

What's Up?

St. Michaels Youth Mission Endowment Program

Newsletter

December 1999

*The St. Michaels Youth Mission Endowment Program
of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Springfield, VA ministers to youth
in loving memory of Michael David Mower and Michael James Ancona*

About the Program

The St. Michaels Youth Mission Endowment Program was established in 1996 as a ministry of St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The Fund provides financial assistance through the distribution of earnings from endowment fund investments for youth and family oriented ministries of the congregation in local, national and international communities. Money and other assets donated to the St Michaels Endowment Fund are invested in the Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA) investment programs, mutual funds of the Fidelity Investment Group, publicly traded U.S. Stocks and other income producing vehicles. The Fund is managed by a Board:

Dan Ancona Chairman	Nancy Mower Recording Secretary
Judy Troast Vice Chairman	Keith Fulk Financial Secretary

Status of the Fund

As of October 30, 1999, the Fund principal was approximately \$29,200. Including gains on principle and accumulated earnings, the total value of the Fund was \$34,077. Current investments are made made up of about 95% equity funds and stocks with the remaining 5% in an ELCA money market fund and local checking accounts.

1999 Fund Activities

Scholarship for Youth Music

This past summer I had a great opportunity to help me strengthen both my faith and my musical abilities. There is a program called Lutheran Summer Music. It is a month long camp where students can study with professors from all over the country on their instrument, go to daily concerts and worship services, and just meet great people. The St. Michaels Fund helped me to go to this event. They were able to give me \$1,000 towards the camp and traveling expenses I had. I went to Luther College in Decorah, IA, where I studied piano and organ, as well as played the French Horn in the band there.

I had never played organ before, so it was a great opportunity to be able to take lessons, seeing that I was and still am interested in majoring in church music when I go to college. It was definitely a great experience and I am thankful to all of the people who made it possible for me to go.

--Jackie Stellar
> - *The music of life its everywhere.....if you listen with your heart.*<



Fund Distributions in 1999

Lutheran Music Program	6/99	\$1,000.00	Scholarship
Croatia Mission	6/99	\$ 528.82	Youth Mission Support
Croatia Mission	7/99	\$ 375.00	Youth Sports Equipment
Lutheran Summer Camps		\$ 250.00	Grants to Attendees

1999 Fund Activities (Continued)

Grants for Lutheran Summer Camp

One permanent grant program the Fund Board established in 1999, was an initiative to encourage attendance at Lutheran Summer Camps. For this purpose, the Fund offers a \$50 grant to each child in the congregation to attend one camping session each summer. The money is sent directly to the camp to offset a portion of the registration fee. Lutheran camps in the area that participate in the program are Caroline Furnace located near Luray, VA and Mar-Lu-Ridge, near Frederick, MD. Last summer, five children signed up for the grants with three going to Caroline Furnace (one attended a Senior Music Camp session, while the other two attended Pioneer Camp sessions) and two going to a Junior Camp session at Mar-Lu-Ridge. If you are interested in the grant program for attendance at a Lutheran Summer Camp, contact Judy Troast, (703) 455-9030.

Croatia Mission Support

The Fund provided support to the Croatia Mission in two ways. First, the fund provided grants totaling \$ 528.82 to help underwrite the travel cost of family members traveling on the Croatia mission. Additionally, the St. Michaels Fund provided \$375 worth of sports equipment (soccer balls, footballs, basketballs, beachballs, nets, air pumps, repair kits, etc.) that the Croatia Mission requested for distribution as part of its youth outreach in that war torn region.

Have a Dream

Every endowment program must have a vision for its future. The dream of the St Michaels Fund is to someday have sufficient resources to underwrite the acquisition and operation of a neighborhood "safe house" where youths of the area and parents can come for a place to talk, to get advice, to have someone to talk too...a place that might be called "Mike's House." Mike's House is still at the dream stage, and the endowment fund assets are at the "future potential" stage. There is time for both to mature into fruition, but they need you and your investment to come true.

How to Apply for Funds

St. Michaels fund distributions are available for youth-related activities that give glory to God; raise up the gospel to young people and families; meet youth ministry needs for non-budget programs, outreaches, and special situations; or otherwise affirm Christ to the church and unchurched youths of the community, nation or world. Typical uses of funds to date have included: scholarships, tuition assistance, conference fees, expenses related to youth ministries, and donations of equipment to overseas missions. Requests for loans or grants should be submitted in writing to the Fund Board through the St. Marks Youth Committee by contacting the Youth Director at St. Mark's Lutheran Church--(703) 451-4331. The Fund Board reserves the right to make all final decision for the distribution of earnings in response to loan and grant requests.

Making Contributions --- Did you know that:

There are many ways you can make a bequest to the church. The most common are the bequest of a specific dollar amount or the bequest of a percentage of the estate.

Specific Bequests

This is the most common type of clause, giving away a specific amount of money or a specific piece of property or asset. An example of a specific bequest to a church :

With joy and thanksgiving for the congregation in which I was baptized, confirmed and strengthened in the Christian faith which has sustained me, "I give, devise and bequeath to the St Michaels Youth Mission Endowment Fund, a Virginia non-profit corporation, (sum or description of property) to be used for (undesignated or designated) purposes. I further direct that interest or other income which maybe earned by said bequest shall also be paid to the St Michaels Youth Mission Endowment Fund from the date of my death until paid.

Residuary Bequests

This type of bequest gives all or a specific portion of assets remaining in the estate after debts, taxes, expenses and other bequests have been paid.

For More Information

Contact: Les Rose, xxxxxxxxxxxx

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Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."-- Matthew 25, v 44 and 45