

Mount Si Lutheran Church

Stewardship and Finance Committee Annual Report 2022

Mission Statement

The Stewardship and Finance Committee's mission is to initiate programs that develop scriptural stewardship attitudes and actions among church members and to oversee use of the time, talents, and finances of our congregation.

Stewardship

The COVID 19 Pandemic subsided enough for us to finally resume regular "in person" worship for most of 2022. Our ministries were still somewhat handicapped as they could not meet and operate in a normal fashion. The ZOOM option continues to be available for all services. We were all happy to finally start meeting in person again.

The Congregation did a fantastic job supporting the continued operations of Mt Si Lutheran. COVID 19 does not care if we have building expenses, operating expenses, and payroll obligations to honor. Members continued to support the church through the various available options (online giving, mailed donations, Amazon Smile, and Sunday Service Plate Offerings). It might be time to consider resuming the regular Sunday Plate offerings in 2023 (passing the plate).

The focus for all will be continued growth of our Congregation in 2023. Adding new members to the Congregation will continue to be an important goal of the Congregation. The COVID-19 Pandemic and flu concerns continue to hamper our normal activities and perhaps is a factor in new people willing to attend and/or join the congregation. Council continues to monitor the guidelines from State and Federal authorities as the OMICRON Variant, flu and RSV remain present.

In 2022 our expenses were approximately \$11,000 greater than our income (giving). We depleted funds existing in our checking account to make up this difference. We have approximately \$65,000 in our checking account as of 12/31/22. We have enough funds to manage this shortfall in the near term, but we certainly would like to have our giving and expenses more in line with each other each month for the future growth and viability of our congregation.

Finance

The Treasurer Position again was handled by Jeff King in 2022. We greatly appreciate Jeff and all his expertise with all our financial reporting functions. Leslie Hatling continued as our Financial Secretary for 2022 and does a great job!

Some Financial Fun Facts:

| Description | 2022 | 2021 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Total Income | 174,577 | 215,609 |
| Total Expenses | 186,149 | 182,161 |
| Total Benevolence | 8,968 | 15,352 |

Endowment Fund

Our Endowment Fund was started in 2018 with a donation of \$4,888 and has now grown to \$5,015. When this Endowment Fund balance reaches \$50,000 via various donations (Estate donations and restricted donations) and Fund appreciation, the proceeds will be distributed to our Church Ministries.

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile donations contributed \$246.60 in 2022 compared to \$263.16 in 2021. When you use Amazon Smile to purchase items on Amazon a percentage of the sale price is donated directly to Mt Si Lutheran. It costs nothing to the buyer. A great deal for the church. You just need to designate Mt Si Lutheran as your charity.

Thrivent Dollars

If you are a Thrivent member, there are Thrivent Dollars available to you to donate to the church.

For example, Pastor Krista reports that "one reason some of the ministries didn't spend their full budget this year was due to Thrivent Action Team dollars secured through generous members. We had 11 action team grants at \$250 each for a total of \$2,750 in grant income for ministry expenses. This money was used for quilting, evangelism, prayer shawl ministry and faith formation.

If interested, ask Leslie or Pastor Krista how this all works! A great way to support Mt Si Lutheran Church. Thrivent Dollars are available every year.

Ways to donate to Mt Si Lutheran:

1. Mail a check:

Mount Si Lutheran Church

ATTN Financial Secretary / Leslie Hatling

PO BOX 487

North Bend, WA 98045

2. On-Line via credit card or electronic check. You can now set up automatic donations either via credit card or check to Mt Si. Your financial institution will deposit directly to the Church's account. It is easy to do, secure and confidential. It can be for one-time donations or as often as you like; both members and non-members can use it. Just go to our web page and click on the "Giving" tab
3. Amazon Smile. When using this platform on Amazon a percentage of your spend with Amazon is donated to the church. It costs you nothing! Please ask anyone on Stewardship or Pastor Krista for details if needed.

Below are some of the Committee Activities throughout the year:

1. Meet every month to review the Treasury report and monitor income and expenses. Look for ways to reduce costs and increase giving opportunities.
2. Facilitate quarterly congregational financial meetings.
3. Facilitate and prepared the annual Congregational budget.
4. Review and recommended approval for scholarships.
5. Distribute semi-annual statements.

2023 Goals

1. Continue to promote On-Line / Automatic Giving via our web site. Via checking account or credit card.
2. Promote Amazon Smile Giving opportunity.
3. Keep record keeping up to date (i.e.: members, baptisms, funeral, etc.)
4. Continue to promote Endowment Fund and ability of donors to donate stock through our brokerage account with Thrivent.
5. Help improve pool of counters to count and deposit church offerings. Especially needed if we restart regular plate offering in 2023.

2022 Members

Tom Chase, Leslie Hatling, Jeff King, Terry Adams