

Talk to the Church Board: Spending Plan

The purpose of the MCN Church Board is to listen to God's call, and lead the church in that call. The Board wants to share what they have heard and hear your response.

We are conducting regular (first Sunday of each quarter) times to make sure you are heard and to encourage your engagement in envisioning the activities that will help MCN fulfill its mission. This will take place during the Adult Christian Education time.



The first time, June 4, we had good participation and learned a great deal about how the congregation wants to engage around our Mission and Vision.

Our second quarterly session is August 27 and the topic is our Spending Plan. We will focus on these questions:

1. Currently our Spending Plan is met by free will giving. Some other congregations use pledging. There may be other options, also. Would you be in favor of continuing our current method of creating the Spending Plan, or do you think another way would be better? If so, what method and why?
2. Our 2017 Spending Plan donates 21% of our Spending Plan to Non-Local First Fruits. * In addition, 2% of the Spending Plan is designated to Local First Fruits through the Outreach Committee, Indigent Fund and the Peace & Justice Committee. ** Please comment on our First Fruit giving. Are those the appropriate percentages? *** If you would suggest changes, what would those be and why?
3. A few weeks ago, Financial Stewardship Committee gave the congregation information about a large deficit and asked for giving beyond regular giving. What is your response to learning about this significant deficit?
4. If we had to cut our Spending Plan, what areas do you consider vital and what could be cut?
5. How can we use our Spending Plan to encourage new ministries?

Please review these questions and consider what you would like to say to the Church Board and Financial Stewardship Committee on August 27. We welcome you and your ideas.

In the service of Jesus,

Members of the MCN Church Board: Wayne Hochstetler, Eric Miller, Cindy Ropp, Rick Satchwell, Larry Schrader, Mary Ann Watkins, Janet Wilson

Members of the Financial Stewardship Committee: Linda Clemmons, Adam Augspurger, Gail Fisher, Carroll Miller, Nathan Miller, Lynn Reha, Rick Yoder

*Non-local First Fruits: Mennonite Mission Network; IL Mennonite Conference; Central District Conference; Mennonite Education Association; Mennonite Central Committee; Menno Haven Camp; Camp Friedenswald; Maple Lawn Homes; Meadows Mennonite Home; Menno Media; Mennonite Disaster Service; Ministry Support

**Examples of projects supported by Outreach Committee and Peace & Justice Committee: Mennonite Disaster Service projects, Immanuel Health Center, Christian Peacemaker Teams, Bridge of Hope, Southern Poverty Law Center, Illinois People's Action, The Immigration Project

***The percentages of all the categories of the Spending Plan are available on the reverse side of this document.