

## Growing in Grateful Generosity: the Heart of Our Ministry

If there is one thing that describes the people of Evergreen Lutheran Church, it is generosity. We are generous with our time, our talents and our treasure. We are involved with our ELC family, our community, our nation and our world by engaging and supporting the ministries of ELC, our synod and those of the ELCA church-wide.

This coming year, our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we will have a special opportunity to demonstrate our grateful generosity in all the areas listed above by launching several new ministries.

ELC's music ministry is top-notch thanks to great leadership, eager participants and wonderful congregational support. It's hard to imagine it being even better! However, there is a problem. There is no room for new people to join the choir or for different ensemble groups to have space to play during worship. With the **Music Ministry Space Assessment** initiative, ELC's music ministry space will be evaluated for its most efficient use. What does that mean for our worshippers? More joyful voices, more frequent instrumental ensembles, more children's opportunities to participate and even more can be available with your support of this initiative.

Have you ever seen our youth off to Rainbow Trail or our members heading down the hill to serve with Christ's Body Ministry (CBM)? A long string of cars have to make the trip. The **eVANGELISM Outreach** initiative (the purchase or lease of a van) will eliminate wasting the time and resources of those serving and present less risk for everyone.

The van will be available to all ELC groups – CBM, "Workshop" Sunday, tED, Sunday School, the Lunch Bunch, etc.

The **Virtual Worship and Ministry Outreach** initiative will move ELC into the on-line technological arena where non-members and members alike can view our services, participate in Adult Faith forums, etc. It will be an especially welcome resource for those members who are home bound for a time because of illness or infirmity.

An added benefit is that it is a new way to reach a greater audience outside of our membership and let them see what ELC offers.

Funding **Continuing Ministry Support** will allow ELC to insure all the excellences in our existing ministries that we are accustomed to.

## **Our Appeal's Goal for 2018: Increase offerings by \$75,000.**

We have accomplished much in 2017 because of your generosity. Some of which were:

- ✚ Fed and housed the area's homeless through CBM and ESP.
- ✚ Built a home in Mexico and worked on a clinic in Ecuador.
- ✚ Educated the young through Sunday School, confirmation, service projects.
- ✚ Provided food for children through our backpack program.
- ✚ Bestowed the privilege of sabbatical renewal time for our pastor.
- ✚ Blessed the Evergreen community with our annual Grove Sale and Alternative Gift Fair events.

Your added gifts and offerings will be used to initiate these new ministries for 2018 and beyond.

- ❖ **Music Ministry Space Assessment** - \$5,000
- ❖ **eVAngelism Outreach** - \$30,000
- ❖ **Virtual Worship and Ministry Outreach** - \$30,000
- ❖ **Continuing Ministry Support** - \$10,000

As we all reflect on how abundantly we have been blessed, let us each prayerfully consider our response to God's love.