

Stewardship Team Report 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The mission that you inspire and for which you provide in Southern Ohio changes lives. Because of you, pastors and lay leaders were strengthened and equipped for serving and leading God's church. Because of you, young adults and youth grew in faith and cultivated their spiritual gifts. Because of you, congregations were accompanied through financial difficulty, pastoral transitions, and unexpected challenges. As you read this, because of you, congregations are receiving support and guidance to be Christ in the world during the Covid-19 outbreak. In short, because of you, the congregations of the Southern Ohio Synod really are stronger and better together as we join Jesus in restoring the world.

Thank you for your mission support in 2019. We hope that you had the opportunity to view the video series in the fall of 2019 highlighting specific ministries that your mission support dollars impacted including Trinity Mt. Healthy and congregations in the call process, Jacob's Porch Campus Ministry, Ibada ya Kiswahili and multicultural ministries, and First Lutheran Church in Dayton and other congregations adapting to the needs and gifts of their communities. These stories put faces and names to the sisters and brothers in Christ whose faith and leadership were strengthened by your mission support dollars.

In addition to telling the story of how your mission support dollars impact ministry, another important goal for the SOS Stewardship Team is to empower congregations with healthy stewardship practices by sharing resources and educational opportunities. To accomplish this goal, we hosted several workshops last fall entitled, "Plan the Budget. Plan the Future" by speaker Rev. Pete Rudowski to equip congregations to create budgets that help them live out their mission. We also hosted a workshop introducing congregations to The Generosity Project Curriculum of the ELCA with presenter Linda Staats.

This year, we will continue to develop engaging ways to share the good news of what the Triune God is doing in Southern Ohio as the result of your mission support, offer stewardship educational opportunities, and grow our capacity to serve Christ together by increasing mission support to the Southern Ohio Synod.

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel.

In Christ,

The Southern Ohio Synod Stewardship Team

Rev. Emily Beckering, Out-going Chair
Rev. Mick Althausen
Ms. Josselyn Bennett
Rev. Aaron Layne

Rev. Michelle Terry, In-coming Chair
Mr. Dale Poppe
Mr. Doug Ware
Rev. Katie Kerrigan, DEM