

Pastor Marques Nelson and the congregation at St. Paul's, North Mankato, MN

Ministry Challenge or Opportunity: Organizing and prioritizing our church staffing needs during and after our vacancy.

We would use these funds to have Pastor Jon Hein come to our church and work with leaders on the MOSE study (Ministry Organization and Staffing Evaluation). We have had a lead pastor vacancy here for almost 3 1/2 years. We are trying to see how many staff to plan for to maximize ministry, along with utilizing the talents and service of our members. This outside insight will be an important step for us in building up for focused gospel ministry.

Pastor Pete Metzger and the congregation at St. Peter, St. Albert, Alberta, Canada

Ministry Challenge or Opportunity: We recently outlined a 10-year plan for our ministry. Now comes the challenge/opportunity of developing the plan into manageable and scheduled pieces.

The funds will be used to purchase a copy of "Traction" the book by Gino Wickman to help our church council understand effective ways to coordinate our efforts and hold ourselves accountable. The funds will also be used to rent a conference space and provide lunch so that we can spend one entire day in either January or February (subject to conference space availability) to sit down and work through as much of the 10-year plan as possible – identifying the 5-, 3-, and 1-year goals, as well as the quarterly rocks for each area of the 10-year plan that will keep our plan on track.