



Here we
STAND

WELS Ministry of Christian Giving

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Ministry of Christian Giving mission

We encourage members to excel in the grace of giving in our Lord Jesus Christ and assist them in making planned gifts to support the gospel ministry of their congregations, synod, and WELS-affiliated ministries.



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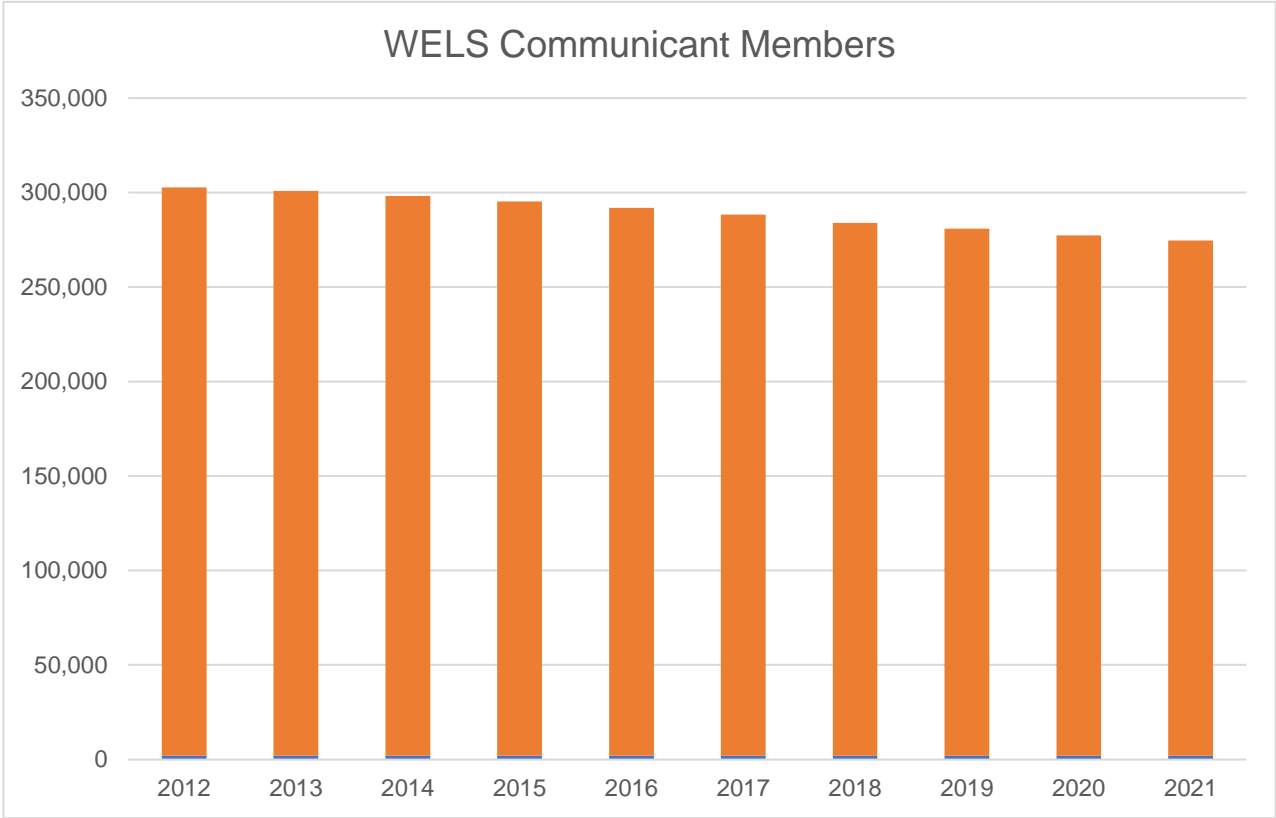
Devotional thought

“For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again” (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).



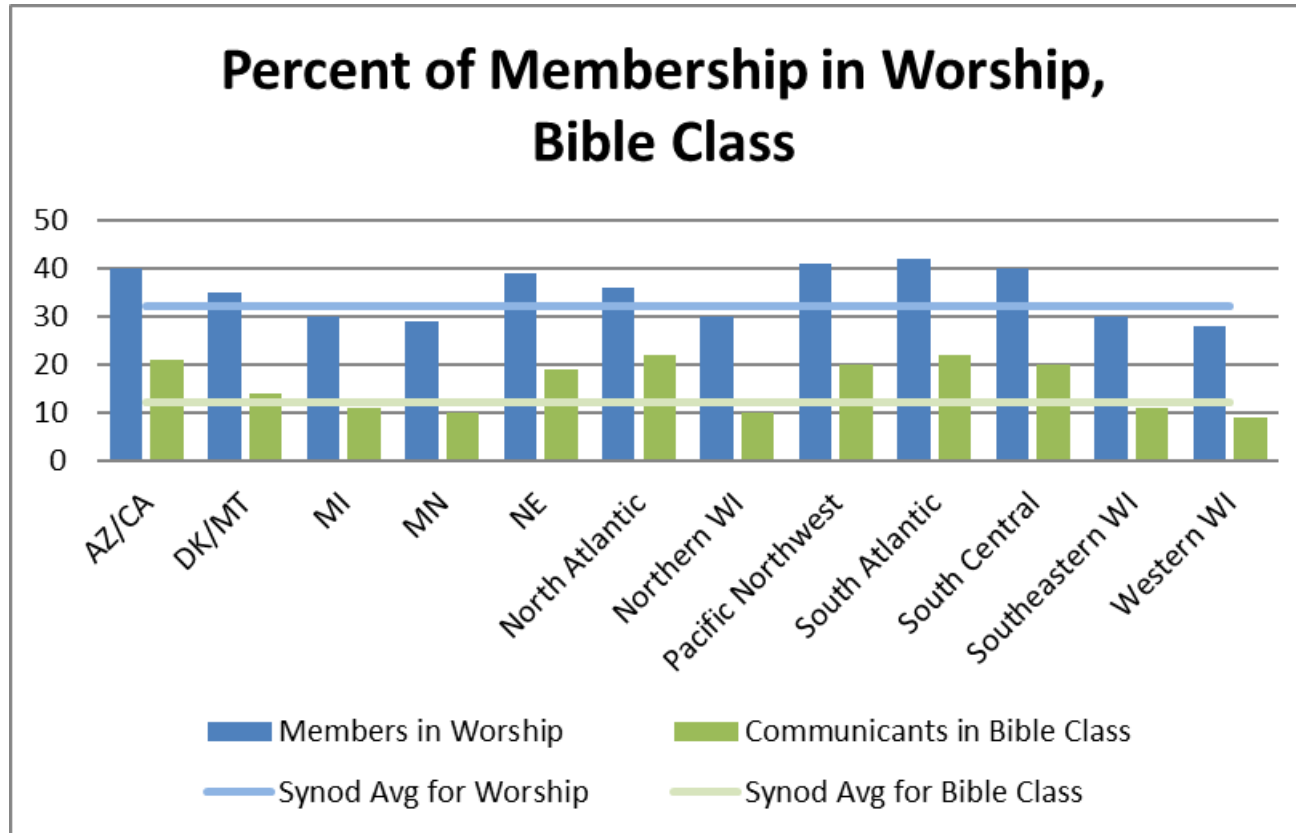
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Blessings and opportunities



Here we **STAND**

Blessings and opportunities

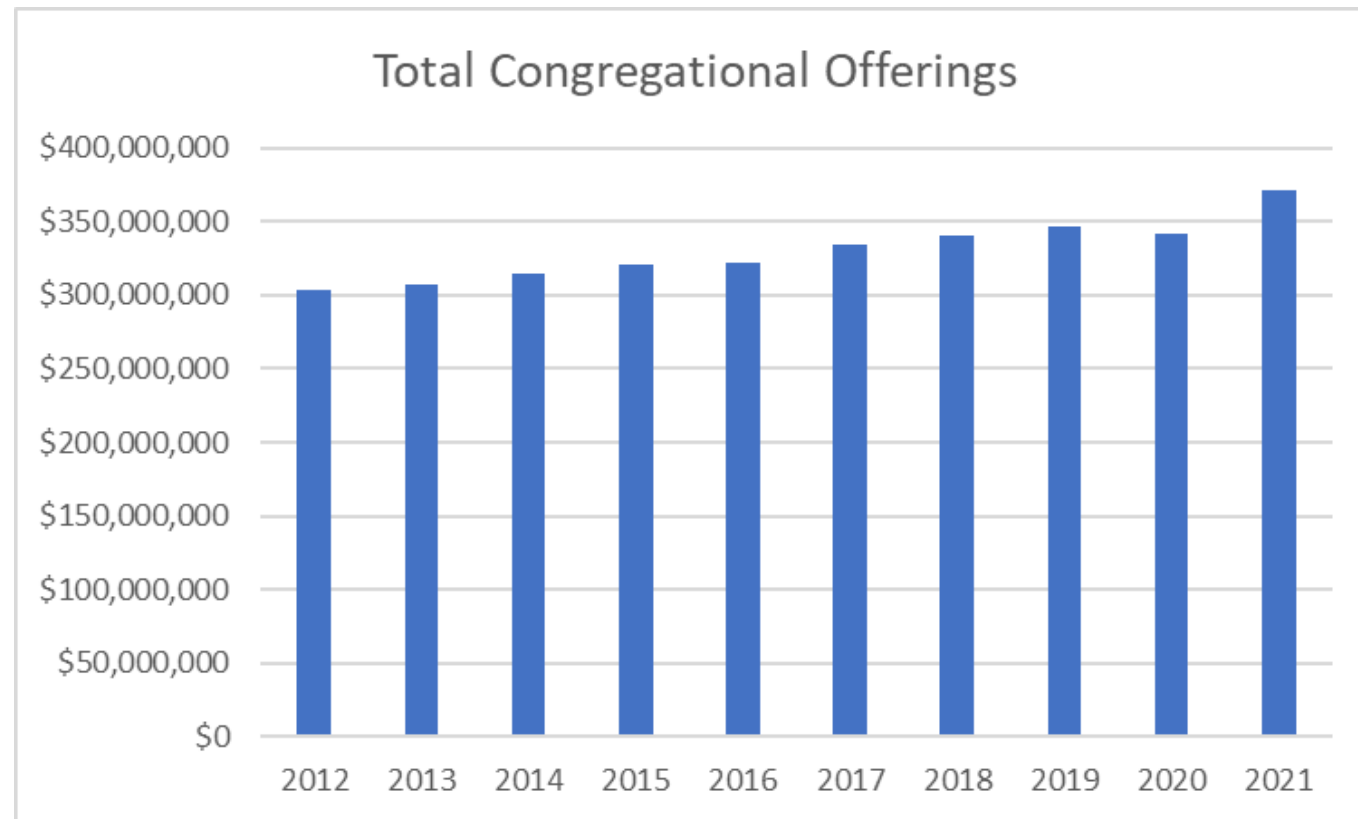


2021 statistics:

- 32% in worship
- 12% in Bible class

Blessings and opportunities

2021 total congregational offerings \$371 million

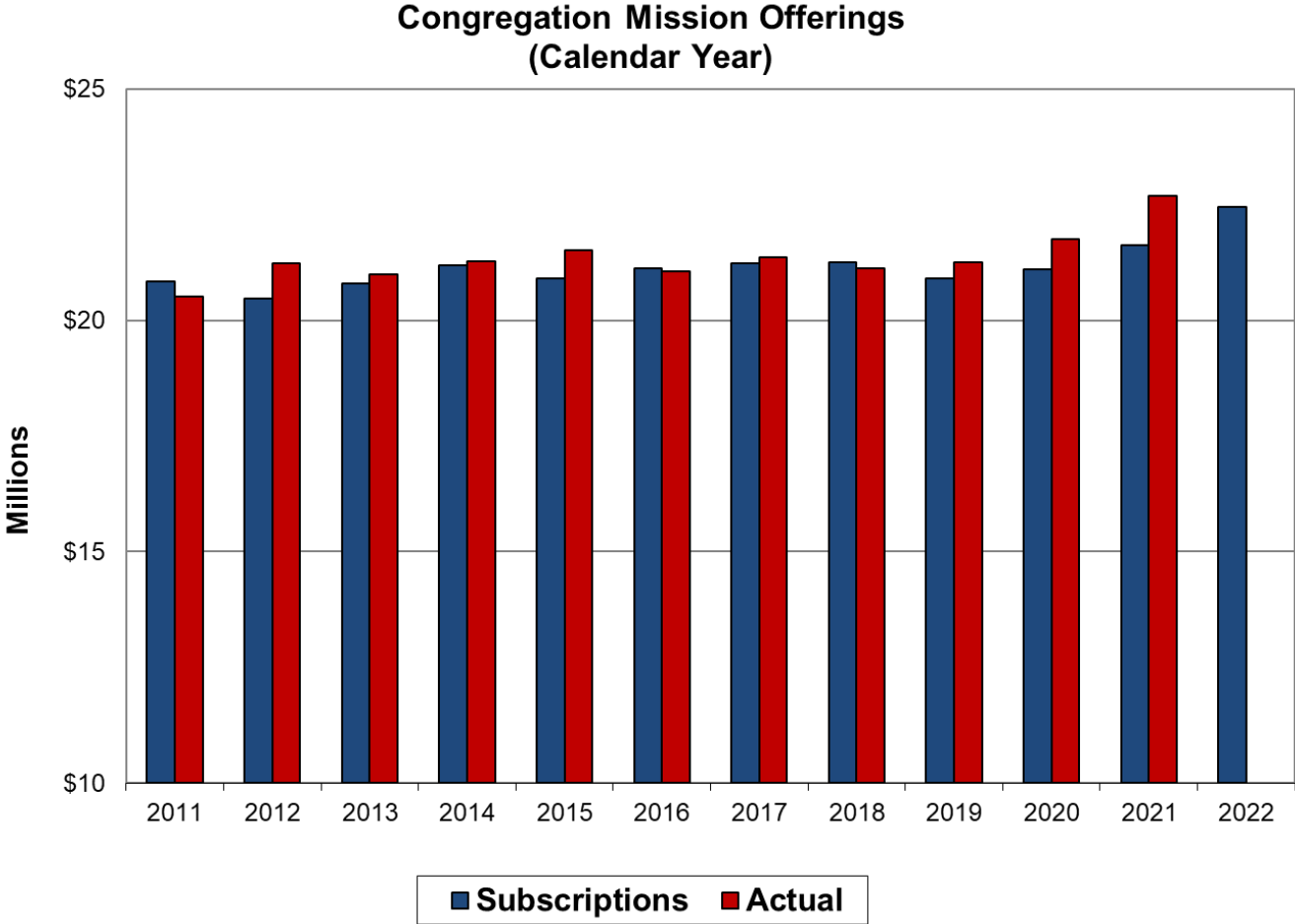


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Blessings and opportunities

- Congregation Mission Offerings for 2021 were \$22.68 million, which is the highest total on record. This is 4.3 percent (\$938,000) more than CMO 2020 and 4.9 percent higher (\$1,059,000) than projected receipts.
- We praise the Lord and thank his people for these gifts!

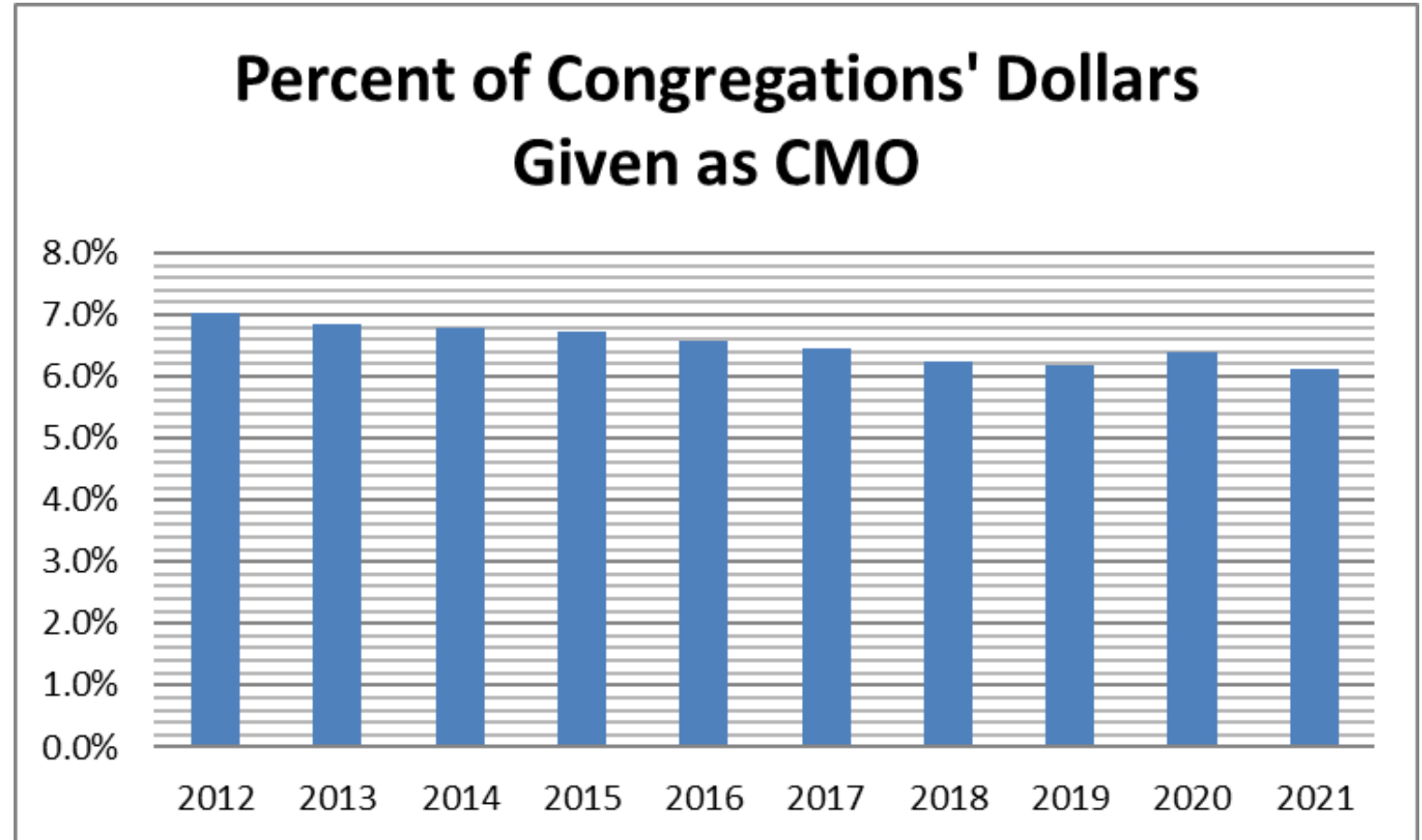
Blessings and opportunities



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- 2.1% of personal income to offerings
- 6.1% of church offerings given as CMO

Blessings and opportunities



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Blessings and opportunities

Equipping Christian Witnesses

- July 2019-June 2022
- 76 prospective students identified
- \$9.4 million in gifts, pledges, and church commitments from 3,417 individuals and groups
- Construction of Betty Kohn fieldhouse



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Blessings and opportunities

WELS Endowment Funds

By the grace of Jesus we have received \$103 million in gifts and expectancies since 2005 and will distribute around \$1 million in July from the WELS Missions and Ministerial Education Endowment Funds!



Congregation Mission Offerings

- **CMO subscriptions for 2022** point to a decrease of 1.6 percent from 2021 actual offerings.
- **Through April**, offerings total \$7.08 million, which is 4.1 percent more than 2021 CMO for the same period and 9.0 percent higher than 2022 projected receipts.
- We praise the Lord and thank his people for these gifts and commitments!

Congregation Mission Offerings

- When setting CMO, aim for ten percent of offerings. If at or above this goal, encourage your congregation to maintain its generous support or consider increasing it as you're able with God's blessing.
- "For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have" (2 Corinthians 8:12).
- "Excel in this grace of giving. . . . For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 8:7,9).

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Congregation Mission Offerings

- *WELS Connection*
- *Together* e-newsletter
- *Forward in Christ*
- Annual Report (includes PowerPoint)
- Annual CMO setting materials



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Individual offerings

Your giving counselors:

- **Rev. Jerry Ewings, Current Gifts**

Phone: 608-630-7857

E-mail: jerry.ewings@wels.net



- **Rev. Jonathan Kehren, Deferred Gifts**

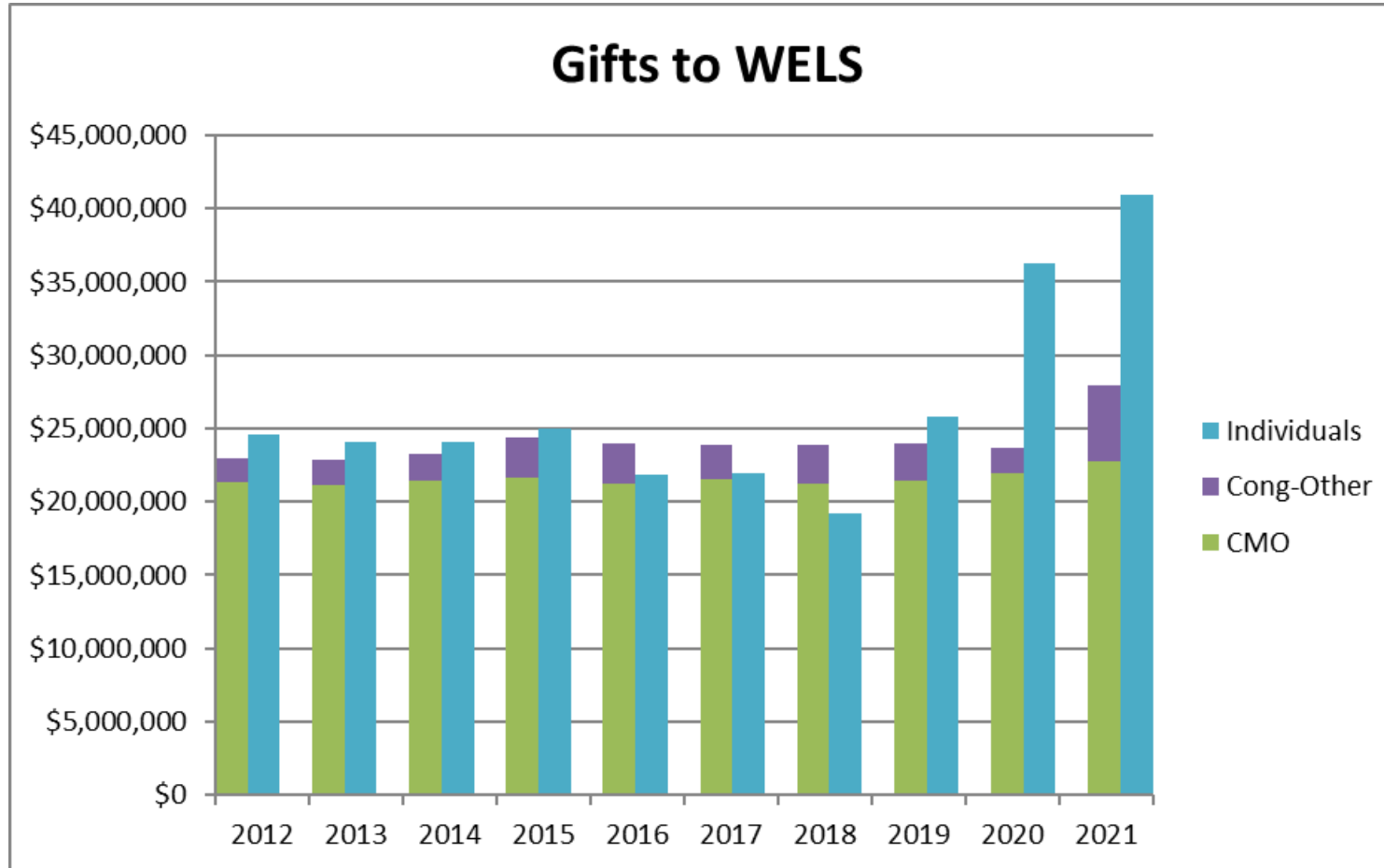
Phone: 312-315-5958

E-mail: jonathan.kehren@wels.net



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Individual offerings



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Individual offerings

In fiscal year 2021-22 (through May), WELS Christian giving counselors (11.9 full-time equivalents) conducted 1,332 substantive meetings with WELS families, offered 86 group presentations, and arranged 159 major gifts and expectancies with a value of \$28.4 million. They have nurtured \$10.9 million in immediate gifts and \$19.2 million in new/revised deferred expectancies for congregations, WELS, and WELS-affiliated ministries. To God be the glory!

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Individual offerings

Enhancing our service to individuals

- Continue Christ-centered, relationship-based, free, confidential help
- Increased focus on connecting donors' interests with our areas of ministry
- Additional assistance with major gifts of assets according to donors' interests and abilities
- Intentionally nurturing donors to consider supporting Christ's work now and through their wills as the Lord has blessed them



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Individual offerings

IRA charitable distributions

Those 70.5 or older can make tax-free gifts to ministry from their IRAs.

Consider directing required minimum distributions to ministry to save on taxes, then using the cash you would have given to charity for other needs.

wels.net/qcd




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Individual offerings

Grace of Giving

Newsletter from WELS Ministry of Christian Giving and WELS Foundation with ministry updates and planned giving options



WELS
Church Love Our Calling
Spring 2022

Grace of GIVING

The Donor Advised Fund: One-Stop Giving

WELS member and attorney David Nommensen and his wife, Bonnie, knew that setting up a donor advised fund was an ideal and tax-wise way to support ministry at their home congregation, First Lutheran in Elkhorn, WI.




David likes the fact that their donor advised fund provides predictable, ongoing support to ministry at First, helping fund programs that spread the gospel both inside and outside the church and school. He also likes the tax benefits of the donor advised fund. "It was just part of good stewardship," says David. "Bonnie and I could look at the taxes that we had saved and do a little soul-searching and perhaps give a little more."

Donor advised funds are very popular since a donor can give a gift now and recommend the ministries that benefit later. The gift can be divided among the ministries the donor cares about, and a single receipt will be provided for income tax purposes.

In addition to ongoing support for their church and school, the Nommensens know that their family donor advised fund is a wonderful way to involve their kids and grandkids in the joy of giving since they can be included in the decision-making process for the grant recommendations. It's another way to pass along Christian values to the next generation of believers.

"Our prayer is that the donor advised fund is around a lot longer than Bonnie and I are," says David. "And it's a nice opportunity for us to have these conversations with our children about the needs of our favorite church organization. I'm really hoping that someday my grandchildren and great-grandchildren will be donating to this fund and having those same conversations."

To see David's full donor advised fund story, scan the QR code below or visit wels.net/foundation.



David Nommensen

Inside

- A Gift with Multiple Benefits
- Why a Donor Advised Fund?
- WELS Events

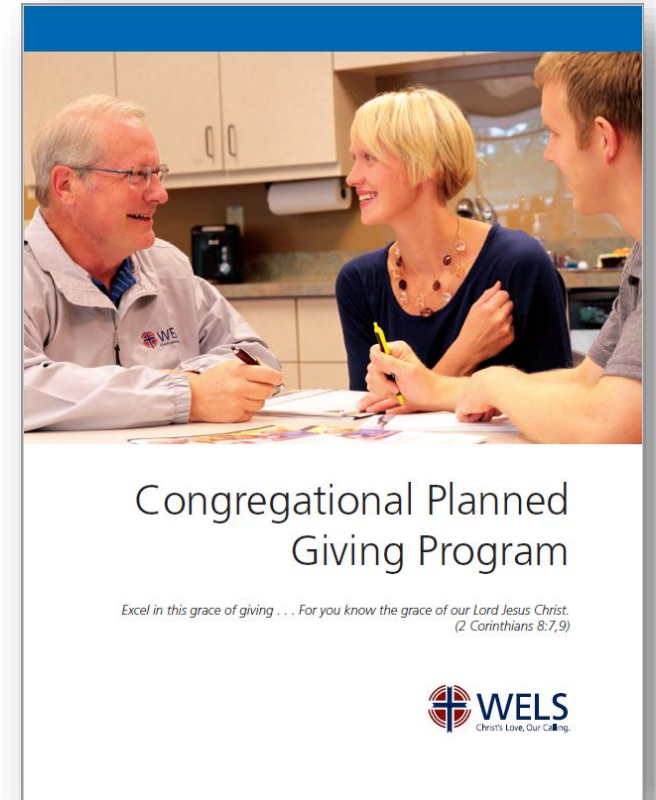
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Resources

Congregational Planned Giving

Encourage planned giving in your church using synod resources and your local giving counselor

wels.net/plannedgivingprogram



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Resources

Stewardship Toolbox

- “Mission prayers” for various ministries
- “Stewardship by the Lectionary” devotionals based on weekly readings share God’s stewardship truths according to the pericope

mcg.welsrc.net



Scriptural encouragement

“Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus...Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10:19, 23-25).

Thank you!

WELS Ministry of Christian Giving
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