To: The Congregation January 17, 2014

Regarding: Contributions to the Church

This letter is given with the intent to help clear up concerns dealing with contributions given through the church.

You have elected the church council members to be stewards of the church, pray about the areas you wish to contribute to and trust your council to be good stewards.

The council reviews all known needs and disburses the funds to needed areas within each fund account.

If you know of a specific need please write the council a letter or note to let them know, It will be reviewed at the following council meeting.

When making contributions to specific fund accounts please consider the following:

Most Fund accounts are tax deductible.

Your donations become non-deductible when you specify an individual. See IRS publications on this.

Designated funds (Temporary restricted contributions) are required by law to be used in the fund account they are designated to however money received over the commitment amount may be transferred to the general fund.

The current fund accounts are as follows:

**Unrestricted contributions:**

**General Fund**-these funds are tax deductible-used to pay the Pastor, maintain the church, help meet mission commitments and give as needed to other areas.

**Temporary restricted contributions:** when giving to specified fund accounts for tax deductions please remember, to be deductible your contributions may *not be for specified individuals* and the council must have complete control over to whom it is dispersed to. Please specify details on your offering envelopes.

**Benevolence Fund**- for families who are in need-policy and request forms located on back table.

**Mission Fund**- for missions –these fund accounts include, but are not limited to:

1. Joe Smith -current church commitment: $75.00 per month-funds given specifically for this help us reach that commitment.
2. AFLC World missions-Miriam Infant home (do not write Jonni Sliver) - current church commitment: $25.00 per month-funds given specifically for this help us reach that commitment.
3. AFLC Evangelism –current church commitment: $100.00 per month-funds given specifically for this help us reach that commitment.
4. AFLC Home missions

**Scholarship Fund**- for members and their families- to help cover enrollment costs of AFLBS.

**Bible & Gideons Fund**- to purchase Bibles

**Meals Fund**- to help cover the cost of church meals

**Youth Activity Fund**- to help cover the cost of youth activities

**Travel Fund** –to help cover cost of mileage reimbursements for members of the congregation for attending church related activities.

**Chair Fund** –for purchasing new chairs for the church as needed.

**Memorial Fund** –for a specific purchase (these funds can be placed into general fund after the release date specified by giver)

***Pastor (non-deductible)*** – If you wish to give to pastor you may *give directly to him*, or for deductible contributions refer to the above list of accounts.

Thank you for your contributions; we are committed to being good stewards of what God has provided. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Church Council, Redeemer Free Lutheran Church