



Faith Lutheran Church

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Members and Friends of Faith:

At this time of year we begin the process of developing a financial plan for next year and to enlist your support for that plan. However, we cannot begin looking forward to 2021 without first giving thanks for the amazing generosity of the people of Faith who continued to support the church's mission through these trying times. It's been said, but it's worth saying again. Our congregation is unflinching in its financial support of our mission of spreading the good news of the Gospel through the outreach of our staff and programs. "Thank you" does not seem adequate but our thanks are sincere.

Because of your support over the past year, Faith continued to fill key needs within our community. Our church fed the hungry through Community Meals, supported the O'Fallon Food Pantry, and provided emotional support and life skill training through Divorce Care and Financial Peace University. Despite COVID, activities such as Tiny Church, Sunday School, Love Fund, Vacation Bible School, and tutoring to support children's education and other outreach programs are going strong. The church leadership and staff are working tirelessly to return as much normalcy as possible to every facet of our congregation's life. All of this is happening amidst a disrupted campus due to the great progress on our new building. These activities only occur as a result of your tithing to Faith.

Much of the 2021 budget will resemble past budgets; however, we expect this year will bring many substantive changes. We are considering changing to having only one pastor. Our leadership recognizes that keeping our missions and worship activities vibrant is more than one pastor can reasonably be expected to do. Therefore, they are looking into hiring some part-time assistants for some critical mission areas. There will be more information about this staffing plan soon. From a financial point of view between these additional positions, increased costs for operating the new building and funding the construction loan for the new building, we expect 2021 to still be a challenging budget year. Your annual estimates of giving are the very foundation of our financial planning. Maintaining or increasing your general fund offerings makes a difference in how successful we are in planning and completing our mission, and in the way we live out our faith. With your renewed support, we can meet our mission commitments for 2021.

Please look over the enclosed materials and prayerfully consider how you can continue to strengthen our shared ministry in 2021. You may submit your Estimate of Giving through Faith's Website: faith@faith-online.org; by placing the provided form in the offering plate or Financial Secretary mailbox at Faith; or by emailing your estimate to financialsecretary@faith-online.org. Please provide your Estimate of Giving for 2021 by Sunday, October 18th.

Thank you for considering how you can support our mission of changing lives through Jesus Christ.

The Faith Stewardship Board

Christ Centered + Mission Driven + Life Transforming