

Grace Fully Giving!

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2024



Grow in Faith

Included! Our Junior and Senior High youth have more things on their plates than we ourselves might have ever imagined, yet at Grace we make critical investments in their faith lives.

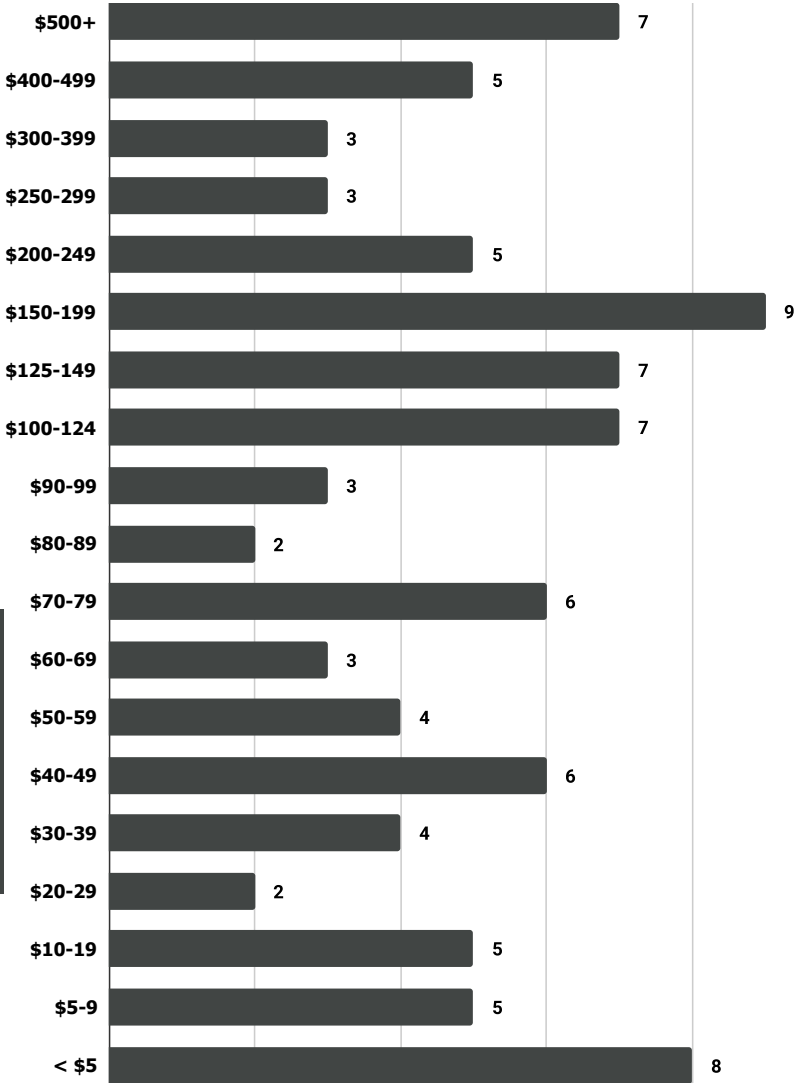
With additional giving, seven of our youth will participate in the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans! In addition to that once in a lifetime experience, our youth will participate in Crossways Confirmation Camp (Jr High) and Leadership Lab (Sr High), both at Augustana College. We have an eye on the CSIS Youth Gathering near Carlinville in late November, as well as a Holiday Happening wherein our youth lead our youngest children at Grace.

The future role of these youth at Grace should not be underestimated. As Christians, we have a vital responsibility to share the gospel with the next generation. By investing in and empowering our youth, we grow tomorrow's leaders for Grace, who will continue our mission and ministries long after many of us are gone. We look forward to hearing of their journey in faith as they return from their adventures.

To meet this and our remaining two ministry initiatives for 2024, we need an additional \$204 per week in 2024. Supporting this valuable part of our Grace faith family is crucial for a strong congregation. **Grace Fully Giving!** Stewardship Appeal gives the entire Grace community a chance to participate in this exciting initiative, regardless of age.

Grace Lutheran Church

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN



GIFT LEVEL WEEKLY RATE

NUMBER OF CURRENT GIVERS 94 TOTAL

Our gifts and offerings, joined together, accomplish ministry which is blessed by the Lord. This chart provides a picture of our current giving. As you read this gift chart and find the level of your current offerings, we invite you to consider the following questions:

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

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STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2024



Grow in Music Ministry

When you first attend Grace Lutheran Church the friendliness of the people, the depth of faith in the words of the Pastor, and the general atmosphere of the place draws you close.

The music can sweep you away.

Many of our congregation feel they have found a church home where they can envision the Comfort of God's presence. For many of us, this love of church music keeps us going. It holds us to the truth that God is with and around us as we sing His praise, as we uplift in song our longings, our thanks, and our praise to the Most High.

"Our congregation has long spoken the heart of God through music. I remember attending a funeral where many attendees were not members of Grace. After the service several at the funeral lunch came up to me and said, I have never heard such singing at a funeral before." – Mary Plymire

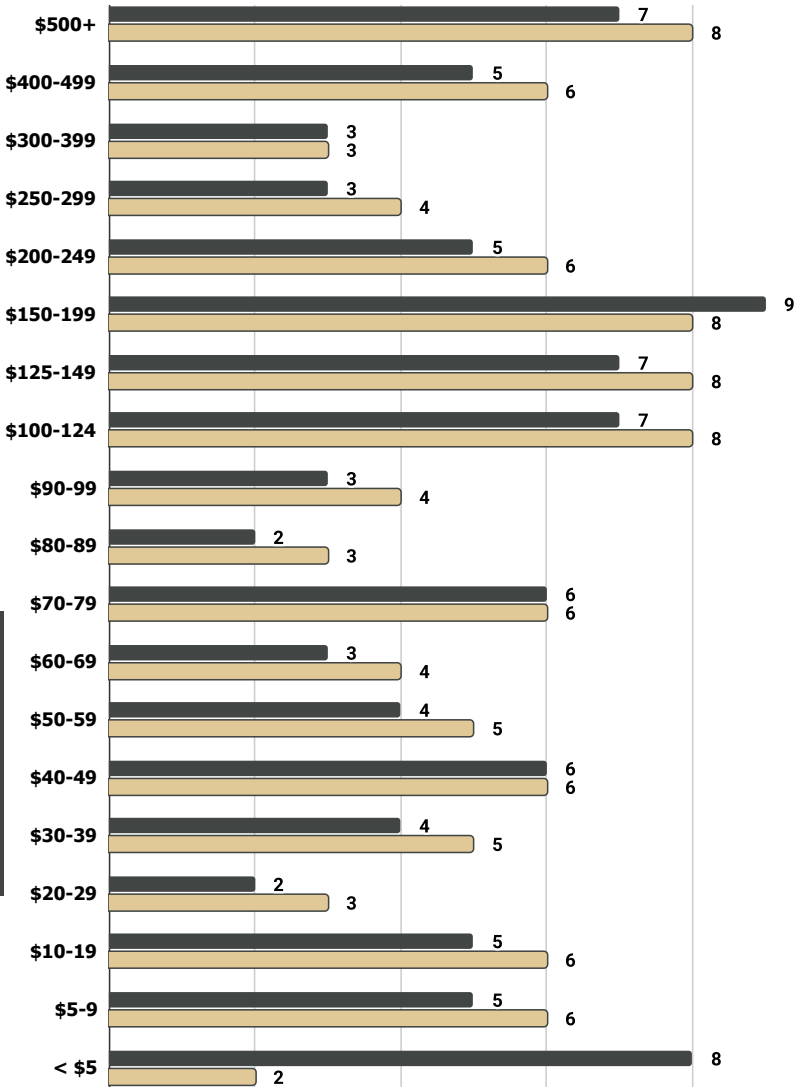
Our congregation finds it appropriate and necessary to sing in all times, good and bad. It adds another dimension to words and actions. Music is a beautiful response that affects us emotionally, but most importantly, spiritually.

"Music is what connects me to God. Without music, everything seems bleak."
– Grace Choir Member

Grace Fully Giving! 2024 Stewardship Appeal gives all of you singers of the Gospel a way to strengthen our church musicians and the music programs at Grace. To meet this and our remaining two ministry initiatives for 2024, we need an additional \$204 a week in 2024. Together we have the opportunity to fund our music programs more fully and thus to spread through song and instruments the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Grace Lutheran Church

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN AND HOPED FOR



NUMBER OF CURRENT GIVERS 94 TOTAL

NUMBER OF HOPED FOR GIVERS 101 TOTAL

This graph displays two charts of our giving. The first shows how many gifts are currently being given at the indicated weekly amounts. The other shows how many gifts are needed in each level to reach our goal. As you look over the charts, prayerfully ask yourself the following:

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

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STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2024



Grow in Serving Others

The Food Pantry stands as a cornerstone of Grace's outreach mission. It exists to feed the hungry!

Client numbers continue to dwarf anything seen in recent years. With a 40% surge in clients in 2022 and an almost 50% surge in 2023 so far, we are challenged to maintain our level of services. The generosity of the people of Grace has proven up to the challenge! Through July of 2023 we increased our giving by more than \$15,000 over the same period last year. We feed a lot of hungry people!

"We are reminded to have hearts that serve our brothers and sisters in need."

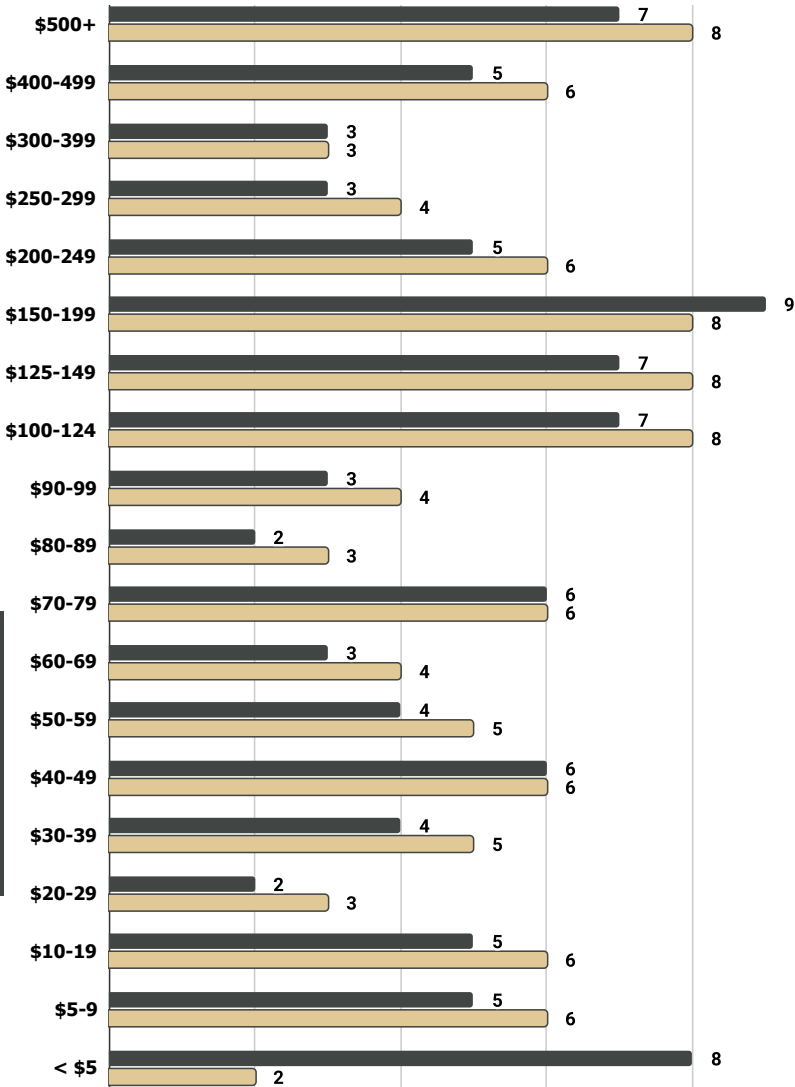
– Food Pantry Volunteer

This Mission Outpost in the heart of our downtown community will continue to need our unwavering support. This year we obtained some significant grants from downtown corporate Springfield. We will broaden our efforts to seek substantial corporate sponsorship to supplement our donor base. We will advance our golf outing fundraiser. We will persist in Serving Others.

Grace Fully Giving! 2024 Stewardship Appeal gives the people of Grace, no matter their physical capabilities, a chance to serve the Food Pantry. To meet this and our remaining two ministry initiatives for 2024, we need an additional \$204 a week in 2024. Together we will find a way to make a difference in people's lives.

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