

Adopted by congregation at Congregational Meeting, March 17, 2002

Vision

The SEND Fund (Sharing Enthusiastically Near and Distant) is an opportunity for Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster to share out of our financial abundance with other churches, locally and globally, by contributing to their projects. Fund monies are tied to our expenditures for building projects and are allocated by the Justice and Spirituality Committee. CMCL will allocate \$6400 yearly to SEND as long as the congregation is paying off the mortgage that was taken to pay off the Christian Ed wing.

Process

1. The JAS Committee will solicit suggestions for projects from the congregation beginning in mid-August. Parrot articles, bulletin notices, group e-mails, and house churches will be utilized for the solicitation process.
2. The deadline for suggestions to JAS of possible projects will be in mid-September. The JAS Committee will dedicate one month to reviewing material and gathering information. A synopsis of the SEND projects under consideration by JAS will be distributed to the congregation via church mailboxes and feedback from congregation will be requested prior to the final selection.
3. The JAS Committee will review all suggestions and select projects that are consistent with the overall goal and criteria for SEND at their committee meeting in October. Jas will select no less than one and no more than three projects each year.
4. The JAS Committee will write up a brief description of selected SEND projects to present at the October Church Council meeting. This description will also be included in the agenda for the November Congregational Meeting.
5. Church Council will formally present these final selections at the November Congregational Meeting as an informational item; congregational approval is not necessary..
6. A synopsis of the SEND projects selected by JAS will be distributed to the congregation via church mailboxes following the November Congregational Meeting.
7. Recipients will be notified and checks disbursed as soon as possible after the congregational meeting.
8. Churches receiving SEND funding will send representatives to CMCL, if possible, to share information regarding the project during Making Connections time. JAS will share other information about the projects in the Parrot or on the JAS bulletin board.

Criteria

1. SEND projects should involve churches with growth needs that cannot be met without assistance. This growth may take the form of building a structure, building community, or both. Preference will be given to contributing to capital expenses rather than funding on-going program budget needs.
2. The projects should reflect a balance, over time, of sharing with local as well as distant churches.
3. Churches identified for SEND support need not be Mennonite.