

A Pledge to Share

As we come to the end of the Church Year, it is a good time to reflect on all the ways God has blessed us over this last year. Certainly, we are thankful that He has continued to grant us His Holy Spirit so that we can joyfully confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We give thanks that He has granted us to continue to gather together for worship in the building at 908 West Hanssler Place. And as important, we give thanks for the brothers and sisters in Christ we are able to have fellowship with. This is a time for us to reflect on all those things God has graciously given us, and in return, we offer, in many different ways, our sacrifices of thanksgiving and praise.

The Apostle Paul tells us in Romans 12, "Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness." With prayerful consideration, we ask that all those who are capable submit a pledge. Pledge information is helpful to the Board of Stewardship and Executive Committee in planning our proposed budget for 2025. The congregation votes to approve the proposed budget at the December Voters Meeting.

Pledges go to support the following items, among others:

- They allow for financial planning to fulfill our mission of supporting our Church and sharing the Gospel to the surrounding community.
- They provide the confidence necessary to commit funds to our missionaries, like Kip and Ivy, who need money for things such as travel, food, and medical supplies.
- They help support the synod fulfill its primary purpose in raising up shepherds who can effectively share the Word to an ever-changing world in urgent need for the only cure for sin. This also includes the Central Illinois District.

For the individual, pledges provide a guideline for giving, as well as motivation to be consistent in that giving. Your pledge ultimately is between you and God, and nobody should feel obliged to give beyond his or her own means. There has been some confusion in the past as to whether this pledge is a "vow" to God. It is not. If, for whatever reason, you do not meet your goal, you will incur neither Divine displeasure nor congregational censure. So, be at peace, and give cheerfully as God grants you the means.

Please bring your pledge in an envelope to place in the "Pledge Box" during worship on "Pledge Sunday" (November 10, 2024), or leave it in the box when it is in the Narthex. (Envelopes will also be available in the Narthex.) Thank you for supporting Mt. Calvary!

In humble gratitude for the gift of grace and new life in Christ Jesus, and in recognition that all I/we have comes from the generous hand of the Father, I/we pledge:

\$ _____ weekly \$ _____ monthly \$ _____ for the year

for the year 2025 to support the ministry that takes place through Mt. Calvary, Concordia Lutheran School, and the outreach of the LCMS.

Name (optional): _____

I am interested in offering my time and talents as well. Please contact me for service in:

Administrative Council Office Help Food Pantry Ushers

(Boards and Committees)

Sunday School Music Property Altar Guild