

I am a member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Joliet. We are facing a terrible crisis that threatens the closure of our church forever and we need your help.

In January 2021, the Securities and Exchange Commission's Receiver filed a federal lawsuit against Messiah Lutheran Church, Joliet, seeking the return of \$780,165 in donations made by a local business to Messiah over a 10-year period – donations that date back to 2010.

**Although Messiah Lutheran has done nothing wrong and is not accused of any wrongdoing,** Illinois law under which the SEC Receiver's lawsuit is brought allows for the claw back of donations to charities based on the accused misdeeds of the donor. At this point we are seeking to raise \$300,000 and are forced to do this by November 15, 2023.

If Messiah cannot meet this demand, the SEC will increase the amount to \$400,000 and is free to enforce the judgement, resulting in the church not being able to pay its bills and likely forcing the sale of the church building and property, even though Messiah has done nothing wrong.

Everyone at Messiah is seeking help in trying to save our church. I encourage you to go to [www.SaveMessiah.org](http://www.SaveMessiah.org) to learn more about the lawsuit and to consider a donation to help us raise the necessary funds to continue to minister to our community.

Thank you in advance for helping to Save Messiah!