

## **St. John's Congregation Quarterly Meeting**

**July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call Meeting to Order
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Financial Report
5. Senior Pastors Report
6. Associate Pastors Report
7. Accessibility Team Update
8. Adjournment with Lord's Prayer



**St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church**  
**Quarterly Meeting—Family Life Center**  
**April 24, 2022 12:00 P.M.**

**Opening Prayer and Call Meeting to Order**-President Aaron Clark called the Quarterly meeting to order and opened with prayer on Sunday, April 24 at 12:10 P.M. The Quarterly meetings were combined for the presentation of the Accessibility Funding Team's plan and voting on a motion to proceed to the next step of the project.

Packets were distributed containing: an agenda, the March Financial Statement, and the Senior Pastor's Report.

**Financial Report**-Treasurer Kathy Myers reported the financial position of the operating fund is strong. A motion to approve the report was made by Pam Wittenberg. Karen Grossman seconded the motion. The motion to approve the Financial Report passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Senior Pastor's Report**-Pastor Seth Jersild referred members to his written report in the packet.

**Associate Pastor's Report**-Pastor Patti Morlock reported that over \$30,000 has been raised by the majority of the churches in the Southeast Ohio Mission District to support our sponsorship of an intern in the mission district, who will be based here at St. John's. An Internship Team has been formed to support this person. Karen Bentley will lead the team. Additional members include Julie Von Lohr, Jill Althoff, Phil Pennington, Rick Butsko, and Pastor Tom Phillips. Having a pastor on the team was a consideration since Pastor Patti and Pastor Seth are not to attend team meetings according to NALC guidelines.

Also, Pastor Patti has been appointed by the NALC to be the chairman of a committee that oversees candidates for Ordination Under Special Circumstances. She explained what this term means and that the committee has interviewed seven candidates. One will be ordained at the Ohio Mission Region Convocation on Saturday, May 7 and another one will be ordained sometime this summer.

**Handicapped Accessibility Funding Team Presentation**-The team passed out packets detailing their proposed plan and held informational sessions after the Saturday night service on April 23 and during the Sunday School hour this morning, Sunday, April 24.

Pastor Seth summarized the concerns that led to the formation of the Accessibility Team last year.

Dan Yeater presented the Accessibility Funding Plan overview. Graphics from the handout were shown as the plan was presented.

Pastor Don Allman reported that in three weeks of "Stage One" the Major Gifts team has received pledges of \$312,000. They continue to meet with members of the con-

gregation to answer questions and provide opportunities to become involved with financial support for this project at any level of giving. The goal of this stage of the plan is to have \$500,000 in commitments. "Stage Two" will begin as soon as the congregation votes to proceed with the proposed Funding plan. This stage will involve Giving Pledge cards that will indicate members' pledges to provide ongoing weekly/monthly support to raise additional funds. There will also be opportunities for members to use their Time and Talents to support this project.

Mistie Clark explained the goal of her team to raise \$200,000 through weekly, monthly, and quarterly fundraising events. She explained the first fundraiser Meals for Moms-a silent auction for the next two weeks.

Dan Yeater detailed the Funds Collected, Pledged, or Identified. He also shared some of the Potential Sources of Additional Funds. He reiterated that we are planning to proceed with ~\$100,000 cash in hand for the detailed designs needed to guide the project. When an additional \$600,000 is in hand, we will sign a construction loan with a bank. When construction is completed the loan will be converted to a conventional loan.

Tim Allman asked if there had been any thought given to the idea of adding another set of doors on the south Link Entrance to serve as a wind barrier since the north Link Entrance doors will be removed with the building addition. Dan Yeater will check on this.

Aaron Clark read the motion that the Church Council presented to the congregation. Dan Czaplicki seconded the motion. Members of the congregation voted by written ballot. Ballots were counted and the results reported during the meeting were 86-YES votes. 0-No votes. The motion to proceed with the Accessibility Funding plan as presented was unanimously approved. (Ballots were recounted following the meeting and there were 106-YES votes and 0-NO votes.)

**Adjournment**-A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lorina Allmon and seconded by Michael Grimm. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Bentley, Secretary

# St. John's Lutheran Church

Monthly Financial Statement  
Prepared 7/6/2022

June 2022

Monthly/Year to Date Major Funds		
Month of:	June	Year to Date
<b>Income</b>		
Current	\$45,303.07	\$307,360.41
Benevolence	\$3,772.96	\$25,529.53
Building & Maint.	\$7,959.12	\$50,050.27
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$57,035.15</b>	<b>\$382,940.21</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Current	\$52,228.93	\$291,308.06
Benevolence	\$4,062.62	\$27,391.75
Building & Maint.	\$11,968.70	\$84,601.04
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>\$68,260.25</b>	<b>\$403,300.85</b>
<b>Fund Differences</b>		
Current	(\$6,925.86)	\$ 16,052.35
Benevolence	(\$289.66)	\$ (1,862.22)
Building & Maint.	(\$4,009.58)	\$ (34,550.77)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>(\$11,225.10)</b>	<b>\$ (20,360.64)</b>

Approved Non-Budgeted Expenditures	
Account	Year to Date
Current	\$0.00
Benevolence (Previous Year/Designated)	\$8,141.75
Building & Maintenance	\$0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$8,141.75</b>

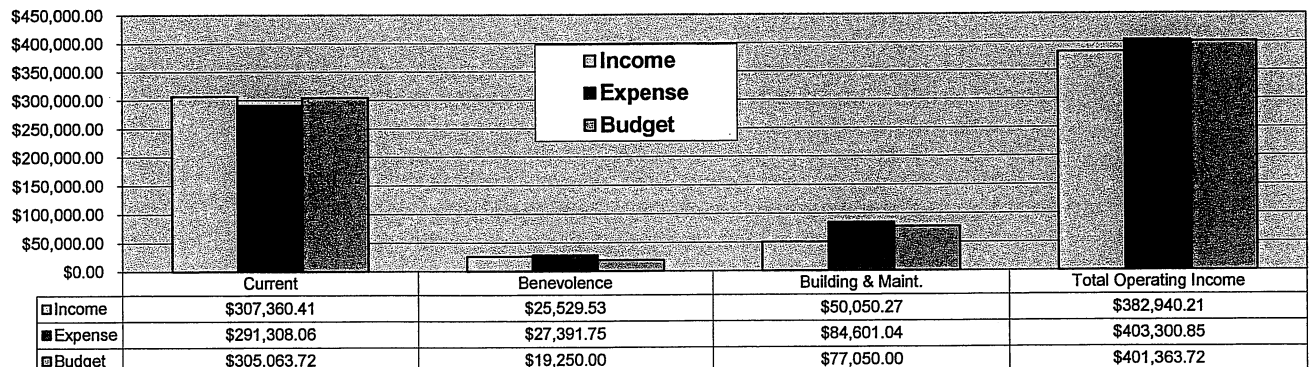
Budget Comparison - Year to Date		
Budget vs. Actual thru		June 2022
Account	Budget	Actual
Current - Budgeted	\$305,063.72	\$291,308.06
Benevolence - Budgeted	\$19,250.00	\$27,391.75
Bldg & Maint - Budgeted	\$77,050.00	\$84,601.04
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$401,363.72</b>	<b>\$403,300.85</b>

Budgeted expenditures listed above do not include spending approved from the three (3) operating accounts separate from the budget. These expenditures were approved by either the Council or congregation. They include items such as "pass-through" designated benevolence, benevolence funds received at the end of last year but spent this year, and particular maintenance or capital improvement items.

Open Loan (Principle Reduction)		
Month of:	June 2022	Since Inception
Current	\$0.00	

The charts below show total income and expense, rather than budgeted items only.

Fund Balances: End of Month Balanced	
Account Name	Amount
<b>OPERATING:</b>	
Operating – Current + B&M	\$137,624.13
Benevolence	\$16,072.24
<b>DESIGNATED:</b>	
Genesis Fund	\$3,181.88
Youth Designated Fund	\$29,623.52
Sarah Circle & Elizabeth Circle	\$380.22
Beacons	\$828.61
Bed Brigade Ministry	\$7,863.58
Bereavement Dinner Ministry	\$2,456.10
Designated Funds Interest	\$198.34
<b>MEMORIAL:</b>	
Memorial Fund Unrestricted Savings	\$62,538.00
Memorial Restricted (M/R) Library	\$315.24
M/R Handbell	\$5,456.82
M/R Kitchen	\$4,754.18
M/R Music	\$6,197.47
M/R Youth Camp Memorials	\$849.93
M/R Youth	\$6,069.34
M/R OWLs	\$595.80
M/R Special One-Time Account	\$21,083.72
M/R Accessibility Project	\$319,568.57
M/R Puppet Ministry	\$1,350.81
M/R Mission Trip Gen	\$31,369.61
M/R Mission Trip Alaska	\$12,855.16
M/R Mission Trip Mexico	\$21,640.50
M/R Columbarium Fund	\$17,205.00
M/R Organ and Renovations	\$298.89
M/R Bell Tower Carrillon	\$2,000.00
<b>ENDOWMENT-PRINCIPAL:</b>	
Endowment/Gen/Restricted/Principal	\$406,039.25
Endowment/Prop/Restricted/Principal	\$234,404.64
Endowment/Youth/Restricted/Principal	\$32,395.25
Cemetery Endowment Principal	\$45,000.00
Unrealized Appr/(Depr)	\$101,004.33
<b>ENDOWMENT-AVAILABLE INCOME:</b>	
Endowment/Gen/Available Income	\$12,624.20
Endowment/Prop/Available Income	\$6,367.86
Endowment/Youth/Available Income	\$3,505.93
Cemetery Available-HNB Premium MM	\$2,204.99
<b>COLLEGE GRANTS/SUMWALT LOANS:</b>	
College Fund Savings - HNB	\$5,565.22
Sumwalt Savings Account - HNB	\$0.00
<b>Loans Payable</b>	
Accessibility Project Outstanding Loan	\$0.00



**Quarterly Meeting Report**  
**Pastor Seth Jersild**  
**July 16-17, 2022**

As we follow our Savior Jesus through these summer months, I give thanks to God for his beautiful creation and for my loving congregation here at St. John's. Every day I am aware of what a privilege it is to serve as your pastor.

St. John's has entered what I think we will look back on as a kind of "bridge" period. Since we are a Christ-centered group of people, I'm not surprised that we are already doing splendidly as we take our first firm steps in faith across the bridge. As we stay focused on Jesus and the Great Commission [*Matthew 28*], God will give us peace and confidence, and provide us with all we need to serve him and proclaim His Name in Grove City.

In the past year, two of our long-serving, beloved, and gifted staff members—John Schuder and Gary Pecuch—have stepped down from their formal positions in our congregation. Major staff changes of course always create some apprehension and real challenges. But we can see that God is already at work to bless us with new life in the midst of transition.

As far as our music ministry goes, we've been happy to welcome Mark Meuser, our new Director of Music. Mark has brought beautiful gifts to St. John's. With his talent as an organist, his warm leadership style, his compositional creativity, and his love for bringing guest musicians to St. John's, Mark is bringing us a lot of joy, freshness, and inspiration each week in worship. Thanks be to God for sending Mark to us!

Since Gary stepped down from his position as youth minister at the end of June, we have begun the process of reassessing and, as necessary, re-organizing our confirmation ministry. Whatever new shape our confirmation ministry might take, I will be working with Laurie and Diana to continue their rich *Faith-Webbing* multigenerational approach to youth ministry.

I'm thrilled at—and frankly in awe of—the generous response that the Accessibility Project has elicited from the congregation. Thank you so much to all of you who have already given amazing gifts in support of the project! As of today we need to raise about \$100,000 more before we take out a construction loan and begin building. Think of that! In only six months, we have nearly reached the \$700,000 mark we set for ourselves as a milestone to begin physical work!

Right now, the McKnight Group (the architect/builder we're working with), is putting together a detailed building plan. In August/September, all St. John's member households will receive a letter with pledge cards, including information about an upcoming *Commitment Sunday*. I encourage everyone to really think and pray about how you can give your time, talent and resources to help carry us over this particular bridge towards a more accessible and welcoming church building. I personally feel that this project is an absolute necessity for our older members, and for those who are facing challenges with mobility. I'm so glad we're doing this. We'll make sure to keep the congregation updated on progress throughout the coming year.

Thank you all for your faith, love and friendship. Please always keep our great congregation in your prayers!

In Christ,  
Pastor Seth Jersild

## **ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT Q AND A**

**Q Why are we building a new Accessibility Wing onto the church?**

**A** To provide a handicapped-accessible restroom for our members from the church sanctuary which is close at hand and which does not involve a long trip up and down multiple levels, as is currently the case. The new wing will include a lift which will make access to the sanctuary from the north entrance much easier for members with mobility issues. Also, the new wing will make traveling from one end of the building to the other (from the sanctuary to the Family Life Center) possible without using any stairs, and without going outside. Finally, the addition will provide a more welcoming space for guests and visitors, and create a space for us to mingle before/after church and events.

**Q Who is planning and building the new Accessibility Wing?**

**A** The McKnight Group, based in Grove City, has not only given us the most economical bid for the work, but also has a wealth of experience and a proven track record building church additions in the Columbus area. At our January 2022 congregation meeting, St. John's approved McKnight's design for our building.

**Q How much will the new addition cost?**

**A** The budgeted cost, as presented to and approved by the congregation, will be 1.3 million dollars. A final price guarantee will be developed during the detailed design phase.

**Q How is St. John's going to pay for the new addition?**

**A** As of early July, we have already received nearly \$400,000 in advance gifts from members of the congregation. When we have \$700,000 in hand, we will apply for a construction loan and McKnight will begin the building process. We will not use any more than \$800,000 in loan money. The congregation will rely on continuing special donations, fundraisers, and regular pledged giving from congregation members to carry us through till the loan is completely paid off. We will also be applying to multiple institutions to receive grant money.

**Q Can I see renderings of the building plan right now?**

**A** Yes, nice renderings of the design are available to look at right now in Pastor Seth's office if you were not able to attend any of the congregational meetings. We'll have renderings on prominent display in church throughout the building process.

**Q Where are we right now (July 2022) in the process?**

**A** Currently we are in the "detailed design" phase. McKnight is now in process of preparing the comprehensive building plan which will include all the nuts and bolts, ducting, wiring, and so forth. This phase will last at least 4-6 months. In the meantime, we continue to raise funds to meet our initial \$700,000 milestone.

**Q How can I give special monetary gifts to support the Accessibility Project?**

**A** You can give special gifts at any time. Just send a check to the church office with a note specifying that you would like your gift to go to the Accessibility Project.

**Q Will there be a pledge drive in support of the Accessibility Project?**

**A** Yes. In late August and early September, all church households will receive a letter in the mail along with a pledge card that you can fill out. There will be multiple options on the pledge card describing how you can give on a regular basis towards the project. We will have temple talks in church for 3-4 weeks in the Fall leading to a special *Commitment Sunday* sometime in September.

**Q Will there be smaller fundraisers throughout the year for the Accessibility Project,**

**which I can support and/or volunteer to help with?**

A Yes, our funding team is planning to have special fundraisers throughout the year, such as movie nights, dances and special sales. These fun events and will provide opportunities for our members to support the project through giving their time and talent.

**Q When will the actual, physical process of building begin?**

A It's hard to predict exactly, but taking into account the 4-6 months it will take to finish the detailed design work, and also how long it may take to raise the \$700,000 we have set as an initial milestone for ourselves, it's possible we'll be able to start building late in 2022 or early in 2023.

**Q How long will the actual building process take place?**

A McKnight has told us to prepare for a year-long building process, once the initial digging starts. That means that the new addition *could be* complete by the end of 2023 or early 2024.

**Q Will we be able to use the north entrance to the Sanctuary of the church during construction?**

A At various points in the construction process, pedestrian traffic will need to be re-routed around the north entrance to the sanctuary (and also around the north Link entrance at times). We will be communicating with our church members as far in advance as possible about these forecasted disruptions to our normal foot-traffic patterns.

**Q What kind of communication will there be between St. John's leadership and McKnight during the detailed design process, and how will St. John's oversee the project?**

A The construction team will meet as necessary with McKnight to review and approve various detailed designs. This will involve several sessions.

**Q What kind of communication will there be between St. John's leadership and McKnight during the building process, and how will St. John's oversee the project?**

A McKnight will hold weekly onsite communication sessions with our church construction team.

**Q What happens if we have not raised the \$700,000 by the time detail design is completed?**

A We have committed to the congregation that construction will not begin prior to having \$700,000 received or identified. A guaranteed price will be generated during the detail design phase. That price, due to inflation, will be good for a rather short period of time. Consequently, it will be important that we have the \$700,000 when detail design is completed or the cost will likely continue to escalate.

