

BUILDING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY



COMO PARK
L U T H E R A N

As you consider your giving to our church this year, think about how you can grow in your own generosity.

Some ideas:

1. Sustained giving: Most people can grow significantly in their giving just by making a gift on a regular basis. Sign up for automatic giving or add to your existing gift each week or month. Growing giving by \$1 per day equates to significant growth over the course of the year.
2. Add an extra gift or two during the year: A story was shared from another congregation about someone who said, "I'm not sure what the future holds for me, but for now I am doing okay, so I will double my giving in the month of April." What if we all decided to double our giving one month or even two months next year?
3. Give in a tax efficient way: If you are age 70.5 or older, you can give directly from a traditional IRA/401k to the church and that distribution will qualify as your Required Distribution. Or, if you have an appreciated asset, you can give that to the church and avoid capital gains. Contact the church or your tax professional for all the rules and requirements. Most people find they can be more generous when giving in a tax efficient manner.
4. Some people in our congregation have had a loss or slow-down of income and may need to decrease their giving. Others can help to fill the gaps. Every gift that is given is received with love, and your Church Council and Church staff work passionately to spend wisely, and to serve faithfully.

You may have your own ideas for growing in generosity. As a church family, as we each grow in our generosity, it will have a tremendous overall impact.

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HAVE FAITH AND ASSUME SUFFICIENCY NOT SCARCITY

Many fear they will not have enough to live on. It is human and natural, but our faith teaches us that God will provide sufficiently for all our needs if we trust in God's promises. And this is so even when we give away the largest portion or amount that we have ever given!

We must have faith that a good and gracious God will continue to provide for us in the future as God has in the past, and as God has promised to do!

We are to trust God as did Abraham and so many others throughout the ancient stories of the Bible. These narratives were recorded for our instruction and for our assurance. We must learn to give in faith with the assumption of sufficiency, not scarcity. God will provide, for God cares for us.



Charlie S. October 2022
Eagle Scout Project
Bee Garden for Como Park
South Church Yard