



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:

THE PASTOR'S PEN



January 23, 2022

UPDATE ON TAX AND TAKE: THE UNJUST ASSESSING OF PROPERTY TAKES ON CITY OF MILWAUKEE CHURCHES

On December 20, 2021, pastors met with Mayor Barrett, Council President Cavalier Johnson, City Treasurer Spencer Coggs, City Attorney Tearman Spencer, Jim Bohl (aid to C. Johnson) and an Assistant City Attorney.

Following are the conclusions:

Mayor Barrett:

1. Churches should not be taxed. We should focus on the timing/frequency of written documentation to renew non-profit status.
2. Will work with City Atty to stop taxing churches.

City Attorney Spencer:

1. There is a stop on foreclosures
2. Churches on the tax roll cannot be currently taken off
3. Only new cases coming into his office can be investigated

Council President Johnson: Changing these practices comes through the Common Council for approval. We need to simplify the process

Jim Bohl:

1. Council President Johnson will sponsor a bill to refund wrongly imposed taxes on the churches currently involved in this struggle who have been taxed based on wrongful information. This proposal must be voted on by Council.
2. We also need to change the process of how churches must renew their property tax exempt status.

In addition, we will have a Mayoral Candidate Forum on February 3, 2022, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at El Bethel Baptist Church located at 5401 West Good Hope Road. There will be in-person and on-line participation.

WORK FOR THE WEEK

JANUARY MEMORY VERSE

⁴⁰ Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me **Matthew 25:40**

JANUARY MEDITATION QUOTE

“When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.” **Dr. Howard Thurman**

TODAY’S STUDY QUESTIONS AND MEDITATION:

How seriously do I take caring for the poor? _____

Caring for the poor is one of the best overall investments I can make _____

FOR THE YOUTH

Who do I know that has less than me, and what can I do to assist? _____
