

Growing FAITH

CONNECTING ACROSS GENERATIONS



On a recent Sunday, 84 members and friends gathered in the Church Hall to listen to a group of our teenage youth share their experiences. Our young people offered a remarkable gift in the courage to share their stories. It was just as remarkable that so many adults were passionate about listening to them - so interested that we had to scramble for seating, a sound system, and more. At the end of the session we offered an immediate and heartfelt standing ovation.

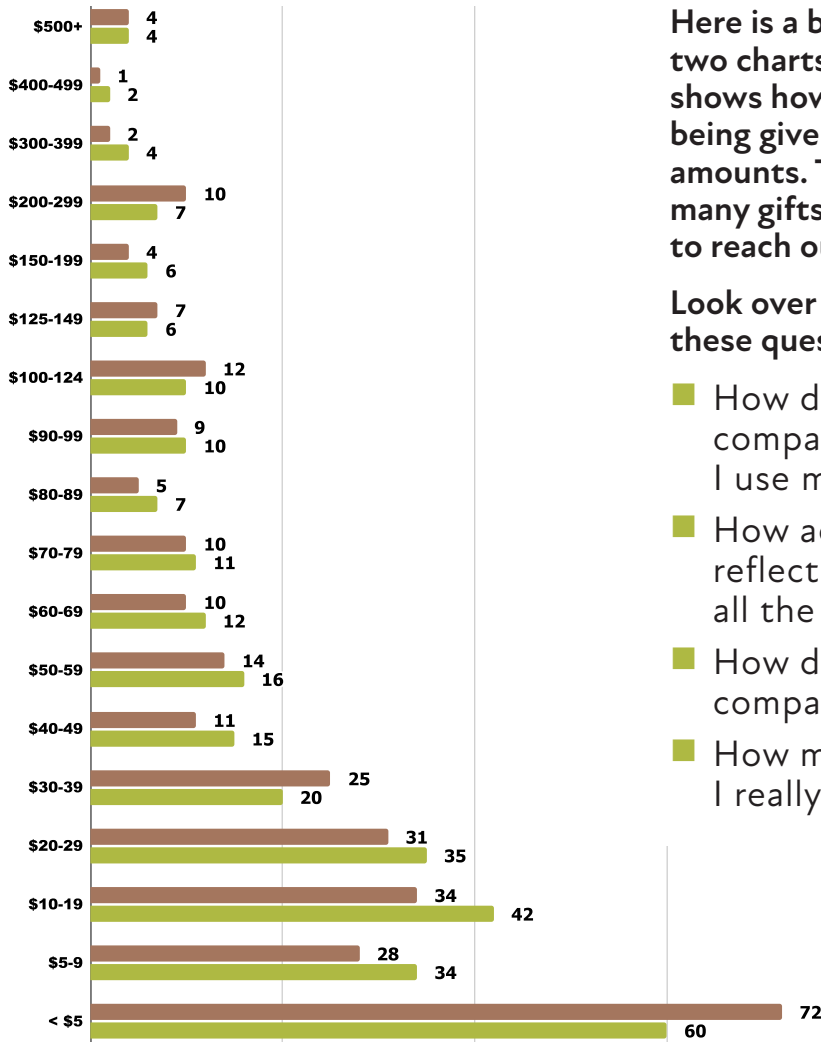
This is a remarkable thing about Christ Lutheran: we take the gift of multiple generations very seriously. In our gathering space our youngest members are greeted by beloved friends in their 90's and 100's. Hugs are given to dear friends across generations. And when our young people command us to "Go in peace, remember the poor" we listen differently; as one member commented, "I don't want to let them down!"

As we look ahead to our next school and program year, we are asking how we can deepen this gift of **Growing Faith**: what are new ways to connect our lives together, especially across and among generations? Who is missing? Who is welcome, and how do they know it? How do we extend hospitality to our neighbors, friends, and family members? That's why eliminating borrowing from our restricted funds is a key part of our **Growing Faith 2023 Giving Appeal**: when we are anxious, it is hard to listen for God's leading.

Our goal for the next school and program year is to increase gifts and offerings by \$1,303 per week, returning to a strong foundation so our ministries can continue to dream. Pray for a generous response to this appeal. Pray about your own response. Consider increasing your giving as the Lord leads you. Be ready to return your Statement of Intent on Sunday, March 19. Our giving shows our gratitude to the Lord and says "yes" to God's future.

APPEAL GOAL FOR 2023: INCREASE OFFERINGS BY \$1,303 PER WEEK

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN AND HOPED FOR



GIFT LEVEL WEEKLY RATE

NUMBER OF CURRENT GIVERS 289

NUMBER OF HOPED FOR GIVERS 301

Here is a bar graph which displays two charts of our giving. One bar shows how many gifts are currently being given at the indicated weekly amounts. The other bar shows how many gifts are needed in these levels to reach our goal.

Look over the charts. Ask yourself these questions:

- How does my giving level compare with the other ways I use my money?
- How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I receive?
- How does my giving today compare to years prior?
- How much more could I give if I really wanted to?

“Listen, a sower went out to sow...” – MARK 4:3