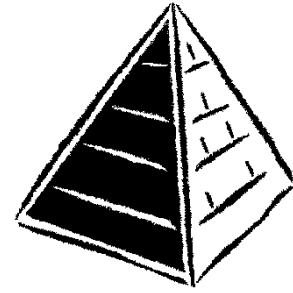


ST. MARTIN'S ENDOWMENT FUND

The gift that keeps on giving



REPORT FOR THE JANUARY 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Endowment Board members: Andrea Burgard, Bill Grosskopf, John Howard, Karen Kegg, Jeremy Martin, Debbie Mitchell, and Anita Salmon.

As she retires, we thank Janis Ottmers for 15 years of service as treasurer, the most time-consuming Board position. Also, Myron Jordahl is retiring from the Board after 12 years. Six to nine members are required for the Board. Currently, there are seven members.

The Endowment Fund Annual Report with 2023 financials will be prepared and distributed in March. At the February annual meeting, the Endowment Fund Board will vote to determine the percent of the 12-quarters average Fund balance that will be provided as the annual distribution to the Council. The Council determines how the distributed funds are used. At a meeting in 2023, the Congregation voted to allow Endowment Fund distribution to be used for budgeted expenses only for 2023 and 2024. Thereafter, the distributions cannot be used for budgeted expenses.

At the beginning of 2023, the Board elected to make available 3% of the average market value of the previous 12 quarters (\$72,203) for unrestricted use by the Council and 2% (\$48,135) that is restricted for benevolence purposes.

In 2023, the Council requested the unrestricted distribution to fund "Program Church" development, computer upgrades, passenger bus repairs, and \$34,000 toward building loan payments with the balance used for expenses associated with the property sale. The benevolence distribution was allocated with \$30,000 going to the Southwest Texas Synod, \$2,800 for the Lunch Bag Ministry, \$8,128 to Bread For All rent assistance, \$4,447 for Mobile Loaves and Fishes, and \$2761 for Lutheran World Relief.

Gifts in 2023 were \$5805. The Market Value of the Fund has increased from about \$2.3M at the end of 2022 to about \$2.6M at the end of 2023. In addition to gifts and memorials, please consider a beneficiary designation as you visit with your insurance agent, accountant, or attorney to do your estate planning.

The Board proposes to amend the proposed revised St. Martin's constitution due to the existing endowment fund that operates as a separate corporate entity with a similar purpose: The motion from the Board is to remove optional provision C5.05 which states: "This congregation shall have a mission endowment fund that will operate as specified in this congregation's bylaws and/or continuing resolutions. The purpose of the mission endowment fund is to provide for mission work beyond the operational budget of this congregation."

Note that the Endowment Fund is a separate legal entity from St. Martin's. It was created for the purpose of providing financial support for the ministries of St. Martin's. All gifts are held in perpetuity with earnings and asset appreciation used for St Martin's ministry.