

Mission Investment Report

Investment firms report the returns on their funds and how they are performing. Offerings are like investments in the mission of Christ, so this “investment report” shows the “returns” on gifts invested in the Faith Lutheran “fund.” This report takes the place of a mid-year giving statement. *To receive an itemized list of your offerings to Faith Lutheran through June 30, just call the church office (320-587-2093).*

Really Moving Forward

Generous support of the *Legacy of Faith... Moving Forward* capital campaign allowed Faith to make **\$221,757.00** in **additional** principal payments on our mortgage this year! It would take **3 years** to reduce the principal by that much through regular monthly payments. This will make a huge difference in the length and total expense of the mortgage.

The loan is being re-amortized, too, which will also help to reduce the principal more quickly and save thousands in interest costs over the years. Please continue to support *Legacy of Faith...Moving Forward!*



Try *Simply Giving*

A convenient way to maintain offerings in the summer, or all year long, is to give electronically through *Simply Giving*. In 2012, Faith has received **over 25%** of regular offerings this way.

Contact Diane Pedersen (587-2093 or dianep@faithlc.com) or [click here](#) to learn more and sign up online.

High-5

The Best Kind of Problem to Have

FLY (Faith Lutheran Youth) Ministries is a vibrant part of Faith Lutheran Church. Each summer, FLYouth goes on a mission trip. This year, we've had **unprecedented registration** for our New Orleans mission trip in July. We're sending 90 young people across the country to spend a life-changing week doing God's work and showing Christ's love to the people of New Orleans. Making this happen isn't easy, and this year we've been presented with a really good problem: **the mission trip is over budget.**

This year's budget was based on 75 participants, but 90 are going instead. Those extra 15 participants blew a **\$3,000 hole** in the budget – mostly because it required renting an additional 15-passenger van.

Faith Lutheran is promoting five special offerings this year under the theme of **High-5**. One goal of **High-5** is to meet all our ministry commitments with no borrowing for a fifth straight year. We are also trying to spread some of the enormous giving we have needed each December (to meet those ministry commitments) throughout the Spring, Summer, and Fall.

The 3rd of those five special offerings was already scheduled for July, as a way to highlight the

importance of the mission trip. The fact the mission trip is over budget (a result of having way more youth attending than we had anticipated) makes that even more appropriate. The **first \$3,000** received in **High-5 extra offerings** in July will be used to close the gap in the mission trip budget. Gifts beyond that will support the many other ministries that occur at Faith all year long.

Watch for special **High-5** envelopes in July and please give as you are able. The amazing response to the mission trip this year presents a problem for the budget during the leaner summer months, but without doubt, this is **the best kind of problem to have!**

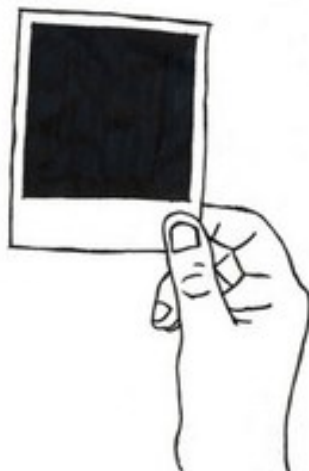


Mid-Year Financial Snapshot

A great response to the *Joy to the World* special offering in December 2012 got 2013 off to a solid start.

The *term loan* (past General Fund debt) has been reduced nearly in half. The balance remaining is now just under \$78,000.

Offerings received through May 31 were almost identical to last year. The General Fund *deficit* was about \$14,000.00. This deficit is currently covered by cash reserves, and it will need to be made up by the end of 2013.



Are you eligible to give *Thrivent Choice* funds? Many Thrivent clients can designate Choice dollars to our church. In 2012, Faith received over \$5,000 in Thrivent Choice funds.

Faith has given all its scheduled benevolence gifts through May 31.

“Returns” on Offerings

The impact of your investment in Faith Lutheran

K.K. Alavi and his son **Abdul** visited Faith and many other churches in April to present their ministry to Muslims in India. Through the New Hope Mission Society, Faith Lutheran is a major supporter of K.K.’s remarkable ministry.

Faith hosted two special visitors from Ethiopia in the last year. **Pastor Dawit** and **Pastor Belete** are part of the fast-growing Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. Through the Augustana District, Faith supports them and other mission projects in Ethiopia.

Club 218 was inspired by a mission trip to West Virginia and named for the Bible verse James 2:18. Now in its seventh year, it is a summer day-camp for children from lower-income households, led and staffed by high school youth from several churches.

Mission Trips are the highlight of the summer for many high school youth. This year, 90 young people and adults are traveling to New Orleans to serve people in need, bond in Christian community and grow in faith.

Three sessions of **Vacation Bible School** are held each summer together with Christ the King. Children hear the good news in a week filled with activities, games and songs.

Nearly every Sunday in the summer, hundreds of people gather for **outdoor worship** in Library Square. Many others join in worship earlier on Sundays at the church.

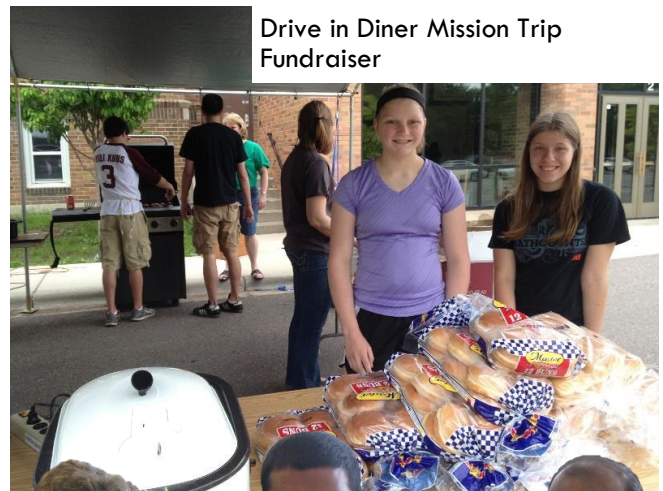
Through the **Augustana District**, Faith’s pastors have helped many new or struggling churches with supply preaching, consultations and ordinations.



Club 218, the free summer day camp for kids



Outdoor Worship Services in Library Square Park



Drive in Diner Mission Trip Fundraiser



Parent and student volunteers at the preschool through kindergarten Vacation Bible School in June.



Rev. K.K. Alavi and his son, Abdul, visited Faith Lutheran in April 2013. Pictured left to right: New Hope Mission Society president Dorothy Desens, Abdul, and K.K. Alavi.