

“HEAVEN IS MY THRONES, AND THE EARTH IS MY FOOTSTOOL. WHAT KIND OF HOUSE WILL YOU BUILD FOR ME?” SAYS THE LORD.”

1 Acts 7:49.

Please pray about our congregation's ministry and mission. Prayerfully consider your ability to increase your offering for the coming year.

Be ready to complete your Statement of Intent to Cross of Christ on Building God's Kingdom Sunday, November 11, where you can formalize your commitment to Building God's Kingdom here on earth.

Thank you for being part of this exciting mission in the world.



BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM

2019 Stewardship Appeal



This fall Cross of Christ Lutheran Church starts a new chapter in the life of the congregation. In looking toward the 25th anniversary of our congregation in 2019, we have a unique opportunity to prepare the way for the next 25 years. As we call a second full time pastor, we look forward to supporting the excitement, work, energy and enthusiasm of new leadership in our community. We continue our mission to build up and improve our splendid ministries, and together build God's Kingdom.

OUR MISSION

Cross of Christ invites all to join in celebrating Christ's love as we Worship, Learn, and Serve.

BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM

In 2019, our goal is to grow our giving by \$26,000 over the 2018 pledge total, which we will use to strengthen our financial foundation and maintain the excellence of our many amazing programs, including worship, faith formation, outreach, the building and grounds, and our talented staff.

We will invest additional offerings in expanded and enhanced programming to strengthen the work we do in fulfilling our mission.



BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM



OUR FOUNDATION: BUILDING OUR FUTURE

We will celebrate our 25th Anniversary as a congregation in 2019. This will be a time to reflect on our history, and look forward to building our future. We have already started to develop a robust and executable long-range plan for the future of Cross of Christ, working with our consultants, Gronlund, Sayther, and Brunkow.



OUR FRAMEWORK: FAITH FORMATION & OUTREACH MINISTRY

Faith formation and outreach ministry helps to build the framework of our faith and spread the Good News of God's grace. Small group ministries, like the *Women, Wine, and Word* bible Study and the 20/30 Young Adult group provide wonderful opportunities for adults of all ages to grow in their faith, connect with God and connect to one another. Our 2019 plans include:

- Expanding small group ministries and adult faith formation opportunities to engage more adult members.
- Conducting more cross-generational events and opportunities for all ages to interact with each other on a spiritual, emotional and social level.

Outreach is a cornerstone in the foundation of our life together at Cross of Christ. With your help, we hope 2019 allows us to increase the assistance we can provide to low income and homeless families who struggle to provide food and school supplies for their families by increasing number of Thanksgiving gift cards and school supply backpacks to Growing Home.



OUR GROUND FLOOR: YOUTH MINISTRY

Investing in our Youth Ministry builds a strong ground floor for our life together. Cross of Christ has a robust and growing youth program. Each year youth from our congregation serve in and help communities in need around the country, and these service trips often turn out to be the most impactful part of their faith journey.

In 2019 we hope to provide Youth more opportunities to participate in youth retreats and mission trips. We also plan to provide more scholarships matched by Lutheran colleges to support our students in their college faith journey.



OUR ROOF: WORSHIP AND OUR HOME

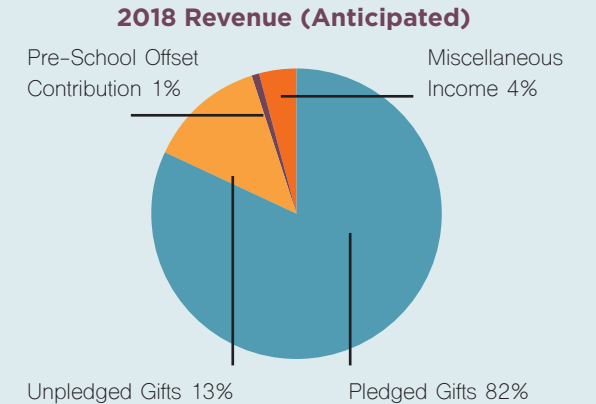
The Roof provides shelter and an opportunity for others to join us in our mission. We share space by opening our building to over 11 community and support groups whose members, can see how we worship and hear the Word of God.

Through worship, we help engage people to connect to God and their faith in many different ways. The wonderful talents in our congregation will have more opportunities in 2019 to enhance worship at our Wednesday night and Sunday services with expanded musical ensembles.

And where would we be without an actual roof over our heads. Our building is vital to our mission. Maintenance and care for our home is a top priority for 2019. This includes using increased offering to reduce our dependence on the remaining Called to More funds.

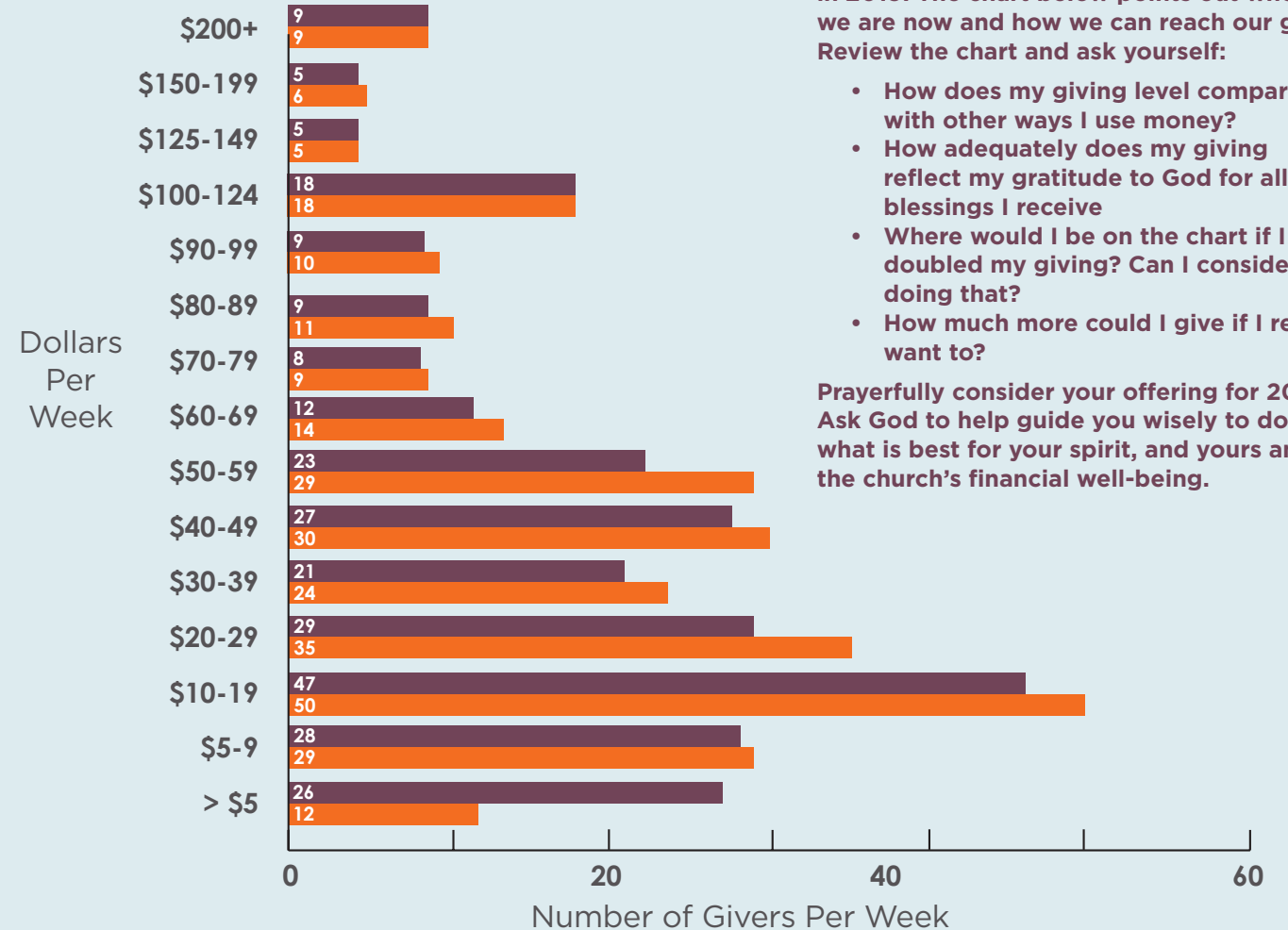
CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STEWARDSHIP AT A GLANCE:

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church's revenue comes from 4 general areas: Member contributions (pledged and unpledged giving), Non-Member Giving, Pre-school offset contributions and miscellaneous gifts. Making up 95 % percent of the budget, our individual commitments in the form of pledges have the most potential to increase funding for important church programs. Whether making a pledge each year, returning to pledging after a year or two absence, or making a pledge for the first time, each of us is an essential and valuable part of defining the impact our church makes for us and for our community.



Anticipated 2018 Giving

2019 Giving Goal



Your generous and joyful participation will help reach our goal of \$26,000 in new gifts in 2019. The chart below points out where we are now and how we can reach our goal. Review the chart and ask yourself:

- How does my giving level compare with other ways I use money?
- How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I receive
- Where would I be on the chart if I doubled my giving? Can I consider doing that?
- How much more could I give if I really want to?

Prayerfully consider your offering for 2019, Ask God to help guide you wisely to do what is best for your spirit, and yours and the church's financial well-being.