



Share
Joy!
Stewardship 2018



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Connecting Faith to Everyday Life

SHOUT IT FROM THE ROOFTOP!

The joy of the Lord is our strength.

At Our Savior's, we know both the delight and the confidence that comes from living in relationship with the God whose love for us and for all is never-ending.

This joy, though, has never been intended to be something that we keep to ourselves. Indeed, the mission we share and which God has entrusted to us compels us to be a people who routinely share this joy with a hurting world.

When Our Savior's moved to its current location on 33rd Street, this hallmark of our mission was built into the facility. The building erected in 1958 included a prominent bell tower that not only served as a visual landmark for the new church building on the edge of Sioux Falls but also gave voice to the joy of the community gathered for worship within its walls.

The effects of weather and age are taking a toll on our beloved bell tower, however. The brick exterior is eroding, the roof is leaking, and the once-beautiful gold-leafed cross has lost its luster and is in need of a facelift.

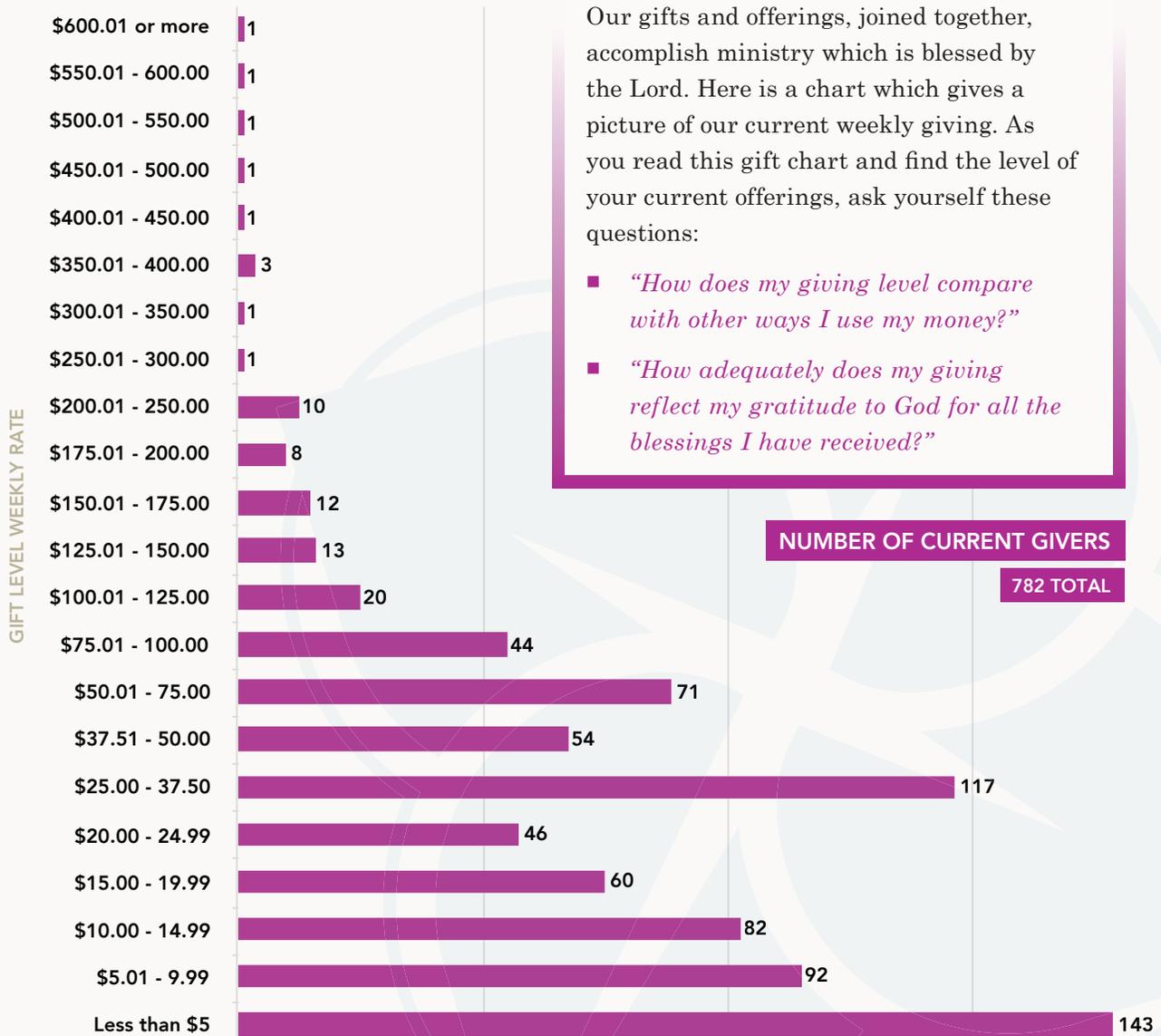
As a result, and as a way of preparing for our 75th anniversary in 2021, we will begin in 2019 investing in the repair and restoration of the OSL bell tower so that it can continue to be a resounding witness to the joy of the Lord. When completed, this prominent architectural feature unique to OSL will once again stand as a beautiful beacon of the hope that is found in the cross of Christ.

Share Joy!—our stewardship appeal for 2019—is all about recognizing the joy that is ours as a result of being God's people and finding innovative and creative ways to share that joy with a hurting world. This exciting and compelling work will require an increase in giving of \$125,000 during the coming year.

With the joy of the Lord anchoring us in faith, pray for a generous response to this appeal and prayerfully consider increasing your support of OSL's vibrant ministry in the coming year. With all of us working together, we will be able to step confidently and joyfully into the future as a community of faith called to proclaim Christ and nurture faith that connects with everyday life.

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GO DEEP AND WIDE!

Sharing joy comes in all shapes and sizes. In the coming year, we are planning a number of exciting and innovative ministry expansions at Our Savior's designed to broaden our capacity to share the joy of the Lord.

- We will invest in our growing Vacation Bible School, using this ministry as an opportunity to reach out in joy and compassion to our immediate neighborhood and the broader community.
- We will fund an innovative Bible Immersion Camp, an exciting new summertime ministry for our younger members and friends that seeks to unlock the treasure of joy found in scripture and a living relationship with Jesus.
- We will enhance both the Sanctuary and the Celebrate Center with seasonal art and technology upgrades that draw worshipers into a deeper, more engaging experience of God's presence and love.
- We will develop a LifeGroups resource library in support of our growing small group ministry and thereby continue investing in those ministries that help bring our faith to life and strengthen our bonds with each other.
- Compelled by our faith and the hope and joy of reconciliation, we will continue to foster

meaningful and mutual relationships with our Native American neighbors, both locally and on the reservations.

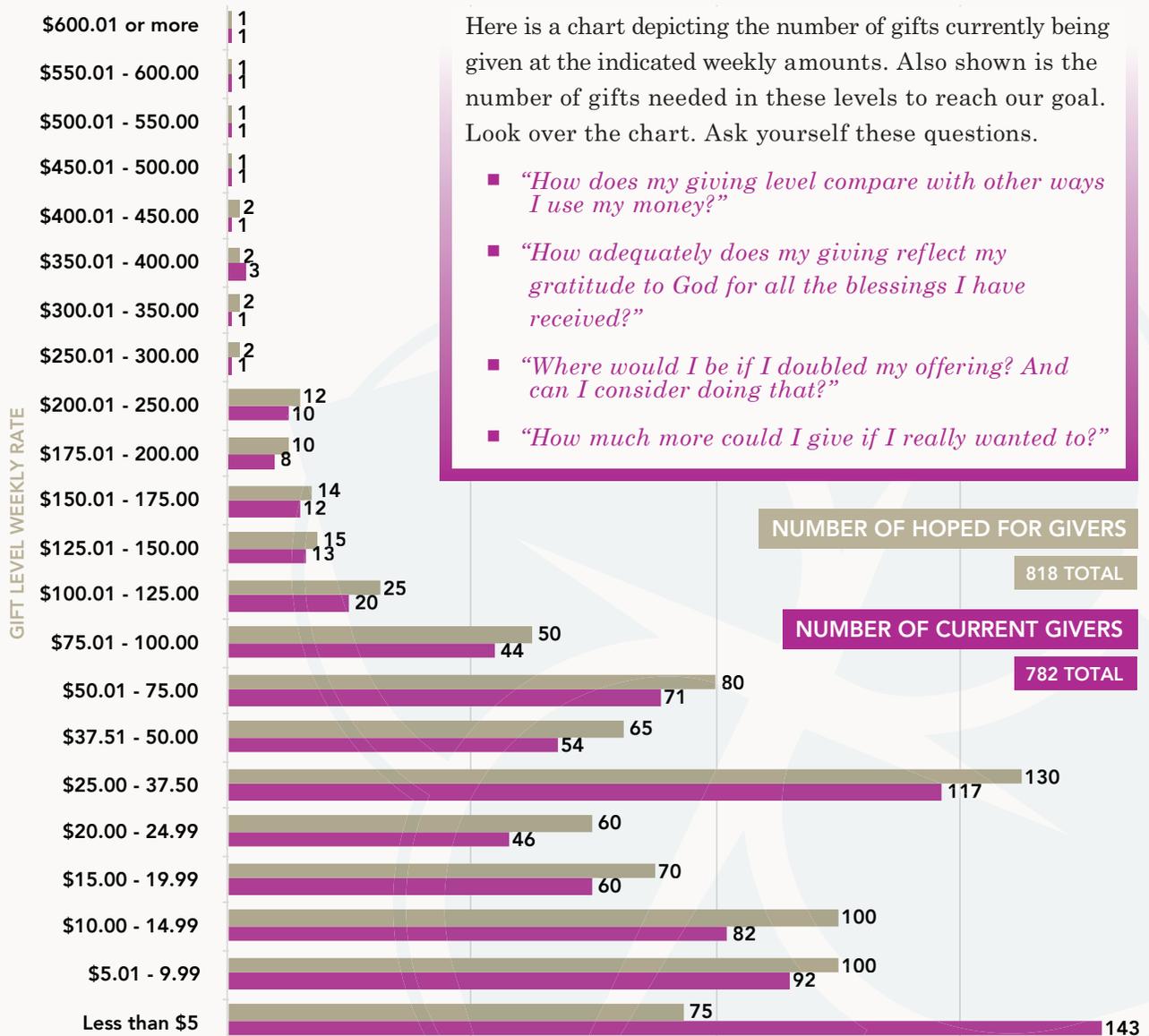
- We will strive to enlarge our already robust hunger ministry in response to a growing need in our community and in our world.
- Within the reality of an ever-changing technology landscape, we will further extend our outreach through digital platforms in an attempt to share the joy of the Lord far and wide.

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With the joy of the Lord as your anchor, pray for a generous response to this appeal. Pray about your own response. Consider increasing your support of OSL's vibrant ministry in the coming year as the Lord leads you. And be ready to make your commitment known in worship on Share Joy! Weekend, November 10 and 11. In our giving to OSL we will be saying thank you to God and investing in ministries that help us go deep and wide in the living out of our faith.

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SHARE JOY!

By now you've heard of OSL's stewardship appeal for this year, Share Joy!

Share Joy! is about recognizing both the strength and delight we enjoy because of God's faithfulness and, in turn, mobilizing for ministry in ways that share this joy with others. We do this in worship, in our giving, in our outreach, and in how we care for the facility God has entrusted to us.

Share Joy! draws us back to a seminal truth about ourselves—we have been abundantly blessed by a gracious God. Share Joy! is also a command that connects us to the “so that” of God's blessing—we have been blessed so that we may be a blessing to others.

PASS IT ON!

In 2019, we intend to heed this command to share the joy of the Lord by boosting our support of our ministry partners through our benevolence giving. Not only will we grow our giving to the South Dakota Synod but we will also look for ways to expand our support of emerging and existing ministries whose missions align well with ours—proclaiming Christ and nurturing faith that connects with everyday life. This includes partners like WestSide Lutheran Church (Sioux Falls), Table of Grace (Harrisburg), Pueblo de Dios (Sioux Falls), Church on the Street (Sioux

Falls), and ELCA missionary Elisabeth Johnson in Cameroon. Practicing this kind of selfless generosity not only expands our missional reach but it also enables us to continue to serve as a lead supporter of important ministries in our community, in our synod, and in our denomination.

KEEP IT REAL!

Built into this year's plan is also the means for us to invest in sustaining OSL's ministry excellence by maintaining our campus and compensating our staff in an environment of rising costs. By keeping pace with the realities of caring for our facility and the people employed to lead us in ministry, we position ourselves to share the joy of the Lord well into the future.

To make all of this and our other ministry initiatives for 2019 a reality, we will need a generous increase in giving of \$125,000 during the coming year. Be sure to read the letter that will come to you soon. Study the Stewardship brochure that will be enclosed. Pray for a generous response to this appeal. Consider prayerfully how you will respond to the invitation to increase your offering.

Responding together as the Spirit leads us, we will be empowered to share the Joy of the Lord in 2019 and beyond. Thanks be to God!

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