

# INVITATION AND RESPONSE

We invite you to pray for our congregation's mission and ministry - especially as we strive to put God's **LOVE INTO ACTION**. Pray about your offering for the next year. Pray about your response to the letter from the Stewardship Team which will ask you to consider increasing your offering for the coming year.

Then, on Sunday, December 7, we invite you to offer your commitment cards at a special **LOVE INTO ACTION** breakfast prior to worship to celebrate God's abundance in our lives. You may also offer your commitment cards during worship that same morning, or you can mail your response directly to the church office.

We are excited about the opportunities to meet the needs of the church and community by putting God's **LOVE INTO ACTION** in 2026. Thank you for being part of this thriving congregation.



St. Anthony Park Lutheran

BELOVED • INTERGENERATIONAL • BOLD



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ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

# LOVE *into* ACTION

2026 STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

John 13:34-35: *"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples."*



## LOVE *into* ACTION

Beloved. Bold. Intergenerational. These words stand at the heart of God's mission here at St. Anthony Park Lutheran where we gather all generations in worship, and inspire lives of service and generosity. Rooted in God's grace and radical call to love our neighbor, we strive to meet the moment by putting God's **LOVE INTO ACTION**. Together, led by your passionate elected leaders and Co-Pastors, over the past four years we have put God's **LOVE INTO ACTION** by:

- Creating a dynamic blended worship style
- Expanding and upgrading our technology for our online worship participants
- Welcoming 87 new members
- Hiring two fantastically talented staff members to oversee our mission and worship
- Raising over \$1 million to become more actively engaged in our community AND using our gift and love of music as an outreach tool
- Building and nurturing relationships with community partners

- Uniting with faith-based organizations to uplift our neighborhood through shared advocacy efforts, neighborhood events, and raising money for mental health awareness
- Extending hospitality by sharing our space with an increasing number of local community groups
- Hosting refugee and immigrant families overnight
- Offering an intergenerational Generations confirmation program that is bursting with energy
- Increasing pathways for connection and belonging among new and familiar faces

In this time of living at a critical juncture in our country's history, we give thanks to God for YOU and our shared ministry together. It's a little less scary to speak out for justice, to welcome a stranger, to step out of our comfort zones by trying something new when we lean in together, Amen? So, as we dream about the ways we at St. Anthony Park Lutheran can continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus, let us take a step of faith – together – to put our **LOVE INTO ACTION** for the sake of the world.

# PLANS FOR 2026

God’s Spirit moves in powerful ways at St. Anthony Park Lutheran. To strengthen our ministry in 2026, our goal is to increase giving by \$80,000 (\$1,550/week) in new or increased offerings throughout the year. Here, then, is how we will put God’s **LOVE INTO ACTION**:

## Increase Community Engagement – \$50,000

We live at a critical inflection point in our country’s history. Hiring a part-time Outreach Coordinator will support our congregation’s outreach efforts, expanding our capacity to give this ministry area the level of priority needed to bring about transformational change in our neighborhood and beyond. Our Outreach Coordinator will help identify and organize volunteers to amplify our church’s impact in the areas of providing food assistance with local partners and growing our support of immigrants, refugees, and the unhoused.

## Continue Our Thriving Ministry – \$20,000

God’s Spirit works here at St. Anthony Park Lutheran. From our inspirational worship services to vibrant intergenerational programming to impactful service to our community, we want to sustain our powerful ministry. We will invest resources in our dedicated Co-Pastors and staff members so that we can continue to transform lives.

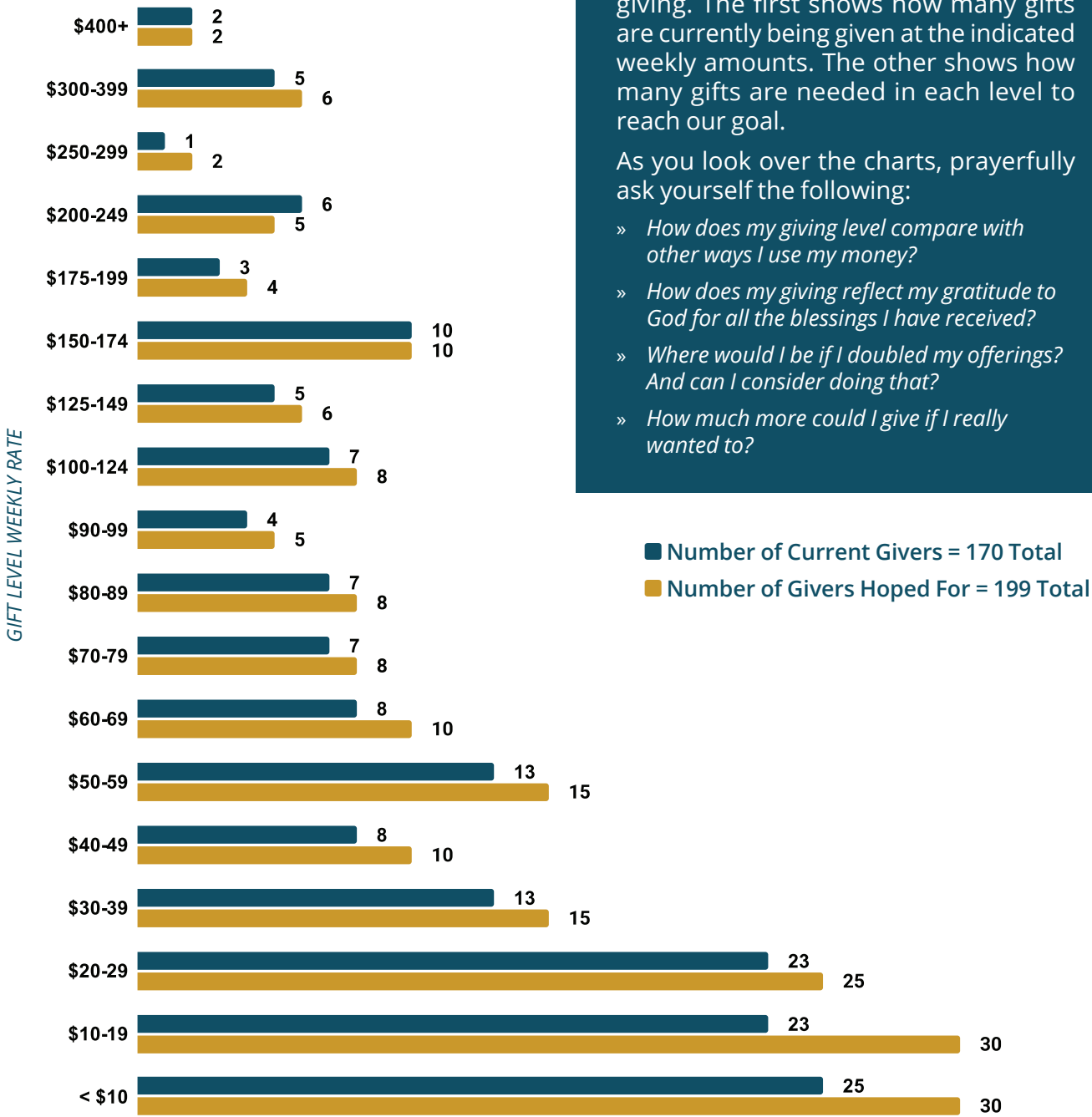


## Spread the Gospel Through Music – \$10,000

In order to support our dynamic worship life together, we will support our powerful music ministry by adding a musical accompanist. St. Anthony Park Lutheran has a long rich history of utilizing the gifts of choir accompanists, and there are good reasons for doing so! While it is possible to play and conduct, it often means neither the playing nor the conducting get full attention. When the director can stand in a clear line of sight before the choir, the participants can follow along easier and feel more confident; all of which leads to more robust and vibrant musical leadership.

# ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN AND HOPED FOR



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 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?