

Congregational Connector

News from the Board of Directors – September 2022

CONGREGATIONAL STEWARDSHIP: For the second consecutive month the offerings received have been below our budget projections, so, for the second consecutive month we also have not been able to work at reducing the loan from the STL Restricted Account to the STL General Fund. Thus, the balance of the loan remains at \$6,263.27. **Everyone connected to STL is asked to prayerfully consider their financial support of our mission of connecting individuals to Jesus and to one another.**

COMMUNITY SERVICE: As we say “thank you” for all of the support given for MCREST, we turn our attention to S.A.S.S. which is just around the corner on October 15. On that Saturday we will be serving pulled pork sandwiches with coleslaw, chili, hotdogs, and with other items to the people of our community. We anticipate a crowd of about 200. We will be looking for volunteers and donations ... and remember, while our guests are here, we also provide them with entertainment and Christian care ... and the open doors of our Clothing Closet. **Today is the day to start praying for the Lord of the harvest to raise up many people for that day, even as he blesses all those who are gathered together for MCREST.**

CALL COMMITTEE: Fred Bauss (elders chairman) and Mark Matheson (congregational president) are organizing a lead pastor call committee, as our constitution stipulates. The goal is to have their first meeting by mid-October. At that time, they will meet with a representative from the District to outline the process, which will include getting the information gathered from the scantron survey and other activities of the Transition Task Force to the District Office. Something everyone can do at this time is to **pray – for God to guide and keep us during this time of transition, and to raise up the right man at the right time to be the next shepherd here at STL.**

SYNODICAL CONVENTION: The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) will meet in convention July 28 – August 3, 2023, in Milwaukee, WI. On Sunday, October 23 (2:00) our circuit will elect pastoral and lay delegates for the convention. Anyone who might be interested in serving as a delegate candidate should speak with either Mark Matheson or pastor in the next couple weeks. One does not need to attend the October 23 meeting in order to be a delegate candidate. It is also important that we all **pray that our Savior continue to use the LCMS as an instrument for the fulfilment of his mission on earth.**

SENT: God’s sending is a call to join Him in something beyond self, beyond a congregation, and beyond a denomination. God is calling us to much more. His Great Sending is His heartbeat for the world that He wants beating in and through you. The Great Sending is about opening up to God’s heart for the world. In the upcoming months you can look forward to receiving a series of short devotional thoughts under the theme “The Great Sending: God’s heart for the world beating through you”. Now is the time to start praying for our sent Savior and our sending God to open our hearts to the bountiful blessings Jesus bestows as focus upon the needs of those around us.

THEME: Have you noticed a theme in this Congregational Connector? It is about us – the people of STL – making a difference in our world ... and how it all starts as we come to our Sending Savior in prayer.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Here is the report of our General Fund stewardship for the first two months of our fiscal year. All bills are current (including the mortgage) and we are functioning with a sufficient “cash available” balance.

	August 2022		Year-to-Date	
	Anticipated	Actual	Anticipated	Actual
Income	\$ 37,708.32	\$ 33,178.61	\$ 73,416.64	\$ 64,561.65
Expense	<u>\$ 37,150.00</u>	<u>\$ 37,382.73</u>	<u>\$ 73,900.00</u>	<u>\$ 76,251.85</u>
Net Excess (loss)	\$ 558.32	\$ (4,203.52)	\$ (483.36)	\$(11,690.20)

The Restricted Fund Balance is \$90,832.79

Mortgage Balance - \$1,670,377.20, Restricted Loan - \$6,263.27