

Leaning on Jesus

Stewardship Appeal 2022

Bulletin Insert October 24, 2021

LEANING ON JESUS

- STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2022 -



In a year of ongoing pandemic, we have gathered in person and online to hear the Good News of God's Love. We have welcomed new friends. We have served our neighbors and community who are in need. We have loved and cared for one another. Despite all the obstacles we have been boldly generous.

How did we do it? By Leaning on Jesus!

While we cannot know exactly when we will be able to say that the pandemic is completely behind us, we trust that as this year ends and we move into 2022, we will continue to restart many St. John's activities which have been put on pause. Your increased generosity will allow renewal in sharing God's grace and serving through love within our congregation, community, and world.

Our basic appeal goal is to increase offerings by \$48,000 (about \$900 per week). This will allow us to maintain ministry excellence and support staff. Our stretch appeal goal is to increase offerings by \$62,000 or more (\$1200 per week or more). This will allow us to continue to grow ministries forward toward our ongoing goals.

Maintaining Ministry Excellence (\$600 per week)

A significant portion of our new giving will be used to replace giving which has been lost because of the impact of economic pressures of the pandemic on some families or because of families we have lost due to death or to their moving away. We invite every family which participates in the ministries of the congregation to consider growing in generosity in response to the grace and love of God which has sustained us in this difficult time.

St. John's member Jane Moellenhoff shares...

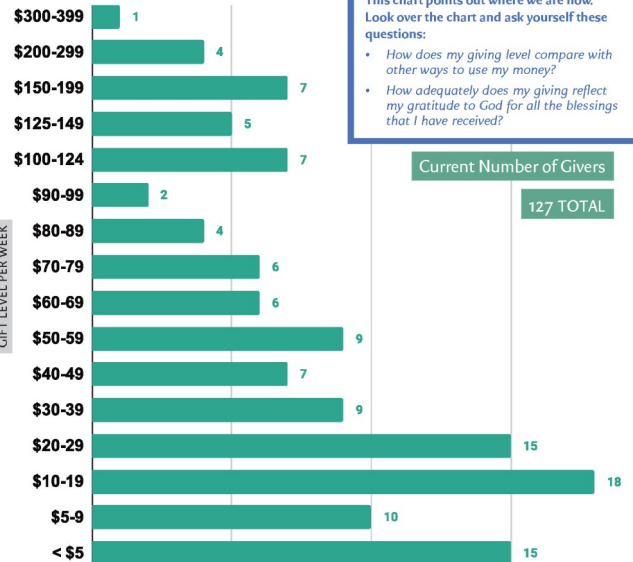
When we moved to Beaufort we were happy to find a loving church like St. John's. I was immediately invited and warmly welcomed into the Lutheran Women's monthly Bible study and an adult Sunday School class. During this difficult time of pandemic when church activities have been shut down, St. John's staff quickly worked to put worship on Facebook, groups on Zoom, and church news in regular emails, so the relationships I have with my friends from church could help make the pandemic easier. We have not felt isolated at all. It's comforting to know that loving support is always just a phone call away!

\$20,000 CHALLENGE

A generous St. John's family is offering a \$20,000 challenge gift, to be given if 55 households show an increase in generosity for 2022.

HELP US MEET THE CHALLENGE!

ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



This chart points out where we are now. Look over the chart and ask yourself these questions:

- How does my giving level compare with other ways to use my money?
- How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings that I have received?

Leaning on Jesus

Stewardship Appeal 2022

Bulletin Insert October 31, 2021

LEANING ON JESUS

- STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2022 -



In 2022 we will continue restarting activities which were put on pause during the pandemic. Despite living in a world which is filled with uncertainty, in which supply chains are snarled and nearly 4 billion people around the world have not received a vaccine, we are determined to reconnect to one another in our faith community.

How will we do this? By Leaning on Jesus!

Your increased generosity will make a difference. Your gifts will allow our staff to work hard at creating opportunities to gather, worship, learn, and serve – to live out our purpose statement: Sharing God’s Grace, Serving Through Love!

Our basic appeal goal is to increase offerings by \$48,000 (about \$900 per week). This will allow us to maintain ministry excellence and support staff. Our stretch appeal goal is to increase offerings by \$62,000 or more (\$1200 per week or more). This will allow us to continue to grow ministries forward toward our ongoing goals.

Staffing Changes (\$300 per week)

As we are moving back into restarted and renewed ministry, open staff positions at St. John’s are being filled.

Anne Marcengill is our new Administrative Assistant. Stop by the office to meet her!

Jordan Culver has returned from teaching abroad to serve as St. John’s Music Director. He will be working with members to provide special music for worship in both familiar and new ways!

As Music Director, Jordan is being joined by Jordan Plair, former Music Director, and Gloria Bockelman, Program Assistant, to form a team of worship accompanists. We plan to add others to the rotation!

We also will contract a new paid bookkeeper to maintain the church books, allowing the congregation Treasurer to shift focus to the important task of financial oversight.

St. John’s Music Director, Jordan Culver shares...

I grew up a pastor’s kid, so church was a place that I was “on display,” a place where everyone watches what you do and judges you. St. John’s is the first congregation where I felt at home. Even though as music director, I’m still up front, the relationships I formed with members of the choirs, Pastor Shannon, and others helped me grow into becoming comfortable with myself as a child of God. During the ten years that I was teaching out of the country, St. John’s was still my church home. I listened to sermon recordings on the website and stayed connected to the community through my relationships with the Bockelmans, the Godseys, and others. When the pandemic forced worship to go online, attending church at St. John’s again became a part of my routine. Now I’m back. It is good coming home!

ST JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH

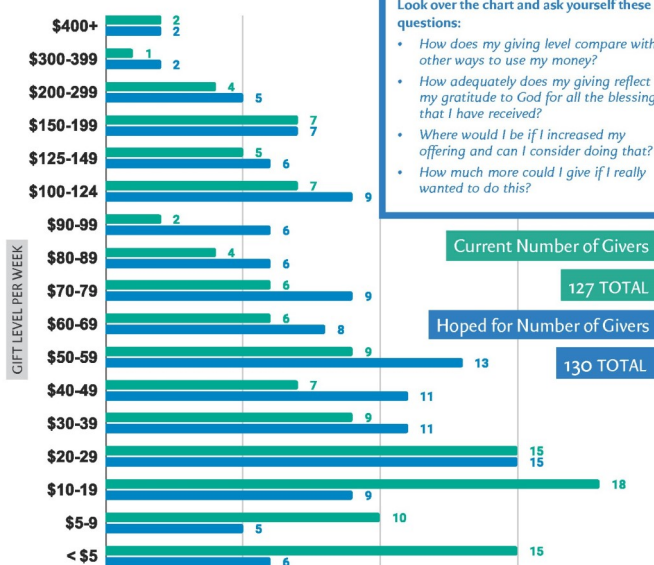
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ST JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN AND HOPED FOR



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- How does my giving level compare with other ways to use my money?
- How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings that I have received?
- Where would I be if I increased my offering and can I consider doing that?
- How much more could I give if I really wanted to do this?