



How Truly Great Thou Art! – A Prosperous Year for the Foundation Turned into Blessings for the Church

“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

2 Corinthians 9:8

By Sid Johnston

How Great Thou Art indeed. This year has been an incredible year for the Foundation. We wanted to take a moment to reflect on our many blessings throughout the year. The Foundation’s purpose is to develop and maintain a growing endowment fund to provide our Church with ongoing, enduring financial support through income generated by legacy gifts and endowment earnings.

The Foundation has been fortunate to release to our Church a total of \$2,164,184 this year. Every year we release \$400,000 in January to start the year. In February, we provided around \$100,000 in restricted annual ministry funding to programs such as the Mission, the Justice Ministry, Music, Worship, Children’s programs and others. In April, we release another \$400,000 for the second quarter of the year. In June, additional distributions are determined for the remainder of the year based on the previous year’s ending portfolio balances. These funds are released to our Church in October and December. The Foundation is pleased to have fulfilled our commitment to our Church for 2017, with a check in October for \$632,101 and again in December with a check for \$632,101.

The blessings continue throughout the years as the Foundation seeks to continue its support of the Church. Since 2014, the Foundation has given \$8,455,304 to the Church. The Foundation has been in existence since 1964 and over the past 53 years, our Church has received \$52,799,837 from the earnings of the Foundation. That averages about one million dollars a year.

How has the Foundation been so successful? Well some may say that it is wise investing in the equity markets and others may say that it is conservative Board and staff management. But ultimately, it is the members of the Church! We rely on the generosity of our membership to sustain the profitability of the Foundation which in turn maintains the yearly giving to the Church and its programs. Every year, income generated by Foundation

What we have given since 2014

- 2014 - \$2,192,362
- 2015 - \$2,084,154
- 2016 - \$2,014,604
- 2017 - \$2,164,184

Total: \$8,455,304

endowment helps our Church grow and serve its members and our community without touching the original contributed amounts. We say thank you to those who have dedicated their money and time to assist us in making our Foundation solid and strong.

Did you know that the Foundation provides funding for programs such as: third grade bibles, Confirmation class, music, worship, scholarships, garden maintenance and many others? Did you also know that you can designate your contribution to various Foundation funds?

So, as you are getting ready for the end of year financial planning, perhaps there's a way to celebrate the holidays by considering a tax-deductible 2017 gift to the Foundation. As the calendar year comes to an end, we wanted to take a moment to share this information with you. As always, we are here for you and appreciate hearing from you. Please contact Sid at 817.339.5072 or Heather Kopystecki at 817.339.5089 for additional information.

We are blessed to be a part of the Foundation and our Church as we focus on the future of our spiritual home.

To All, a very Happy New Year!

