

Financial Update: A "Family Meeting" Conversation

We, the Elders of Redemption Story Church, want to be completely transparent about where we are, what we need, and how we, as elders, are approaching our finances.

- **The Big Picture:** For the last several years, we have been running a ministry structure that naturally costs about \$900,000 on a \$750,000 revenue base. We've managed this by operating with constraint, suppressing staff compensation growth, and deferring real costs (like maintenance). We've concluded that while we *can* operate this way, it is not sustainable long-term, nor is it sufficient to care well for our people and our facility.
- **Revenue:** As of April 30, our YTD revenue is \$249,472 (about 8% below budget). While January and February were historically low giving months, we praise God for a substantial and much-needed uptick in March and April! However, we are currently on pace for an annualized revenue of around \$700,000 (nearly 10% below our \$775,000 budget), which puts pressure on our cash reserves.
- **Expenses & Deficit:** Our YTD total expenses sit at \$306,782 against a budget of \$408,561. While it is good to be under budget, this is primarily a temporary result of shifting our accounting payment schedule and deferring key facilities costs. Our current actual deficit is \$57,309.
- **Cash Position:** We currently have \$311,643 in total cash across our accounts. To manage cash flow during lower giving months, we have had to transfer funds from reserves into the Operating Account. Our cash position is roughly \$50,000 lower than it was at the start of the year, with an estimated actual cash burn rate of \$5,000–\$10,000 per month.

How Are We Moving Forward?

First and foremost, we are trusting the Lord. RSC is His church, and we are looking to Him for provision. Second, we are taking our stewardship seriously. We are tracking these numbers closely to ensure the long-term well-being of our staff and ministries. By late summer, we will evaluate giving trends to determine our best path forward.

How You Can Help

We are incredibly grateful for our committed base of givers—about 60% of our monthly giving comes from recurring gifts! Over the next few months, our goal is to grow participation.

- **If you are not currently giving**, would you prayerfully consider beginning?
- **If you are currently giving**: Thank you! If you are able, we encourage you to set up a recurring gift or consider increasing your monthly gift. Predictable monthly cash flow is vital for managing our day-to-day operations and responding to needs.
- **How to give**: You can give via the RSC mobile app or at redemptionstory.com/give.
Stewardship Tip: To ensure the maximum amount of your gift goes directly to ministry, we encourage using the **ACH transaction option** (1% + 0¢ fee). Please note that starting July 1, processing fees for Premium Cards (AMEX, Discover, etc.) will increase to 3.5% + 30¢.

A Call to Stewardship: The Building Stewardship Fund (BSF)

While it can be uncomfortable to discuss finances, the Bible speaks clearly about it, and we are called to faithfully steward all that God has entrusted to us—both the souls in our care and the physical buildings.

At this time, we are operating in buildings that require maintenance, yet our current general giving does not fully cover these costs. Therefore, we are asking for a special, sacrificial gift to help us maintain this stewardship.

- **The Goal**: We are asking the Lord to provide **\$75,000 for the Building Stewardship Fund over the next 12 months**.

* **What that looks like**: If our 58 regular givers committed an extra \$100 a month, or our total 90 recent givers committed an extra \$70 a month, we would reach this goal.

- **The Ask**: We are not asking for commitment cards or pledges. We are simply laying the need before you and asking you to pray. According to 2 Corinthians 8:13, we ask that you give what you can out of your means as the Spirit leads your conscience.

You can give specifically to this need by selecting the "**Building Stewardship Fund**" (BSF) option in the RSC Giving app, or by memoing "BSF" on a check or giving envelope. We will keep you updated on the progress of this fund in the months to come.