

# Congregational Connector

June 2017

## News from the Board of Directors

**SOUP AND SANDWICH SATURDAY:** Our spring S.A.S.S. has always been unique in many ways, and continued so this year. It is held on the same day as the Gratiot Cruise and at a time of the year when many other competing activities are taking place, yet it remains extremely valuable for those who attend. This year our 50 volunteers hosted about 190 guests (nearly 50% came to our Clothing Closet, too), and stories of God at work in our guests abound (One example, one of our “more troubled” regulars asked to see our sanctuary, and displayed a peace of God that none of us had ever seen prior). ***Our next S.A.S.S. is scheduled for October 21 – so save the date now!***

**MCREST IS COMING:** STL will again be hosting the Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team this summer. Our guests will arrive on the afternoon of Sunday, July 16 and depart Sunday morning, July 23. Information on ways to help can be found in the church narthex and through the church office. ***We especially ask that you pray*** for God to raise up individuals who can stay overnight at STL for one or more nights during the week. Our guests include women and their children who have run into difficulties in life and are working toward getting back on track.

**THE GENESIS CENTER:** Sometimes ministries and commitments we made as a congregation in the past fade from the spotlight, and become somewhat forgotten by many – even though their ministry continues. The Gen Cen may fall into this category for many. The Gen Cen is our community counseling ministry conducted by Pastor Rick VanBriggle. Over the years it has been located in different places (it currently is housed in our building at STL) and served in different ways – including being on the radio for a time. A few years ago the Voters’ Assembly designated ***our STL mission offering envelopes to support this ministry.*** Pastor Rick has been conducting this ministry on a totally volunteer basis the past few years, but, starting in July, a percentage of the revenues received through mission offerings and counseling services will be given to him as a stipend. Your prayers and support are appreciated.

**ROOF UPDATE:** SCHENA roofing company had the materials for our roof repairs delivered to our back parking lot a few weeks ago. They remain there at the present because the next day the roofers’ union went on strike. The company currently is projecting that they will begin working on our roof repairs in early July. Remember, these repairs are from the damage caused by the 80 mph winds of a few months ago, and are covered by our building insurance.

**BOARDS AND OFFICERS:** Here is a list of those who have been selected to serve as the STL Leadership Team for the year ahead. Those who serve on the Board of Directors have their names **in bold type** (if you have interest or questions regarding joining the team, please speak with the congregational president):

- President: **Art Wensink**     Secretary: **Richard Cain**     CFO: **Mark Matheson**
- Elders: **Fred Bauss** (chair), Jafer Perez (secretary), Don Cooley, Mike Dolan, Tim Hubmeier, **Paul Jatkowski**, Steve Northcott, Art Wensink
- Mission Education and Outreach: **Annette Careau** (chair), Dwight and Julie Conger, Vicki Corbett, Patricia Riley
- Community Service: **Kelly Crivella** (chair), Kelly Cooley, Martha Jatkowski, Heather Miller, Marilyn Redmond
- Resource Management: **Gary Lysse** (chair), Richard Cain, Myron Engle, Tim Phaneuf
- Foundation Trustees: Ron Greve (chair), Keith Altenburg, Dale Edwards, Steve Kruse, **Mark Matheson**

**NOW + NEXT Campaign:** This summer STL, under our theme of “Getting the Word OUT” is initiating the NOW + NEXT Campaign to assist in getting the Word out to many through personal contacts and meaningful conversations, encouraging ministry partnerships and ownership. Please join us in praying that the Lord of the harvest will raise up workers in his harvest field.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Here is the report of our joint General Fund stewardship (family finances and congregational finances) from July 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017.

	<b>Year to Date</b>		
	<b>Anticipated</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>May</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$ 397,550.00	\$ 387,619.64	\$ 37,838.72
<b>Expense</b>	<u>\$ 406,689.18</u>	<u>\$ 402,879.05</u>	<u>\$ 36,806.22</u>
<b>Net Excess (loss)</b>	\$ (9,139.18)	\$ (15,259.41)	\$ 1,032.50

**We are looking for a strong June to reach our income goal of a balanced budget.**

**Mortgage Balance: \$1,817,705.12**

(We have paid \$44,758.76 off the principal so far this fiscal year)

**Balance of loan to General Fund from the Restricted Fund: \$61,200.00**

### **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

(changes since January 2017)

**Losses:** Phyllis Burghardt, Larry Closures, Don Lyon III, Lisa Meredith, Carol Ott, Debbie Packard, Barb Szymanski, Carrie Weirauch, Martha Wilson

**Baptisms:** Colin Castle, Mackenzie Colley, Daniel Miller, Maxwell Hamilton

**Membership** (as of 6/6/17): 558 (baptized), 443 (communicant)