

Congregational Connector

News from the Board of Directors – January 2023

PASTORAL TRANSITION: As Pastor Hetzner attended his final BOD meeting (Pastor Corbett attending for orientation), the following steps were outlined: 1) The call committee will be conducting interviews of candidates on Thursday (1/19). 2) Pastor Corbett will be installed as Vacancy Pastor during the morning service on Sunday, February 12 (and begin his serving on February 20). 3) Pastor Hetzner’s farewell is February 19 (service at 9:30 a.m. – followed by a noon luncheon at Barrister Gardens, reservations required).

FEBRUARY EVENTS: Please make plans to participate in the following:
Saturday, February 4 (5:00 – 8:00 p.m.) – **FAMILY GAME NIGHT**
Saturday, February 18 – **SOUP AND SANDWICH SATURDAY**
Wednesday, February 22 (noon and 7:00) – **ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**

LCMS NOMINATIONS: STL is nominating Rev. Dr. Patrick Ferry (Leander, Texas) and Rev. Dr. Richard Snow (Seward, Nebraska) for both synodical president and first vice president, and the Rev. Dr. David Maier (Frankfort, MI) for our regional vice president.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The BOD will be organizing the nominating committee in February in preparation for elections at the May Voters’ Assembly. All members of the STL Mission Team are urged to begin their prayerful consideration of how they will serve in the year ahead.

MISSION TOTEM AND DESIRED OUTCOMES: In its annual review of the STL Mission Statement, guiding principles, and desired outcomes it was agreed that a) they clearly and accurately describe current STL mission and ministry and b) it will be appropriate to review these again after the new lead pastor is installed. It was also noted that CEF in 2023 is offering Ministry Worker Wellness Grants up to \$2,500.00 that could be used to develop leadership team unity at that time.

CHARTER SCHOOL DISCUSSIONS: The organizers of Hill Pointe Charter School have been in communication with STL over the possibility of leasing our school building. While they are considering additional sites and their plans to open have been moved back to fall 2024, their intent is to start with a K-5 school, and then add one grade per year in subsequent school years. The BOD will be forming a “due diligence” committee to be prepare a plan for formal discussions on the idea.

CAPITAL PROJECTS: Plans are now in place to purchase a **double-door commercial freezer** for our kitchen, replacing the current ones that either do not work or are compromised. Funds will come from Board of Community Service Restricted Accounts, with the potential of tying reimbursement into an STL Foundation Grant later in 2023. The **new telephone system** is set to be installed on Thursday, January 19. The new worship screens and cameras (purchased with a STL Foundation grant) became fully operational on January 15 – though there certainly will be much learning/improvement taking place over the upcoming weeks.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Here is the report of our General Fund stewardship for the first half of our fiscal year. All bills are current (except the mortgage) and the “cash available” balance is below the comfort level. Your prayers and support are very important. We remain two months behind on mortgage payments.

	December 2022		Year-to-Date	
	Anticipated	Actual	Anticipated	Actual
Income	\$ 45,558.32	\$ 40,108.26	\$ 234,399.92	\$ 205,276.00
Expense	<u>\$ 40,966.00</u>	<u>\$ 40,493.16</u>	<u>\$ 236,162.00</u>	<u>\$ 230,240.87</u>
Net Excess (loss)	\$ 4,592.32	\$ (384.90)	\$ (1,762.08)	\$ (24,964.85)

The Restricted Fund Balance is \$95,930.98.

Mortgage Balance - \$1,664,206.56, Restricted Loan - \$6,263.27