

## **Financial Stewardship Minutes**

### **Oct. 23, 2018**

**Present:** Sue Benson, Ruth Hamlow, Rob Hauser, Renee Kotlarz, Brian Tillmann

#### **What intrigued you in scripture lately?**

#### **Financial Update: September 2018**

- September net cash flow is down \$2,956
- 2018 YTD net cash flow is down \$5,732 from 2017
- Overall Giving was down \$1,359
- Total Simply Giving members up 1 to 59
- Laundry Love was \$216 (met our \$200 commitment)
- Expenses were down \$2,133 from Sept. 17--probably due to timing of camp payments
- Additional rent for Sept due to 2 Sundays and conference room rentals
- Added a new row to the budget (120) for Adult and Youth Safety policy expenses (background checks). Most mentors have donated the cost of the background check back to River of Hope.

#### **Quarter 1-Quarter 3 (January-September) summary**

- Overall, expenses are less than in 2017 from Q1-Q3. However, giving is down compared to 2017.
- Giving is also less than what we budgeted for.
- We did budget that expenses would exceed estimated giving (based on past trends) by \$3,831.

#### **Hopeful Insights**

- The last couple of years, we have seen a surge in giving in October, November, and December, so that we finish up the year in the black.
- We do still have money in the bank (\$27,000). While we don't want to lose all of our safety net, we are far from depleting all of our savings, esp. if we see increased giving at year's end, as is typical.
- Our Simply Givers are our most important source of financial security, making it easier to anticipate revenue and to make decisions based on when money is coming in.
- Targeted asks (example-new microphone, LIRS donations) are responded to with great generosity from our people.

#### **Q and A Forums 10/28 and 11/11**

- Not sure if we are going to have session before or after church. Sue B. and Ruth will try to confirm this and get the information out on Facebook, in email, and Weekly for 11/11.
- Sue B. has prepared a presentation. Maybe begin with that before taking questions.
- We tried to anticipate possible questions and how best to answer them.
- Sue B., Ruth, Brian, Rob, and Renee plan to be there 10/28

### **Riverpalooza November 18**

- We need to assemble information for Narrative Budget. Ruth is going to look at some other formats besides one we've done last couple of years. Maybe less pictures and more information.
- Sue B. will create graphs like we've had the last two years. Instead of doing YTD (Jan-Oct), Ruth suggested trying the 12 months since last Riverpalooza (Nov. 2017-Sept. 2018). This would give a better picture of an entire year and would address things like Giving Tuesday money coming in in 2017 and going out in 2018.
- We need to have a budget to present, but we don't have information from parish personnel table yet, so will have to estimate personnel expense increases.

**Closed with prayer**

**Next Meeting: Tentatively Monday, December 3, 6 p.m., Sue Benson's home, 760 Lakewood Drive SW**