

## **Eastern Synod of ELCIC**

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Dear Treasurer,

Perseverance seems to be a good word to sum-up the year, 2021. A great amount of perseverance has been needed as we continue to live in and with the Covid-19 pandemic and the disruption it is causing in the lives of many, including the congregations of the Eastern Synod. Thank you for your willingness to serve as Treasurer over the past year(s). Thank you for your ongoing perseverance and commitment. You play a vital role and represent a key link between your congregation and the Synod. As the New Year dawns, we will continue to walk this road together in steadfast hope and faith in the love of God, and we pray, onwards to brighter days ahead.

Back in October, you should have received a letter from Bishop Michael and Synod Treasurer, Keith Myra, asking your congregation to remember the Synod in the development of your 2022 budgets, and in the making of your annual benevolence commitment. Thank you for taking this request seriously and for your continued effort to remit your benevolence offerings in a consistent and timely manner. This has been so appreciated. Some of you have also gone above and beyond your commitment goal and the Synod is humbled and deeply grateful for the ongoing partnership with the people of God who make up the family that is the Eastern Synod. Thank you for being such generous givers and for supporting the ministry of the wider church.

This letter is meant to provide a gentle reminder to you to remit your 2021 benevolence offerings as soon as possible. *The Synod will be closing its financial books on January 21st, 2022* and it is critical that we are able to include all offerings in the 2021 totals. Observing this deadline is good and important for everyone as it keeps your records in sync with the Synod's records. There is also a tremendous amount of work that takes place once the books are closed to prepare the Synod for its annual financial audit. The timely remittance of your year-end offerings is key to the smooth operation of these Synod processes. Again, the Synod is so grateful for your attentiveness to these details and deadlines.

If you receive this letter having already put your final remittance cheque in the mail, please accept our deepest thanks for your ongoing diligence. If you haven't already written and mailed the cheque, we would be most grateful if you could *please post it no later than January 14th, 2022* so that it can be received by the Synod Office in Kitchener no later than January 21st.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

We wish you God's richest blessings for a safe, happy and healthy New Year!

Sincerely, Rev. Christie Morrow-Wolfe Assistant to the Bishop