

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## STEWARDSHIP QUARTERLY REVIEW

### **A message from Pastor...**

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him Who died for them and was raised again" (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).

Some sons disobey their fathers. Others obey unwillingly with arguing and complaining, resentful of their fathers' authority. Still others are compliant, but are there any who would be as submissive as Jesus was to His Father's will? "... yet not My will, but Yours be done," Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22:42). Carrying out His Father's will was no easy task, but, because His love for us is as great as the Father's, He was willing to win our salvation for us by carrying out the plan the Triune God had established before the foundations of the world were laid. It was His love for us that caused Christ to give His very life so that we, who were dead in sin, might be alive forevermore in Him.

There is nothing we can do to earn this love; there is nothing we can do to "pay Him back." The Christian life of stewardship is a response to His love. His love compels us to respond by loving Him first and best and loving others as ourselves. His love compels us to provide for our pastors, teachers, and missionaries who work to bring the Gospel to the world for which He died (1 Corinthians 9:9-12). His love compels us to look after the widow and the orphan (James 1:27). His love compels us to feed the hungry, extend hospitality to the homeless, clothe the destitute, and visit the prisoner (Matthew 25:37-40).

Stewardship is the use of life and all of life's resources in response to the grace of God in our lives, poured out in service to others, even as Christ poured out His lifeblood for us. The prophet Micah clarifies to us what God requires of us: "To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8b). These are not attitudes we can work up of our own accord. Only as we are renewed daily through Word and Sacrament can we respond to this great love of Christ and respond in joyful service and generous giving that please God.

Helping people live life with Jesus every day,  
Rev. Dr. Brent L. Parrish



Please find enclosed your complete 2022 giving statement which can be used for your personal tax purposes.

If you have any questions regarding your giving statement or would like to make changes to your offering payment method, please contact Gayelee LaGrange at (952) 447-4837 or contact the church office at (952) 492-6010.



### **A message from the Finance Ministry Team...**

We would like to thank everyone for your continued generous giving during the fourth quarter of 2022.

Deposits of \$103,590.39 were made during this quarter.

Expenses of \$84,319.66 were paid during this quarter.

The total of \$15,199.20 was paid as principal and interest on our church mortgage during the entire 2022 year. Thanks to your faithful giving we were able to pay down an additional \$26,000 giving a total of \$41,199.20 paid on the mortgage for the year. The final mortgage balance at the end of 2022 was: \$45,376.08. God is good!

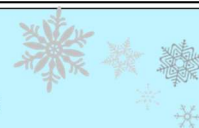


#### **Numbers 6:24-26**

<sup>4</sup> "The LORD bless you and keep you;

<sup>25</sup> the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup> the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."



Fourth Quarter 2022



Stewardship? What's that, you ask?? Well simply put, stewardship is a term used by parishes around the world that refers to the work that the parish does. For example, a volunteer is a person who gives of their **time** freely to further the commitment of the church mission statement. They use their time wisely so as not to over-commit or take time away from other important activities in their own life. They are good STEWARDS of their time.

Another person might use their God-given **talents** in some part of ministry, again to further the church mission statement. They might be a teacher or an architect or a musician. When they share their God-given gifts at church, they are known as good STEWARDS of their talents.

And then, there is all of us. Each time you put your envelope in the offertory collection basket, or you give to support one of the Mission projects, or you give a financial gift to a different parish that has suffered a great natural disaster, you are a good STEWARD of your God-given **treasure**. You are furthering the mission statement in His Holy Name!

And because of this, we are all good stewards in one way or another. And for that, we are **grateful!!**

## Missions OFFERING

1/3 of all donated mission funds are given to an International mission, 1/3 of the funds are donated to a National mission and 1/3 of the funds are used to support our own Local mission work.

The **\$3.00 a Week Mission Project** continues to be generously supported by the faithful givers of Fish Lake Immanuel Lutheran Church.

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod leadership challenged all givers to contribute \$1.00 a week to be donated to a local mission, a national mission, and an international mission.

If you would like to accept this challenge and be a blessing to others, please indicate your \$3.00 mission break-out on your offering envelope. Thank you!



### 2022 Fish Lake Immanuel Lutheran Church Missions



#### International

##### Hmong International Mission

Paid: \$2,663.46 Remaining: \$262.66



#### National

##### New Creation Lutheran Church

Paid: \$2,587.00 Remaining: \$305.82



#### Local

##### Fish Lake Immanuel Lutheran Church

Paid: \$2,185.59 Remaining: \$126.95

**Hmong International Mission**  
c/o Rev. Dr. Fungchatou Lo  
P.O. Box 533  
Concordia, MO. 64020  
Email: [LOLEGACY@gmail.com](mailto:LOLEGACY@gmail.com)

The Hmong history, culture, tradition, and religious practices can be traced back to the Old Testament. With centuries of migration, they lost knowledge and faith in the triune God. Approximately two million Hmong live in Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam; with less than ten percent of them being Christians. The Lo family has been stationed in Thailand traveling through-out Southeast Asia to engage the Hmong with the Gospel.

**New Creation Lutheran Church**  
1053 Jefferson Street South  
Shakopee, MN. 55379  
<https://ncshakopee.org/home>

New Creation Lutheran Church is a Multi-ethnic congregation which offers and proclaims New Hope, New Joy and New Life through compassionate relationships, built on Faith in Jesus Christ!

New Creation serves Nueva Creacion in the area of Hispanic outreach and ministry.

Paid for services to set up Livestream.

Paid for subscription, which is free to all of our members, called: **Rightnow MEDIA**. This is a streaming library of more than 20,000 Bible Study videos.

650+ postcards were sent out, inviting people to worship with us, for special Christmas services.

Replaced exterior banners advertising our special events; Fish Lake 5K, VBS, Sunday School, Fish Fry Dinners and our Worship Services.

Our church helped a single mother in 2022 with rent money so she would not be on the street.

Advertised our church info in the "Welcome Neighbor" directory.

♥ thank you ♥ thank you ♥ thank you ♥ thank you ♥ thank you ♥ thank you ♥ thank you ♥

Fourth Quarter 2022