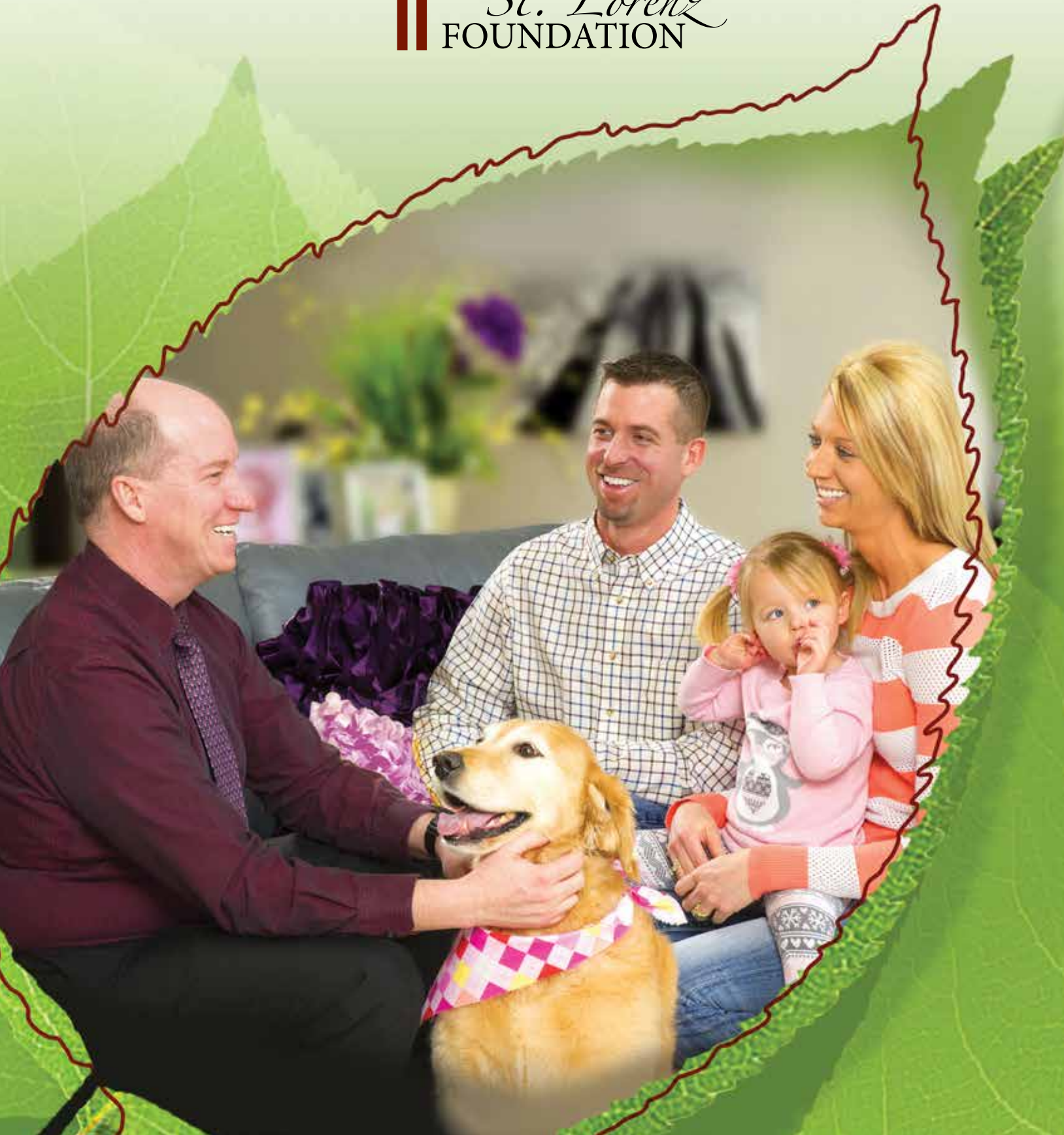


2015 ANNUAL REPORT



A letter from our President



Bob Rummel
St. Lorenz Foundation President

COVER:** Our Foundation was pleased to respond to a request from the congregation leadership to bring a pastor on board whose primary responsibility is to visit our members. The Foundation provided the funds needed to bring Pastor Shawn Fenske to Frankenmuth as St. Lorenz's Visitation Pastor. At the end of the Visitation period – as Pastor Gary Bender begins his retirement – Pastor Fenske will assume the duties currently being completed by Pastor Bender. Pastor Fenske visited hundreds of our members in the first months of his tenure; he looks forward to meeting with hundreds more. **If you have not yet reserved a time to meet with him, please call the church office.

Greetings:

On behalf of the entire St. Lorenz Foundation Board of Directors, I am pleased to present to you the 2015 Annual Report. This report will highlight the grants awarded by the Foundation upon the request of the leadership of the congregation.

During 2015, the Foundation disbursed a record \$825,710 in grants, which are detailed on the following pages. In addition, 2015 marked the 20th anniversary of the Foundation. From its earliest gifts from our members, the Foundation has grown over the years through gifts and earnings to a current corpus balance of more than \$11 million. During the past 20 years, the Foundation has granted millions of dollars to support the ministry of our church and school. God has truly blessed us over the years to grow and carry out His ministry.

The mission of the St. Lorenz Foundation is to support the ministry and needs of our church and school. The Foundation is organized to carry out this mission via the service of three distinct teams of individuals:

- The **Finance Committee**, which focuses on the Foundation's investment policy and monitoring of the investment managers;
- The **Planned Giving and Estate Planning Committee**, which focuses on telling the Foundation story and providing opportunities for members to make gifts to the Foundation; and
- The **Board of Directors**, which focuses on policies and guiding the Foundation to meet its objective of supporting St. Lorenz Lutheran Church and School.

It is indeed a privilege to serve as the President of the Foundation. Should you have questions or concerns related to the Foundation, please feel free to contact either Executive Director Perry Bresemann or me.

We praise God for the faithful gifts of our members and the many opportunities that our Foundation has to assist in His work.

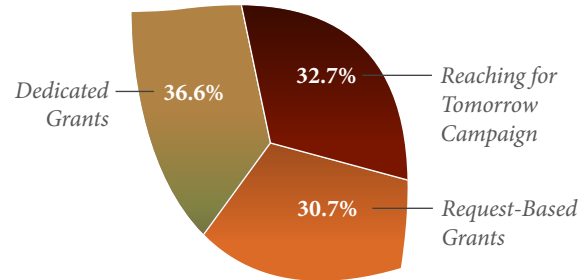
Blessings,

Bob Rummel
President – St. Lorenz Foundation

Foundation Distributions for 2015:

Dedicated Grants (specified by donor or board)	\$302,084
Grants (awarded by board based on requests)	\$253,626
Reaching for Tomorrow Campaign	\$270,000
Total Distributions	\$825,710

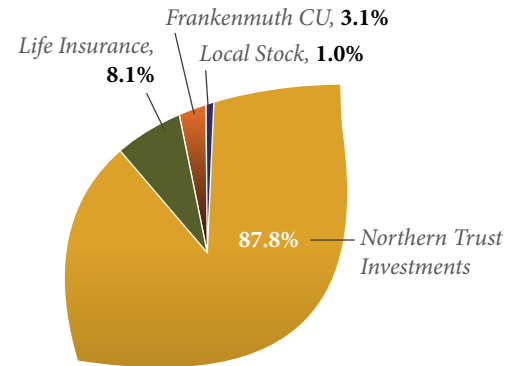
Foundation Distributions



General Fund Balance:

Northern Trust Investments	\$4,594,312
Frankenmuth Credit Union	\$161,706
Life Insurance Cash Values (Foundation-owned).....	\$422,629
Local Stock	\$54,500
Total General Fund Balance.....	\$5,233,147

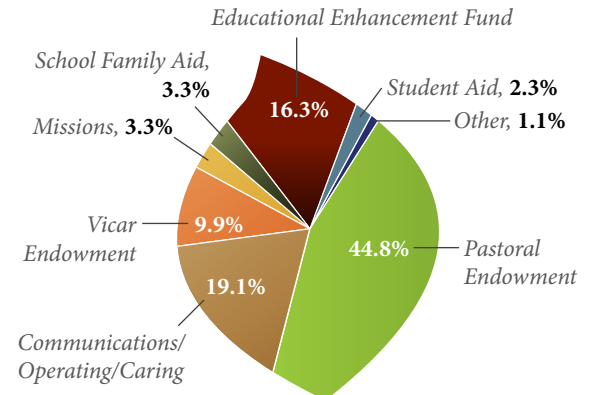
General Fund Balance



Dedicated Fund Balances (restricted):

Pastoral Endowment	\$2,696,715
Vicar Endowment.....	\$593,621
Missions	\$196,798
Synodical Institution Student Aid.....	\$137,467
St. Lorenz School Family Aid.....	\$198,189
Communications/Operating/Caring.....	\$1,149,659
Pastor/Teacher Scholarship	\$26,610
Educational Enhancement Fund	\$982,514
Retired Worker Health Insurance Support	\$6,822
Church Maintenance Fund	\$1,964
Future Building Fund.....	\$29,008
Total Dedicated Fund Balances.....	\$6,019,367

Dedicated Fund Balances



Total of General and Dedicated funds as of 12/31/15	\$11,252,514
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Dedicated Projects for 2015

Dedicated Projects are those that, through board action and donor direction, are funded every year. On an annual basis, 5% of the corpus of the accounts is distributed. For 2015, these distributions totaled \$302,084.

PASTORAL ENDOWMENT – Established through a generous gift to St. Lorenz, the Pastoral Endowment provided **\$146,127** to St. Lorenz in 2015. The Pastoral Endowment contributes to the cost of our Lead Pastor and the new Visitation Pastor.

VICAR ENDOWMENT – Established just a few years ago, the Vicar Endowment provided **\$31,154** to the congregation in 2015 to support the cost of the Vicar program. The endowment has a goal of reaching \$1 million to provide for the total cost of the program for years to come. The current balance in the account is just under \$600,000.

MISSIONS – Two donor-designated gifts provide ongoing support for Mission work. In 2015, these gifts provided **\$10,686** in resources as our congregation reached out to share How Beautiful It Is to Live with Jesus!

STUDENT AID – A number of families have contributed to ongoing support for those preparing for ministry at our seminaries and universities. Together, they provided **\$8,906** to the Student Aid Fund for annual distribution in 2015.

SCHOOL FAMILY AID – Every year, there are families that are challenged to meet the cost of sending their children to St. Lorenz Lutheran School. In some cases, it is due to multiple children in a family; in others, it is a loss of a job or other sources of income. **\$10,761** was made available in 2015 to support these families.

COMMUNICATIONS/OPERATING/CARING MINISTRY – Each year, this donor's gifts are equally divided into three areas: Communications (including the broadcast of our services), the congregational Operating Fund and Caring Ministry through Stephen Ministries. In 2015, a total of **\$62,341** was made available.

EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT FUND – The first distribution from this account occurred in 2015 and totaled **\$31,738**, which was awarded to Lead Pastor Mark Brandt and teachers Mr. Charridan Wascher, Mr. Mike Zeddies and Mrs. Stephanie Baarck to support and enhance their ministry at St. Lorenz through special educational opportunities.

HEALTH INSURANCE SUPPORT – The cost of health insurance continues to rise. This fund provides resources to assist pastors and teachers who retired from St. Lorenz. In 2015, **\$371** was distributed.



Grant-Funded Projects for 2015



TEC21 – TEC21 is a professional development program that gives teachers the opportunity to grow their effective use of technology as a learning and teaching tool in the classroom. St. Lorenz will send a team of teachers to participate in this program in the Saginaw area. **Amount: \$3,176**

2017 REFORMATION HERITAGE TRIP –

Pastor Caleb Adams and his wife, Emily, will accompany our choir on the 2017 trip to Germany as pastoral representatives on behalf of St. Lorenz. They will grow in their knowledge of the Lutheran Reformation as well as learn about St. Lorenz's heritage as they visit Neuendettelsau, Rosstal and Gunzenhausen. **Amount: \$10,000**

“BELIEVE” BIBLE STUDY – St. Lorenz is engaged in a yearlong study of the book “Believe.” This study focuses on basic doctrines, including God, salvation, the Bible, identity in Christ, church, humanity, compassion, stewardship and eternity. Granted funds will help provide resources and materials for this study. **Amount: \$12,000**

FAMILIES IN NEED – St. Lorenz strives to support any parent who wants a Christian education for their child, regardless of their financial situation. Each year, requests for financial support grow as the cost of education increases. These funds help families in need enroll their children at St. Lorenz Lutheran School. **Amount: \$7,000** (*in addition to School Family Aid dedicated funds described on page 4 of this report*)

MAD-LEARN STUDENT LICENSES – Our students are becoming very comfortable with the use of technology in the instructional setting. The licenses purchased with this grant will help 30 students learn about programming and application development. **Amount: \$3,150**

SUPPORT FOR CLIO TRANSPORTATION –

St. Lorenz Lutheran School has reached out to students in the Clio area. As an encouragement to these students and to help reduce the expense of travel, a grant was designated to assist with transportation provided by Peyton's Learning Place. **Amount: \$2,500**

CARPET CLEANER – The custodial team cleans carpeted floors in the school, the Rock and the church. Hallways, classrooms, offices and meeting rooms need to be cleaned multiple times a year. This updated carpet-cleaner provides a tool necessary to maintain our buildings. **Amount: \$6,000**

CHURCH SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE – The church sound system was last updated in 2003. Funds granted through this request provide for an update to a digital mixer and new power amplifiers, which will allow more flexibility in the settings and control of the system. **Amount: \$7,000**

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE UPGRADE – An upgraded system will provide enhanced safety for students, staff and visitors through added security for the church, the school and the Rock. Authorized administrators will be able to track and record events requiring attention. **Amount: \$25,000**

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM – Originally part of the early construction, our fire alarm system has been expanded a number of times. Funds from this grant will allow for a new complete system of smoke and fire detection, bringing our system up to current code. The new system will have wall-mounted strobes, updated pull-stations and an addressable system for more rapid response to alarms. **Amount: \$20,000**

CHANNEL 191 STUDIO EQUIPMENT UPDATE – We are blessed to be able to broadcast all of our services over Charter channel 191. We are responsible for the internal equipment that prepares the content for broadcast. This update will allow for higher-quality broadcasts. **Amount: \$4,500**

ORGAN REFURBISHMENT PROJECT –

Our organ is a beautiful instrument that needs regular maintenance and care. Currently, the organ requires a major cleaning and replacement of several pipes due to normal wear. This project will cost at least \$50,000.

Amount: \$15,000 (added to project fund)



EPSON INTERACTIVE PROJECTORS –

Our teachers are using their classroom technology. The updated projectors will improve the quality of interactive materials and allow teachers to more efficiently integrate technology into their instruction.

Amount: \$4,800

GERMAN TEACHER SEARCH –

St. Lorenz Lutheran School wants to continue offering a German program. A change in staffing required a search for a new teacher with a passion for the language, effective classroom-teaching skills and a new level of excitement for the program. Funds from this grant will be used for the principal to interview candidates in Germany. **Amount: \$3,500**

VALLEY LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIPS – Valley Lutheran High School provides both a quality academic program and a strong Christian worldview to students during their formative years. This grant provides scholarships of up to \$1,000 for students to encourage and support their decision to attend.

Amount: \$15,000

STUDENT COMPUTER LAB – The current student lab is equipped with computers donated by Baker College. The funds provided through this grant will be used to update the CPUs to eliminate reliability issues in the older equipment. Students use the lab on a regular basis for classroom instruction and for assessment. **Amount: \$15,000**

AED UNITS – One never knows when a heart attack will occur. At St. Lorenz, we have AED units in the school, the Rock and the church. This grant will fund the purchase of new units with lower battery costs and similar operating instructions. This will better allow our ushers, staff and other trained operators to assist someone in need. **Amount: \$3,500**

YOUTH GATHERING – In an effort to provide St. Lorenz youths will the opportunity to meet and share their faith with other youths from around the country, this grant will assist with costs to attend the Youth Gathering. This event is held every three years. For many of our youths, this may be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. **Amount: \$10,000**

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN SPEAKER EVENTS – This grant makes funds available to our commissions and staff to secure Christian speakers to come to St. Lorenz. The speakers may offer insights into their personal relationships with Jesus or energize our members to be more active in our church family. **Amount: \$15,000**



About the St. Lorenz Foundation

The St. Lorenz Foundation exists to support our Lord's work through His St. Lorenz congregation. The Foundation provides a vehicle for donors to make gifts that will continue to support the work of our Lord until judgment day.

The Foundation was formed in the fall of 1995. Founding board members included Harold Braeutigam, Stephen List, Morrall Claramunt, Jonathan Zehnder, Lynn Zuellig, Arnold Middeldorf and Pastor C.W. Hoesman. The team established the Foundation to provide ongoing support for our Lord's work through St. Lorenz Lutheran Church and School.

Today, the St. Lorenz Foundation receives gifts in many forms to support the ministry of St. Lorenz Lutheran Church and School. The funds are invested through the use of professional investment managers and monitored by a Finance Committee and the Board of Directors. Each year, the Foundation distributes a minimum of 5% of the corpus to support the grant requests forwarded by the congregation.

The St. Lorenz Foundation is limited to receiving grant requests from St. Lorenz Lutheran Church and School. The Board of Directors has established clear Management Principles that guide the granting process. Grant requests are processed by the Planned Giving and Estate Planning Committee and forwarded to the Board of Directors for action. Grant requests are not accepted from individuals or organizations outside the congregation.

St. Lorenz Vicars

Where are they now?

Whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies – in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. *1 Peter 4:11*



Rev. Mark Brandt
Lead Pastor



Michael Goers
2004-05
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Spring Lake, Mich.



J. Christian Strickland
2005-06
St. John Lutheran Church
Atwater, Minn.



Christopher Lieske
2006-07
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Montevideo, Minn.



Karl Fay
2007-08
Prince of Peace
Palatine, Ill.



Jonathan Walla
2008-09
Bethel Lutheran Church
Bismarck, N.D.



Caleb Adams
2009-10
St. Lorenz Lutheran Church
Frankenmuth, Mich.



Robert Bernhardt
2010-11
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
St. Louis, Mo.



Nycholas Greig
2011-12
Trinity Lutheran Church
Richmond, Va.



Joel Eden
2012-13
Christ Our Savior
Lutheran Church
Livonia, Mich.



Peter Heckert
2013-14
Awaiting assignment



Joel Polzin
2014-15
Completing seminary



Adam Peitsch
2015-16
Completing Vicarage at
St. Lorenz Lutheran Church
Frankenmuth, Mich.

Contact

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Executive Director

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Bonnie Bell, *Treasurer*

Gus Braeutigam

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Phil List

Steve List

www.stlorenzfoundation.org