



Edina Community Lutheran Church

It's Our Turn...

# A GIFT-MAKING REFLECTION

## Step One

Think about a time in your life when a commitment you made stretched you. This is especially true of financial giving, but might also be of your time or expertise. You took a risk, and it worked out. How do you feel about this now? How did that experience change you? What did you learn?

## Step Two

Prayerfully recall how God's YES to you makes a difference in your life.

- What difference does it make to know that you are claimed by God in baptism, and that nothing can take away your identity as God's own beloved one? (Romans 8:38)
- What difference does it make to gather with others at the table and receive the bread and the wine, given and shed for you? (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)
- What difference does it make to know that God loves you, not in spite of your flaws, but including them? (Titus 3:4-8)
- What difference does it make to hear God call you to make a difference in the world, using the very gifts God has created in you? (1 Peter 4:10)

## Step Three

Reflect on what you know about ECLC and the engagement you experience here. Many of us feel welcome in ways that were not true in other communities of faith. What would it be like to be able to extend that welcome, both socially and theologically, to more people, especially those who are yearning for it? What would it be like to be able to say, "Please come in, there is a place for you here."

## Step Four

Talk about these things with others. Pray about your participation in the expanding welcome our building plans represent and the annual support

of the mission of this congregation. Imagine the courage it took to found this congregation, the forethought it took to reshape our worship space in the past, and the vision we are called on to support now for the sake of the future. Are you willing to engage in this mission?

## Step Five

First, imagine your commitment to funding the current mission of this congregation. We annually pool our resources to make ECLC and the work that flows from it possible: teaching children, worshipping weekly, sustaining the grieving (funerals and ongoing care), reaching out to sister congregations both in town and far away, building housing in Edina for young people who have experienced homelessness, stewarding our property, caring for the sick, forming our faith along with the kids, feeding the hungry, sending health kits to people affected by war or natural disaster, sending our youth on mission trips...the list goes on and on! How much of your annual philanthropy will come to ECLC to support this important work?

Next, imagine the ways you might give to the capital appeal. Read ***Creating a Gift*** for ideas that go beyond writing a check. In conversation with family and trusted advisers, discern the best way and the best time for your giving. You might be surprised by how far you can stretch over a three-year time span. Note the chart on the back page.

## Step Six

Complete the *It's Our Turn...* response card, making both a one-year annual commitment and a three-year commitment to the capital appeal. Bring the completed form to worship on Sunday, November 8, or return to the church office by then.

## Step Seven

Join us all on Sunday November 22 to celebrate the results of our commitments to ECLC, each other, and the work of God's YES in the world!

## Gift Chart

<b>weekly</b>	<b>monthly</b>	<b>annually</b>	<b>3-year total</b>
\$250	\$1,083	\$13,000	\$39,000
\$150	\$650	\$7,800	\$23,400
\$100	\$433	\$5,200	\$15,600
\$75	\$325	\$3,900	\$11,700
\$60	\$260	\$3,120	\$9,360
\$50	\$217	\$2,600	\$7,800
\$25	\$108	\$1,300	\$3,900
\$15	\$65	\$780	\$2,340

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