

FINANCES & STATISTICS

by Rev. Thomas Soltis, SELC Stewardship Director

2017 SELC FINANCES

Budget Goals & Receipts

Congregational Budget Goals	517,212
Congregational Goal Remittances	<u>493,060</u>
95.33% Goal Performance	(-4.67%) 243,152

Goals & Other Receipts

Congregational Goal Remittances	493,060
Receipts from Other Sources	<u>85,867</u>
Total Receipts	578,927

Other Ministries

Non-budgetary Designated Gifts - **\$75,221**

Average per Communicant

2015 - \$40.03 2016 - \$40.34 2017 - \$40.48

Communicants

2015 - 12,262 (-190) 2016 - 12,393 (+131)
2017 - 12,179 (-214)

2018 SELC FINANCES

Goal Performance (1-19-18)

Suggested +3% (2% inflation plus 1% growth)

6 congregations increased above +3%

12 increased +3% Increases 10,271

5 same as last year Decreases 6,000

2 decreased **Positive 4,271**

25 reported goals

26 did not report goals Christ, Portland, MA

51 congregations Closed

2018 Budget

SELC District Missions	128,000
LCMS Missions & Ministries	150,000
Seminaries: Ft. Wayne & St. Louis	15,000
Lutheran Haven	50,000
SELC District Programs	79,100
SELC District Services	<u>171,700</u>
	593,800

Previous Budgets

2015 -677,530 2016 - 653,490 2017 - 606,700

Projected Receipts

Congregational Goal Remittances	527,039
Non-budgetary Receipts	23,000
Lutheran Church Extension Fund	35,214
Interest Income	<u>5,500</u>
	590,753

Projected Deficit - \$3,047

District Assets (12-31-17) - \$766,496.63

MONTHLY REMITTANCES URGED

In December, 15 congregations, considerably behind in remittances, were contacted. \$34,783 was solicited. Congregations should consider district payments a priority and remit monthly.

TIMELY REPORTING URGED

Goals

Only 25 congregations (50%) reported goals. The suggested deadline date is Jan. 15th. Timely reporting enables the fiscal committee to establish realistic budgets.

Communicants

About 33% report communicant memberships on goal forms. Membership information is necessary for calculating district & synodical assessments, congregational profiles for call documents and assessments of growth or decline. Please cooperate.

SYNODICAL STATISTICS

Baptized Members (Year 2016) 2,017,834 (-2.1%)

Average Sunday Worship Attendance 137 (-3%)

Annual per Communicant Giving \$952 (+1.5%)

Total Congregational Member Giving \$1.43 billion

Synodical Budget - \$78,085,066

(Fiscal Year July 2017 - June 2018)

The LCMS national office is financially holding steady while continuing to be cautious maintaining a balanced budget. Synod relies heavily on designated (restricted) gifts. Unrestricted gifts from districts to support the synodical budget have been declining. In 1975, synod received 6.1 cents from every dollar contributed to districts by churches. Today synod receives nine-tenths of a penny. Over the years the SELC has generously supported Synod. The 2018 budget allocated \$150,000.

Synodical Disaster Relief

Over \$7 million was contributed to help relieve the needs of those affected by the rash of natural disasters in 2017. The efficiency of synod's donor care costs will allow 94% of contributions to help affected people.

MONEY MATTERS

Financially help yourself and the Church. Consider investing in the LCEF and engaging LFCU services.



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