



Growing FAITH

SAFETY IN THE STORM

This past Christmas brought a dangerous cold snap and blizzard conditions. When our Church was asked to be a warming center, we quickly realized how great the need was and said “yes”. We put all our experience extending hospitality to our unhoused neighbors via our Men’s Shelter program into action, and we were able to notify the city and county that we would be open and available as long as people needed us.

We gathered with five neighbors during the worst of the cold, all of whom otherwise would have been on the street. When told that no, we were not kicking anyone out at Christmas, it put tears in their eyes and ours. Our members met, spent time with, played games with, and got to know these neighbors. A few were accompanied by their pets for much-appreciated “pet therapy.”

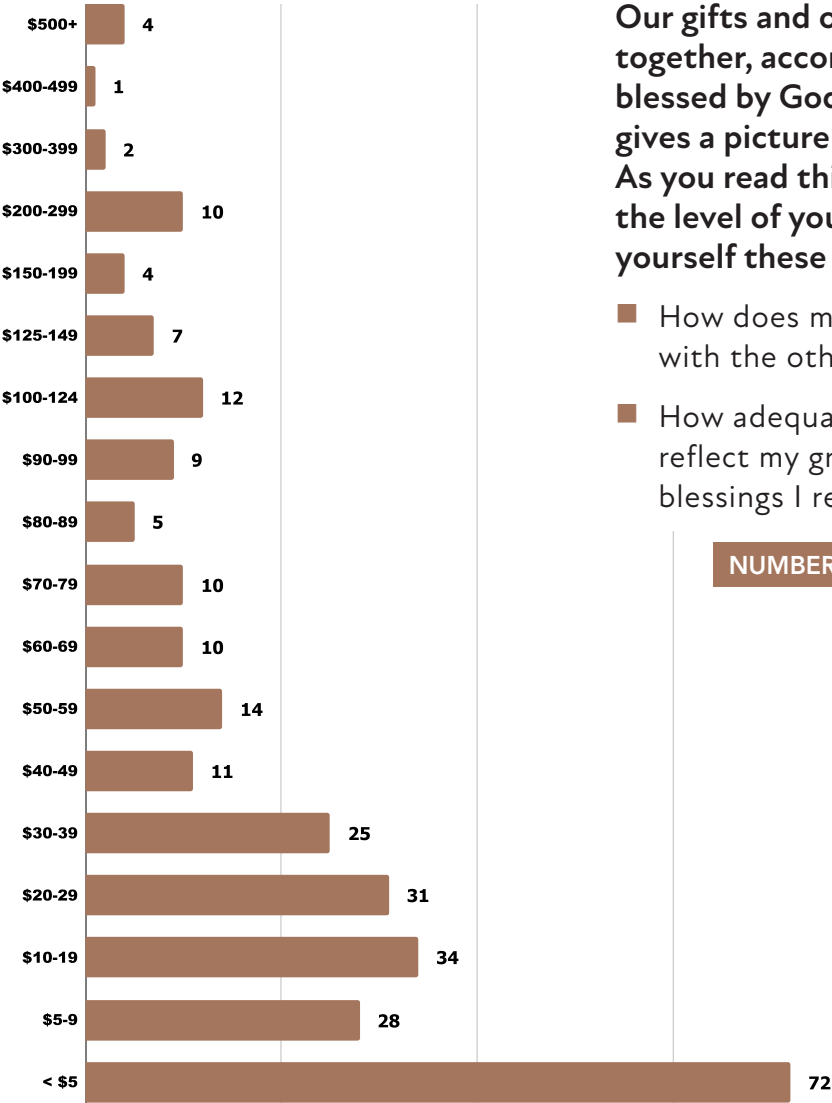
We realized that our furnaces serving the kitchen are had broken down; replacing them

would have been on our regular maintenance schedule this year. However, due to finances we were forced to delay their replacement and the temperature in the kitchen area dropped to 54 degrees. By keeping doors shut we were inconvenienced, but not threatened. Still, it is a reminder how important our regular maintenance really is. That’s why one of the focuses of our **Growing Faith 2023** Giving Appeal is to gather enough gifts and offerings to support our maintenance needs and complete delayed upkeep.

The goal of our **Growing Faith 2023** Giving Appeal is to increase gifts and offerings by \$1,303 per week. Pray for a generous response and please prayerfully consider increasing your gift for this coming school year. With your help we will continue serving our neighbors with our warm hospitality.

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

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN



Our gifts and offerings, joined together, accomplish ministry which is blessed by God. Here is a chart which gives a picture of our current giving. As you read this gift chart and find the level of your current offerings, 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?

NUMBER OF CURRENT GIVERS 289

GIFT LEVEL WEEKLY RATE

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