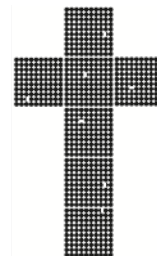


BECAUSE OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY

a stewardship program for our congregation



Dear St Mark's,

"Because of God's Great Mercy" is the title of our stewardship emphasis this year. In the Bible, mercy is a disposition of compassionate love that leads to an outward act of kindness, forgiveness, or relief from suffering for someone in need or distress. The scriptural basis of this focus on our stewardship of all that God has entrusted into our care is 1 Peter 4:10, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace".

We begin by proclaiming all that God has done for us, hence the title "Because of God's Great Mercy." We will also consider how generous giving is an important part of every Christian's life, and how our combined generosity can make even greater things possible through our congregation.

We will think together about how our giving to St Mark's Lutheran Church is an important part of our Christian faith, and how St Mark's Lutheran Church uses our offerings to do God's work within the congregation's walls, in our community, and around the world.

"Because of God's Great Mercy" will ask you to do two things. First, you will be asked to increase your giving to St Mark's Lutheran Church by 1% of your household income. Second, you will be asked to **consider** using an automatic funds transfer program that St Mark's Lutheran Church already has in place for your giving, if you don't already have something set up. Giving options will be communicated separately. **Commitment Sunday will be Sunday, November 8th.**

"Because of God's Great Mercy" will use e-mails, St Mark's website, and time in worship to share information with you. Please make a special effort to watch for material during this important time in our congregation's life.

Blessings to you,
Stewardship Chair – Dave Mindrup
Committee Members: Vicki Larson, Debbie VanKempen