

August
2024

a publication of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Rev. Robin Wargowsky, Pastor
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"We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature—trees, flowers, grass—grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence.... We need silence to be able to touch souls."

Mother Teresa

Dear Fellowship Members and Friends:

As we move into the month of August, I've been enjoying the starting days of the Summer Olympics in Paris. My favorite sports to watch so far are gymnastics, swimming, synchronized diving, and surfing, along with seeing some of the beautiful landmarks of Paris. The Summer Olympics is a time when the world comes together to celebrate the incredible talents and dedication of athletes from around the globe. It's a powerful reminder of the beauty of unity and the strength that comes from working together towards a common goal. I've been inspired by the perseverance and teamwork displayed by the athletes. What a great reminder to us all of what can be accomplished as we work together and support one another!

On August 11th at 10:00 a.m., we will be gathering for our annual Outdoor Worship Service at Murphy Park in Powell, followed by a potluck. This event is a wonderful opportunity to worship together in the beauty of God's creation and to share in fellowship with one another. The service will be enriched with uplifting music from the FLC Band, adding a special touch to our worship experience. Please bring a dish to share at the potluck, and invite your friends and family to join us. This is a time to celebrate our community, enjoy delicious food, and create lasting memories. Let's make this a joyous celebration of our faith and community!

As summer draws to a close, many of our children, youth, and young adults are preparing to return to school. This transition brings new beginnings, challenges, and opportunities. Please keep our students, teachers, and parents in your prayers as they embark on this new academic year. May God bless them with wisdom, patience, and courage.

To all the students, remember that you are never alone in your journey. God is with you every step of the way, guiding and supporting you. Embrace this new school year with confidence and faith, knowing that you are equipped to overcome any obstacles that come your way.

One last note, for the last two years we have had vacancies on the Congregational Life, Education and Youth, and Stewardship teams. **Please volunteer so that we may fill these spots!**

See you in church!

Pastor Robin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Smoky Row Food Pantry is at 7260 Smoky Row Rd., Columbus. The most needed items for **July, August, and September** include:



- Non-perishable food staples, such as beans, corn, rice, pasta.
- Toiletries, such as shampoo/conditioner, hand soap, deodorant, toilet paper, etc.
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes

Please place donations in the containers located in the Narthex. Your generosity is gratefully appreciated by our neighbors in need. Thank you!



Sunday School Sunday School classes for youth and adults are on break until the fall and will resume Sunday, September 15th. Susan Wolfe will facilitate the adult class and Pete and Lilly Cardimen will teach our youth.

Women's Dinner and Guys Night Out Update The next women's dinner will be on Tuesday, August 27th at 6:00 p.m. at the Azteca Mexican Grill, 3962 Powell Rd., Powell, OH 43065 (614) 210-0900. The next Guys' Night Out TBD. All are welcome!

Outdoor Worship Service & Potluck We are planning to have our annual outdoor service on Sunday, August 11th at 10:00 a.m. at Murphy Park in Powell. The park is behind Handel's Ice Cream on Powell Road. Please bring your own chairs. The FLC Band will provide music for the service. A potluck lunch will follow the service. The church will provide sandwiches, chips, beverages, and tableware and we invite members to bring a side, salad, or dessert to share. Please sign up on the sign-up list on the table in the narthex or call/email the office so we know how much food to order. Thanks!



Worship Servers Needed! If you are able to help out at our 10:00 a.m. worship service, please let Pastor Robin know. Assisting ministers, lectors, counters, and greeters are needed. Not sure what these roles involve or never done it before? We will be happy to help you out! We are also looking for fellowship hosts following worship on the 1st Sunday of each month. Sign-up on the table in the narthex.



Fellowship's "God's Work. Our Hands." During all of September, Fellowship will collect items to support local and city pantries for "Gods Work. Our Hands." Collections for the Smoky Row Food Pantry will be based on the pantry's request list at the time. We hope to leverage Thrivent Action Grants to help support this collection.



Kroger Plus Fundraising Information: If you would like to register your Kroger card for the Community Rewards Program, please contact Pastor Robin or the church office. Thank you so much for participating in this fundraiser!

Staying Connected Program for the Elderly - Ohio has a program for the elderly to "stay connected." You get to pick the hour to receive the phone call. For more information, here is the link: <https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living/get-help/staying-connected/> .

Holy Communion We celebrate Communion weekly. All baptized Christians who believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine are invited to join us in the celebration of Holy Communion. Grape juice is available in the center of the trays. Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Thrivent Members - For those of you with choice dollars. don't forget that Fellowship can be a recipient of those dollars. Thank you to all who have donated this way in the past!



Give to Fellowship with Your Smartphone with Vanco Mobile - If you would like to give to Fellowship with your smartphone, please download Vanco's smartphone app, **Vanco Mobile**. Vanco Mobile will enable anyone to donate at anytime to Fellowship. It makes it easy to give instantaneously for a regular or recurring gift, or a special occasion.

Pastoral Care Request If you have a pastoral care request (hospitalization, upcoming surgery, need for counseling, etc.), please call Pastor Robin at (937) 725-4930. If you would like a home visit by Pastor Robin, please let Pastor Robin know so it can be scheduled. It does not need to be a pastoral emergency...just an opportunity to get to know you better.



July School Supply Drive Thank you to all who donated to our School Supply Drive to support the families who frequent the Smoky Row Food Pantry. We donated over 350 items for this effort!!!

Staying Connected Program for the Elderly - Ohio has a program for the elderly to "stay connected." You get to pick the hour to receive the phone call. For more information, here is the link: <https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living/get-help/staying-connected/>.

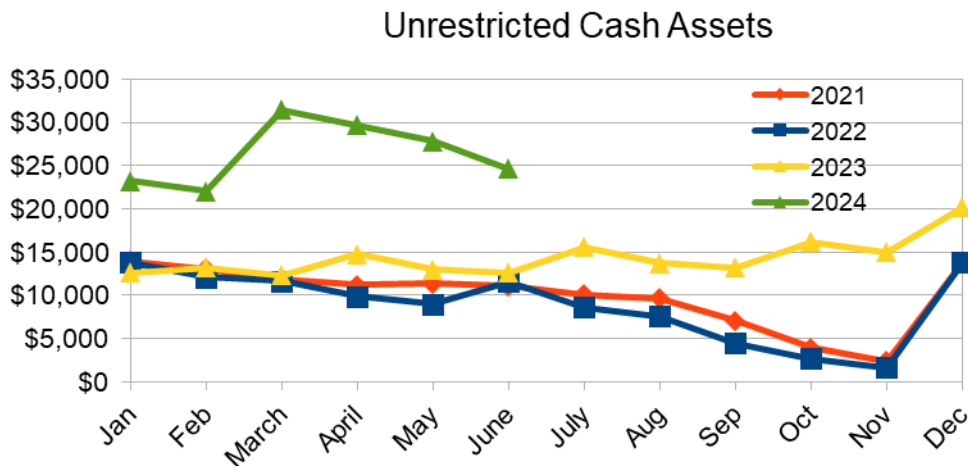
Attendance Information (In-person & virtual)

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| June 2 | 30/18 views | July 7 | 35/29 views |
| June 9 | 34/20 views | July 14 | 21/22 views |
| June 16 | 24/20 views | July 21 | 30/15 views |
| June 23 | 20/22 views | July 28 | 23/12 views |
| June 30 | 23/42 views | | |

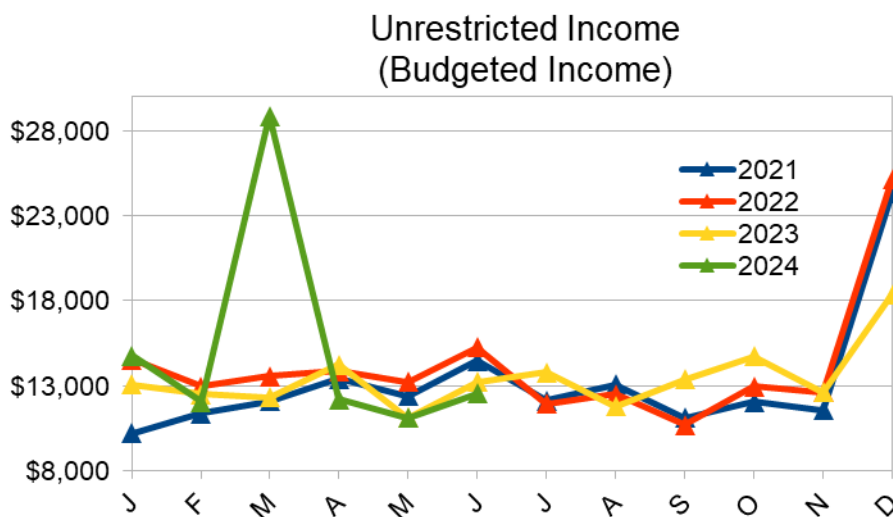
2nd Quarter 2024 Financial Update

- Todd Engen, Treasurer

As we close the second quarter of 2024, our financial situation is stable. Our current Unrestricted Cash balance is \$24,612.49. We began 2024 in a very positive position with an Unrestricted Cash balance of \$24,648.13. As expected, we had a peak in March when we received a large full-year donation that gave us a large increase in our cash assets. As the last several months have progressed, you can see the expected decline in the unrestricted cash as that donor's former monthly contribution is no longer coming in.



The following chart shows our income by month and you can see that our monthly income is down compared to prior years, again mostly due to the one-time annual gift. The monthly trends are tracking comparably to prior years. We'll probably see some decrease in income during the summer months.



Our income continues to benefit from increases in the interest rates we are receiving. We included increases in interest income in our budget plans. We again received over \$450 in interest in the second quarter. I continue to balance our bank accounts so that we maximize the amount in our money market account to get the most interest income, while maintaining plenty of cash in our checking account to cover our ongoing expenses.

2nd Quarter 2024 Financial Update

- *Todd Engen, Treasurer*

Our expenses are tracking very closely to our budgeted amount through the first half of the year. We are underspending our budget by about 2% for the quarter and the first half of the year. The largest contributors to our expenditures are our salaries and benefits, our mortgage, and utilities.

Our bank accounts hold \$47,590.47 of cash on hand. Of that, \$24,648.13 is unrestricted that we can use for any of our operating expenses. Again, our Unrestricted Cash is trending comparably to prior years, with the exception that we received the one-time pre-paid contribution from one family which has significantly increased the balance for now. It will decline faster as the year progresses since we have already collected that one, large contribution.

On the liability side, our mortgage balance is \$243,051.73. We have reduced the mortgage by \$2534.12 during the second quarter.

During the second quarter, we have done some significant things to improve our facility. We have resealed our driveway. We employed Hope Through Housing to weed and mulch our garden beds. We also did a major clean-up of the many accumulated things inside our church. Some of what we cleaned out was thrown into the trash, but much of the furniture and stuff like that was recycled by our next door business neighbors. We have also helped our neighbors through a significant number of gifts to people coming through our doors seeking assistance in their difficult, trying times. The need is great in our area and many more people are needing help. We continue to contribute to the Smoky Row Food Pantry to help them meet those needs.

Below are the second quarter 2024 statistics of our bank balances, income and expenses.

Thank you again for your support. Your support makes our ministry go and supports our mission of sharing God's love and grace through our words and actions.

I am happy to answer any questions you might have about our financial status.

Todd Engen, Treasurer

tcengen@att.net

614-226-4965

2nd Quarter 2024 Financial Update

- Todd Engen, Treasurer

Bank Balances as of 6/30/24:

ASSETS

BANK ACCOUNTS

CHECKING ACCOUNTS

\$7,127.88

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

40,462.59

Subtotal Bank Accounts

47,590.47

MORTGAGES & LOANS

243,051.73

Second Quarter Income:

| | Actual | Budget % | Budget | Difference |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|------------|
| INCOME | | | | |
| CONTRIBUTION INCOME | | | | |
| UNRESTRICTED | \$35,391.75 | 84.36% | \$41,955.00 | \$4,131.71 |
| DONOR RESTRICTED | 305.25 | 0.00% | 0.00 | 873.35 |
| Subtotal Contribution Income | 35,697.00 | 85.08% | 41,955.00 | 5,005.06 |
| INTEREST INCOME | 466.87 | 194.53% | 240.00 | 438.43 |
| NON-CASH DONATIONS | 35.64 | 0.00% | 0.00 | 35.64 |

Second Quarter Expense Budget Comparison of Expenses by Area:

EXPENSES

FIXED EXPENSES

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|-----------|
| ADMINISTRATION | \$25,657.11 | 100.18% | \$25,610.25 | -\$9.00 |
| ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES | 772.65 | 67.16% | 1,150.50 | 983.17 |
| WORSHIP | 420.71 | 73.33% | 573.75 | 494.40 |
| CONGREGATIONAL LIFE | 108.84 | 54.42% | 200.01 | -183.80 |
| EDUCATION & YOUTH | 58.50 | 41.05% | 142.50 | 168.00 |
| OUTREACH | 0.00 | 0.00% | 1,250.01 | 1,250.02 |
| PROPERTY AND SUPPORT | 13,213.31 | 96.22% | 13,732.80 | 3,152.40 |
| STEWARDSHIP EXPENSES | 0.00 | 0.00% | 37.50 | 75.00 |
| RESTRICTED FUND EXPENSES | 1,200.00 | 0.00% | 0.00 | -1,944.83 |
| RESTRICTED SUB-FUNDS | 375.00 | 0.00% | 0.00 | -852.40 |
| Subtotal Fixed Expenses | 41,806.12 | 97.91% | 42,697.32 | 3,132.96 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 41,806.12 | 97.91% | 42,697.32 | 3,132.96 |

First Quarter Mortgage Principal Payments (the negative number is the payment amount):

| | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------|------|
| FCB Mortgage | -2,534.12 | -2,490.00 | -44.12 | 102% |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------|------|

Church Staff

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Pastor | Rev. Robin Wargowsky |
| Treasurer | Todd Engen |
| Secretary & Financial Secretary | Tracy Farel |
| Organist | Dixie Heck |
| Sub. Pianist/Organist | David Fleisher, Ruth Albert |
| Choir/Band Director | George Biemel |
| Custodian | Kenneth Hunt |

Executive Committee

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| President | George Biemel |
| Vice-President | Mike Rankin |
| Secretary | Sonya Thelin |
| | Pastor Robin |

At-large Council Members

Angela Kidd
Bill Lude
Susan Wolfe

Team Coordinators

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Congregational Life | Vacant |
| Education & Youth | Vacant |
| Outreach | Pete Cardimen |
| Property | John Votino |
| Stewardship | Vacant (Council) |
| Worship | Karen Harris |

Thank you for your leadership!!!

Worship Servers Schedule for August 2024

| | August 4 | August 11 |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Asst. Minister | Ruth Albert | Sonya Thelin |
| Lay Reader | Ruth Albert | Sonya Thelin |
| Counter | Bill Farel | |
| Greeter | | --- |
| Fellowship Host | | --- |
| Altar Guild | Dianna Roll & Angela Kidd | Dianna Roll & Angela Kidd |

| | August 18 | August 25 |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Asst. Minister | Cindy Frey | Paul Wargowsky |
| Lay Reader | Cindy Frey | Paul Wargowsky |
| Counter | Bill Farel | |
| Greeter | | |
| Fellowship Host | --- | --- |
| Altar Guild | Dianna Roll & Angela Kidd | Dianna Roll & Angela Kidd |



Worship Servers Needed!

If you can fill any of our openings for assisting ministers, readers, counters, greeters or fellowship hosts or help out in future months, please call or email Pastor Robin or Tracy Farel. Thanks!

FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Carolyn Crispin
Major N Crispin
Byron Engen
Margery Gress
Cheryl Hamilton
Lillian Kachic

Ed Lathy
Frank LeMay
Leena LeMay
Pete Meighen
Sonja Meighen
Ray Ward

August Birthdays

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Sarah Burns | 8/1 |
| George Biemel | 8/5 |
| Andy Lee | 8/6 |
| Sonya Thelin | 8/17 |



FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Pastor Steve Becker, Pastor Robin's friend
Linda Chickey, Ruth Albert's friend
Rosemary Craig, Cindy Frey's mother
Mary Beth Cravenor, Margery Gress' friend's daughter
Dennis Dom, Darcy Dom's brother
Pat McCarty, Paul Wargowsky's sister
Mike McKinley, David Fleisher's friend
Jeff Sielaff, FLC visitor

DEATHS:

Alison Ericson, Jim Jaeger's friend's wife
Donald Hummel, Susan Wolfe's uncle

Happy Birthday to those celebrating birthdays this month! This list reflects the information we have in our computer at this time. We welcome your corrections and additions!

August Anniversaries

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Mike & Ruth Rankin | 8/12 |
| George & Jeanine Biemel | 8/17 |
| Erling & Susan Lee | 8/24 |



August 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------|---|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 28 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC | 29 | 30 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 31 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 1 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC | 2 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 3 6:00 am - CJMC Pray |
| 4 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC | 5 | 6 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 7 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 8 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC | 9 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 10 6:00 am - CJMC Pray |
| 11 10:00 am -Outdoor Worship Service & Potluck 11:30-4:00 - CJMC | 12 | 13 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 p.m. - Worship (zoom) | 14 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 15 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 1:30 pm - SICC Prs Mtg @ FLC 8:00 pm - CJMC | 16 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 17 6:00 am - CJMC Pray |
| 18 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC | 19 | 20 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Council | 21 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 22 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC | 23 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 24 6:00 am - CJMC Pray |
| 25 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC | 26 | 27 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 6:00 pm - Women's Dinner | 28 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 29 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC | 30 6:00 am - CJMC Pray | 31 6:00 am - CJMC Pray |

Fellowship Lutheran Church

7350 Sawmill Road
Columbus, OH 43235

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Purpose: To share God's love and grace through our words and actions.

Our Vision: To be a diverse, thriving community of faith where all are welcome to celebrate God's love and grace.

August 2024 Newsletter