



MEETING THE MOMENT!

— ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN —



MISSION APPEAL 2023



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Dear Church Family,

We have heard your longing to be more actively engaged in our community. We have taken note of your enthusiasm to share joy, hope, and love to our neighbors. **Meeting the Moment!** is a theme you will hear a lot about this winter as we embark together on a Mission Appeal to build upon our strong legacy of music and outreach and look forward to the implementation of our bold new Strategic Plan. Over the coming six Sundays, you will learn more about our projects, and how they serve to fund 50% Mission Outreach and 50% Music Ministry.

Through a deliberate and thorough assessment process, we have identified \$1.1 million in primary Mission Appeal Projects with a Challenge Goal of \$1.5 million to ensure our ability to implement more completely.

The projects will support:

- Housing advocacy
- Refugee and immigrant families and individuals
- “In-reach” for those who seek connection and belonging
- St. Paul Synod’s initiative of bringing families together
- Enhancing our music ministry

The annual budget will continue to care for our day-to-day ministries of worship, faith formation, pastoral care, and service to the community. Over the next 6 weeks you will be receiving more detailed information about all the projects.

In the meantime, please mark your calendar for Sunday, February 19th from 4-6 pm when we will gather as a congregation for a meal in the fellowship hall to learn more together.

Additionally, Sunday, January 22, is our Inspiration Sunday. A team of faithful volunteers will deliver our Inspiration Bags right to your home after worship. We invite you to receive them warmly for these quick front porch visits.

Please pray for this effort. This is an opportunity for us to **Meet the Moment!** together as we implement our new strategic plan for mission and ministry here in our community.

In Christ,

Pastor Jill Rode

Pastor Daniel Ruen

Campaign Chair Marie Lister

APPEAL LEADERSHIP

- **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

David Moberg
Jessica Bjorum
Michael Rezler
Mark Nygaard
Jenny Boulton
Kevin Dragseth

- **EXECUTIVE TEAM**

Erin Hannafin Berg
Bjorn Gangeness
Dan Fisher
John Berger

- **ORGAN TEAM**

Mari Espeland, Co-Chair
Nancy Plagens, Co-Chair
Paul Hanneman
Joshua Lindgren
David Ryan Moberg
Martha Nelson
Jennifer Stucker
Adam Wood

- **STEERING COMMITTEE**

Marie Lister
Joanne Spencer
Molly Breen
Nick Lane
Blaine Thrasher
Pastor Daniel Ruen
Pastor Jill Rode

PLAN SUMMARY

TOTAL MISSION APPEAL GOAL: \$1,100,000

CHALLENGE GOAL: \$1,500,000



The **Meeting the Moment! Mission Appeal** is designed to help us reach our new strategic priorities we shared at our last January Annual Meeting:

- **Housing advocacy**
- **Refugee and immigrant families and individuals**
- **“In-reach” for those who seek connection and belonging**
- **St. Paul Synod’s initiative of bringing families together**
- **Enhancing our music ministry**

Within each strategic priority, attention is given to providing the necessary funding to allow us to complete our projects and reach our monetary goals together. Since the start of conversations about the Mission Appeal, we have shared our desire to put **50% of the gifts to Mission Outreach** and **50% to Music Ministry**.

At this time of reevaluation, reintegration, and renewal I feel so energized by this mission appeal because it presents us all with a giant opportunity: we get to choose what matters to us, and we get to choose how we make that evident in the world. – **Molly Breen**



MISSION OUTREACH PRIORITIES: \$520,000

Four of our five strategic priorities outline our Mission Outreach goals. The following projects will help ensure our ability to meet these shared goals as a faith community. Some of the work will be done through partnerships while other efforts will be led internally.

Advocate for Affordable & Equitable Housing: \$40,000

SAPLC will care for the sheltering needs of individuals & families of all sizes, types, and circumstances in and around St. Paul. Through this Mission Appeal effort, we will partner with other local ministries like Lutheran Social Services, Beacon Interfaith, and Habitat for Humanity. We will host a community summit on housing advocacy.

Support for Refugee & Immigrant Families & Individuals: \$25,000

As SAPLC deepens its commitment to serving refugees and immigrants by working with community partners to develop a climate refuge, this priority will allow for partnership building with organizations like Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service (LIRS), ELCA Global Mission, Lutheran Social Services (LSS), International Institute, and others.

“In-reach” for those who Seek Connection & Belonging: \$10,000

SAPLC will create pathways of connection to help people feel deeply known. Through this priority, we will coordinate and offer internal events and speakers that serve the immediate needs of our neighbors and community. We will provide the needed resources for successful events that bring people together for welcome and belonging.

Support the Families Together Initiative of St. Paul Synod: \$100,000

SAPLC will support the St. Paul Synod in creating a Childhood Development Center on the Eastside of St. Paul by partnering with a gift to the Planting Hope Campaign.

St. Anthony Park Community July 4th Parade Fundraising Drive: \$10,000

SAPLC will provide a matching gift to support the issues identified by local businesses, the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation and the St. Anthony Park Community Council. We will work to publicize this generosity during the parade to encourage other's support.

Additional Capacity Building to Meet our Strategic Priorities and Guide our Mission Appeal: \$335,000

We will organize members to form relationships, learn and tell stories, and find ways to both give funds to partners and stand in solidarity with them.

- **Addition of a new Full-Time Staff Person for Outreach: \$320,500** - This new staff position will support our efforts toward outreach, expanding our capacity to give it the level of priority needed for success. We are actively working with the executive community, the council, and other members of the congregation to develop the job description.
- **Lay Champions for each Strategic Priority: \$15,000** - Our new lay champions will use these funds for training opportunities, capacity building, and celebrating with the congregation over the next three years.

MUSIC MINISTRY PRIORITIES: \$520,000

SAPLC will continue to be known as the home of a community-based, intergenerational music program that includes vocal and instrumental music for all ages.

New Organ Project: \$416,000

Through this effort, we will begin the work of replacing our organ to serve as a resource and instrument of joy. After months of faithful study, listening, and reviewing proposals, the Organ Committee has recommended the LeTourneau Organ Company build a new organ. The organ will have 20 registers, 26 ranks, and 28 stops. They have elected to use some used parts which represent a cost savings of more than \$90,000 making the total price of the new organ just over \$800,000. The new organ opens opportunities for Music Ministry to be a focal point to grow the congregation through events and worship that send us out to do God's work.

Enhance our Already Strong Music Ministry: \$104,000

In addition, we will add music programming and strengthen our musical offerings in worship. While the new organ will play a part in this, guest resources and additional programming for all generations will also serve to strengthen our music ministry.



ADDITIONAL CHALLENGE GOAL: \$400,000

As we have listened and planned for this Mission Appeal, the excitement for the projects has continued to grow. Our strategic planning process lifted up who we are as a faith community, and together we are making it a reality. We believe there is sufficient support to meet and even exceed our Challenge Goal.

In line with our desire to put 50% of gifts raised toward Mission Outreach and 50% toward Music Ministry, hitting this extraordinary Challenge Goal would provide an additional \$200,000 for Mission Outreach efforts and \$200,000 to support the cost of the new organ. Adding this to the primary goal and the funding already on hand for the organ leaves an estimated \$100,000 to complete the project.

Additional Costs: \$60,000

In order to be good stewards, several fees have intentionally been included in the total \$1,100,000 goal. Anticipated fees include fundraising fees that ensure our ability to carry out a thoughtful and focused campaign and contingency funds for unforeseen expenses and inflation.

THE MEETING THE MOMENT!

MISSION APPEAL BASE GOAL \$1,100,000 + CHALLENGE GOAL \$400,000 = \$1,500,000

We invite you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to provide a **Meeting the Moment! Mission Appeal** gift that will ensure our ability to live into our new strategic priorities as a beloved, intergenerational, and bold community of faith here at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

Through this bold and exciting **Meeting the Moment! Mission Appeal**, we seek to secure a total of \$1,100,000 in gifts and pledges. Should we exceed this goal, we have a shared Challenge Goal of \$1,500,000. Your generosity will mean we can **Meet the Moment!** together.

WHAT IT WILL TAKE TO ACHIEVE OUR GOAL TOGETHER

To fully attain our goal of \$1,100,000 the following gifts in the quantities listed will need to be received by St. Anthony Park community members:

	BASE GOAL: \$1,000,000		CHALLENGE GOAL: \$1,500,000	
Size of Gift	Number Needed	Total Toward Goal	Number Needed	Total Toward Goal
\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
\$150,000.00	1	\$150,000.00	1	\$150,000.00
\$100,000.00	1	\$100,000.00	1	\$100,000.00
\$75,000.00	1	\$75,000.00	1	\$75,000.00
\$50,000.00	1	\$50,000.00	2	\$100,000.00
\$30,000.00	2	\$60,000.00	4	\$120,000.00
\$20,000.00	3	\$60,000.00	7	\$140,000.00
\$15,000.00	4	\$60,000.00	9	\$135,000.00
\$10,000.00	6	\$60,000.00	13	\$130,000.00
\$5,000.00	18	\$90,000.00	27	\$135,000.00
\$3,000.00	26	\$78,000.00	32	\$96,000.00
\$1,095.00	40	\$43,800.00	40	\$43,800.00
\$600.00	42	\$25,200.00	42	\$25,200.00
TOTALS	146	\$1,102,000.00	180	\$1,500,000.00

CALCULATING YOUR GIFT

Over time, gifts make a significant difference. Should you wish to make a three-year pledge, the following may be helpful in calculating your gift to the **Meeting the Moment! Mission Appeal**:

Contributions to the **Meeting the Moment! Mission Appeal** may be committed in the form of a one-year gift or a three-year pledge gift.

Signed pledge statements, which indicate the amount people are intending to give over a three-year payment period, will help us plan for the next three years of implementation and begin the work on the organ. Payments toward commitments will be gratefully received on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual basis and on a beginning/ending schedule convenient to you.

Amount / Week	Amount / Month	Amount / Year	3-Year Amount
\$481	\$2,084	\$25,000	\$75,000
\$415	\$1,800	\$21,600	\$64,800
\$370	\$1,600	\$19,200	\$57,600
\$277	\$1,200	\$14,400	\$43,200
\$256	\$1,111	\$13,332	\$39,996
\$192	\$833	\$10,000	\$30,000
\$160	\$694	\$8,333	\$25,000
\$128	\$555	\$6,666	\$20,000
\$96	\$416	\$5,000	\$15,000
\$64	\$277	\$3,333	\$10,000
\$32	\$138	\$1,667	\$5,000
\$23	\$100	\$1,200	\$3,600
\$12	\$50	\$600	\$1,800
\$6.50	\$28	\$336	\$1,000
\$3.85	\$17	\$200	\$600



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What am I being asked to do for the Meeting the Moment! Mission Appeal?

A: We are asking that you fill out an intent card with a financial commitment. That commitment can be fulfilled through a one-time payment, over a three-year period, or on a timeframe in between.

Q: When do my gift payments for the appeal begin?

A: Unless you prefer a different timetable, the offering period begins April 2023. The intent card has a place for you to indicate how and when you will fulfill your commitment.

Q: How long does the appeal last?

A: The appeal will last for three years: through April 2026. However, if you feel you can make a larger gift by extending the time, you are welcome to do so. You may also make a one-time gift or contribute over less than three years. The more quickly we can reduce our debt load, the more quickly we free up resources for further ministry.

Q: Is it possible to just make gifts to the appeal without making a specific commitment?

A: Yes, but written responses, while never legally binding, give us an indication of what we can expect and permit us to plan for the future. Please fill out an intent card indicating how you will respond even if you do not make a commitment. The response from the congregation will be a compelling story as we prepare for even more impactful ministry.

Q: Will I be asked to give a specific amount?

A: You will be asked to prayerfully consider an amount based on the gift chart to reach our goal. If every gift on the chart is fulfilled, we will exceed our goal.

Q: Do all gifts to the mission appeal have to be cash?

A: No. Gifts of property, appreciated stock, required minimum distributions from an IRA, mutual funds, cash value from insurance policies or policy loan proceeds, certificates of deposit (CDs), bonds, and annuities are just some of the ways we can give. For those who qualify, giving via a Required IRA Distribution may be the best way to contribute. All of these gifts may be subject to restrictions and limitations and each giver's circumstances are unique, so it is wise to consult your financial advisor or accountant.

Note: Contact the Financial Secretary at the church office to make non-cash gifts. Important! Do not sell the asset yourself or you will be unable to avoid capital gains tax. If you are trying to capture a capital loss, you may want to sell the asset yourself. Please consult your tax advisor on the best approach for your own circumstances.

Q: What is the advantage of giving appreciated stocks or property?

A: You can avoid capital gains taxes and possibly also receive a tax deduction in the amount of the appreciated value.

Q: How do I make a gift of appreciated stock?

A: Have your broker transfer shares from your account to the church. The church's broker will sell the stock and you will receive gift credit for the average market value on the day it is transferred. Contact the Financial Secretary at the church office for transfer information.

BEST WAYS TO MAKE A GIFT

Most people think about writing a check to make a gift or using their credit card if they are on a website. However, there are three methods of giving that can be far better than writing a check.

1. If you are age 70.5 years old or older and have a traditional IRA, you are eligible to make a contribution directly from that account to a charity and have it count as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This will result in no income tax due to you as you won't be taking it as a distribution to you. So, you avoid income taxes, get to make a gift to charity, and have it count as your Required Minimum Distribution (this is a thing once you are 72). If you are 70.5 years old and have a traditional IRA this is almost always the best way to give. If you have a 401k or 403b, you can roll that over to an IRA and then use this gifting method.
2. If you have appreciated stock, mutual fund, or another asset you can gift it to the church and avoid capital gains taxes and get credit for a charitable gift. This could save you 10% or 15% in taxes, depending on your tax bracket. The tax savings make this a great way for some people to make a gift.
3. Making a regular gift every month from your checking account can allow many people to make a bigger gift than they ever thought possible. A gift of \$30 per month (\$1 per day) comes to a total gift of \$1,080 over a three-year period of time. A gift of \$100 per month is \$3,600.

Everyone's situation is different. This campaign will be successful if everyone prayerfully determines the best way for them to make their best gift to the appeal. There is no one size fits all. Please pray about and discern how God is calling you to be involved.



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