

## **Radio Interview with Dan G. Lane, St. MAM E.D.**

For someone who may be learning about St. MAM for the first time, what would you hope they take away from this radio interview?

*I would hope that in the context of community life and in doing business within our communities, where we live and raise our families, that we would all understand that difficult and unexpected calamity could alter our lives and our lifestyles in the blink of an eye. When that happens, whether a medical calamity, loss of work, loss of health...whatever it may be, St. MAM is there to provide assistance and support. It may well be that St. MAM has already touched the life of your family member, your neighbor, or your friend.*

Dan, there's an old movie with Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed. It runs every Christmas and has become a classic of sorts. If we were to play "It's A Wonderful Life", imagining for just a moment what this community might be like if St. MAM had never existed, what difference would it make?

*As I understand the question, it is this, if St. MAM had never existed, would it really make that much difference? The simple answer to that question is this: If it made a difference in your life or your family's life, would that be worthwhile? When a family that has been helped calls us back wanting to help another family, you have to believe it makes a difference.*

When it comes to indifference, share with our listeners why St. MAM warrants their support and plays an important role in their community and even their lives?

*85,000 people in Jefferson County have no medical insurance. In the last 4 years, the number of people having their water cut off in Jefferson County, for failure or inability to pay their bill, has quadrupled. Everyone is paying extremely high gas bills without an increase in their wages or salaries. Sure, there are people with deep pockets and ample financial security, but there are many, many more people who live from paycheck to paycheck and without the frills. Most families are two paychecks away from grave difficulties. When that happens, we hear from them.*

If you could sum up in a few brief words what St. MAM means to St. Matthews, as well as the greater community of Louisville and Jefferson County, what would you say?  
*"Pulling Together" to address unmet needs. There is something to be said for the village approach and looking out for one another. Most of the people who come to us for crisis assistance come because of unanticipated health issues, loss of job, and unanticipated financial problems. That, my friend, could happen to you or me, and by this time next week, our lives as we know them could be turned topsy turvy.*

St. MAM has been around for nearly 40 years, having served countless thousands and in many and varied ways. Two questions:

- (1) Do you expect St. MAM to be alive and well in 2025?
- (2) If you could dream a little dream for us, what would be your dream for St. MAM a quarter of a century from now?

*St. MAM will still be serving people as long as people and churches and businesses continue to care what happens to their neighbor, and I've no doubt that this community will do just that. The people of St. Matthews and surrounding areas are caring people who look out for one another and we watch the back of our friends and neighbors.*

*It would be wonderful if in 25 years our services were no longer necessary. Reality is something else though so to temper my dream: I'll continue to believe that compassion will sustain what St. MAM has been about through all these years. Generosity and genuine concern will continue to flourish as we unite to address human need. This, I will never doubt.*