

June 18, 2023

Dear Congregation Members and Friends,

I want to thank everyone who was able to make a pledge for the upcoming fiscal year. We received pledges of \$229,068. Last year we received pledges of \$220,619. This represents a 4% increase over last year's pledges. This is very encouraging considering the number of giving units (families and individuals) able to pledge went down by 7 from last year. Currently we have 50 giving units who were able to make a pledge for this coming year. However, the increased giving still left us with an initial budget deficit of \$36,743.

After a lengthy discussion, the Church Council decided to make the following recommendation to the congregation. We recommend that for the upcoming fiscal year, the Synod allocation of \$12,000 and the local benevolences, totaling \$12,377, be paid from the profits from the LLC. For the coming fiscal year, the \$24,377 in LLC profits used to pay these benevolences will reduce the amount of money available for the Impact Giving Committee grants. We believe that using the profits from the LLC to pay these benevolences, still holds true to the original intent of the LLC, that the profits be used for benevolence and mission.

This will still leave us with a deficit of \$12,377, which is not an insignificant amount but may be manageable. This is why I say it may be manageable. I was curious what additional amount would be needed from the 50 giving units to eliminate the deficit. It comes down to an additional \$248 in giving for this year or \$21.00 a month. I understand and appreciate that this may not fit into your budget. But I urge anyone who is financially able to do this to consider it.

We will be putting the congregational giving totals, spending totals, along with the budget deficit or surplus monthly, in the Chi-Ro.

It has been an honor to be the president of the congregation for the past two years. I trust that the Holy Spirit will lead us to where God wants us to be.

Trusting that the Holy Spirit is always leading us,
Daniel Snoddy