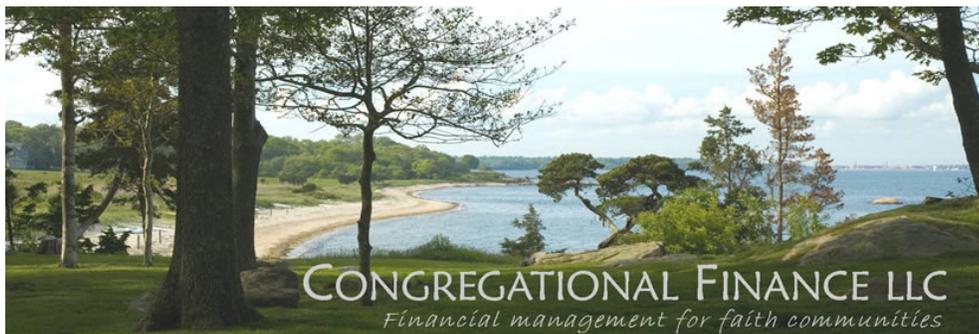
[Sign up  
for PEX  
card here](#)

## Upcoming Webinars

Tuesdays & Thursdays

10am & 1pm

\$25 per session



Continued from page 1

2. You order cards for each employee or volunteer -- it takes a week or so for the cards to arrive via US mail
3. You fund your PEX account electronically by linking your congregation's checking account.
4. Then you move funds onto the individual cards in whatever amount(s) you wish.
5. You can also move funds off of the cards, or back to your bank account as needed.
6. If you sign up through the link below, you'll receive four months free, instead of the regular two months that PEX usually offers. If you don't like the product, you can cancel before your trial period is complete.
7. After the initial trial period, the pricing for non-profits is a flat fee of \$20 per month for up to 30 cards. (Regular business pricing is \$7.50 per card per month.) I think you'll find that it's well worth it!

## WEBINARS

are offered  
Tuesdays and Thursdays,  
at 10am or 1pm, Eastern Time  
\$25 each,  
every 5th webinar free



Bookkeeping 1:1-3  
QuickBooks 2:1-2  
QuickBooks Topics 3

[www.congregationalfinance.com/  
Webinars.html](http://www.congregationalfinance.com/Webinars.html)

[www.congregationalfinance.com/  
Registration.html](http://www.congregationalfinance.com/Registration.html)

We've also developed a webinar (QB Topics 3:6) that provides an orientation to the pexcard.com site, as well as the mechanics of downloading the activity into QuickBooks. If you are curious, register for the November 13th QB 3:6 webinar. If you sign up for PEX through my website, We'll get a referral credit -- which we'll share with you in the form of two free webinars of your choice!

## QuickBooks Tip of the Month

### On-line banking downloads

You can download debit card activity from the pexcard website directly into QuickBooks.

This works well for all-electronic accounts. However, it can be problematic with checking accounts, since it will omit any uncleared checks and will record checks on the date they clear the bank, rather than the date you wrote the check or bill payment..

It is especially important not to download activity that involves payroll, in order to avoid IRS difficulties.

Do you know of colleagues in ministry who would find these topics interesting or helpful? If so, please forward the newsletter link to them, and like us on facebook.

Cordially,

*Karen*

Rev. Karen McArthur  
Congregational Finance LLC

**Please spread the word!**