

## **WDC Stewardship Commission Annual Report 2024**

We began the year welcoming Karl Swartz new board member from Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church in Wichita to our Commission. We also welcomed new staff persons Shari Scheffler WDC Business Manager and Mike Lamb WDC Fund Development Coordinator to our Commission.

We began by identifying three challenges facing the Stewardship Commission related to the budgetary process.

Challenge #1-We approve the new year's budget 14 months in advance of that budget taking effect.

The Stewardship Commission made the recommendation to change our fiscal year to begin October 1. This will be voted on by the delegate body at the Assembly.

Challenge #2-Our budget reporting seems to be confusing. Line items are divided into different committee's budgets causing confusion. Clarification is needed on restricted and unrestricted funds.

The Stewardship Commission directed Shari Scheffler Business Manager to modify the reporting process to make it simpler and easier to understand.

Challenge #3-We do not have a good strategy for supporting projects/financial needs that arise after budgets are passed.

We have ongoing discussion about this challenge. No decision has been made.

The Stewardship Commission approve the application for three grants during the year.

1. Transitional ministry support for Hispanic congregations-Schowalter grant
2. Faith Formation in Congregations-Lilly grant
3. WDC Listening Process-Fransen Family grant

Stewardship Commission recommended to Executive Board a 5% Administration fee be charged to all restricted funds that we administer.

We are currently working on a policy for investments.

Commission members are Cleo Koop, Sarah Balzer, Jeanette Stucky, Pauline Buller, Dick Koontz and Karl Swartz.

Cleo Koop Chairperson  
WDC Stewardship Commission