

# Congregational Connector

News from the Board of Directors – August 2021

**10 WEEK – RETURN FROM EXILE:** We are midway through our 10-week emphasis leading STL into post-pandemic life and ministry. The emphasis carries through mid-September. Under God's direction and with the prayer-filled support of the congregation, STL will be back in full ministry participation mode this fall.

- **Phase Two (August 22):** Eliminate 8:00 a.m. worship service and invite casual dress for 9:30 a.m. on August 22 with Faith and Fellowship Picnic Brunch immediately following the service (Faith and Fellowship Celebrations will be featured quarterly throughout the year). "All constituent" contact campaign introducing WORD IN-ovations for the fall.
- **Phase Three (September 19):** Full ministry mode – FHL small groups, CrossTraining for Youth, THE FLOCK for children, PBJ, choir, coffee after worship, and more, while electronic options continue to reach out to a broad audience.

**M.C.R.E.S.T. 2021:** **Special thanks** to all who donated and helped STL in our annual hosting week in August. Due to a lack of volunteers – both from STL and MCREST – we did not house the women and children this year. Instead we cooked, packaged, and delivered food for the week. In January the program will move to a permanent location, but we still intend to serve as host for a week. We anticipate that our new role will still include meals and will also include supportive interaction with the program participants.

**CONGREGATIONAL FORUM – SEPTEMBER 22:** Save the date and watch for more information. You will be able to participate from the comfort of your home as we will use a ZOOM format to provide information and answer questions on the status of the mission and ministry of STL.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS:** The City of Eastpointe has approved our new electronic signboard and it is now being built. We have replaced the windows in the PBJ room, kitchen, and Fireside Lounge. The Board of Resource Management will use the year ahead to review different ways to replace the west-facing classroom windows.

## 2020-2021 FINAL FIGURES

	2020-2021		<b>MORE GOOD NEWS:</b> Mortgage balance decreased by <u>\$19,487.20</u> Loan from Restricted Fund down from \$82,000.00 to <u>\$15,050.00</u>
	Anticipated	Actual	
Income	\$ 484,870.00	\$ 432,698.83	
Expense	<u>\$ 484,870.00</u>	<u>\$ 439,546.74</u>	
Net Excess (loss)	\$ 0.00	\$ (6,847.91)	

**Checking account balance where we want it to be at \$20,241.65**

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Here is the report of our General Fund stewardship for the first month of the new fiscal year. All bills are current (including the mortgage) and we are functioning with a healthy "cash available" balance.

	July 2021	
	Anticipated	Actual
Income	\$ 33,072.49	\$ 41,390.20
Expense	<u>\$ 35,122.50</u>	<u>\$ 34,667.06</u>
Net Excess (loss)	\$ (2,050.01)	\$ 6,723.14

The Restricted Fund Balance is \$112,026.83, with \$4,750.00 unavailable for use.

**Mortgage Balance - \$1,709,504.35, Restricted Loan - \$15,050.00**