

Our Vision

Rich and varied worship

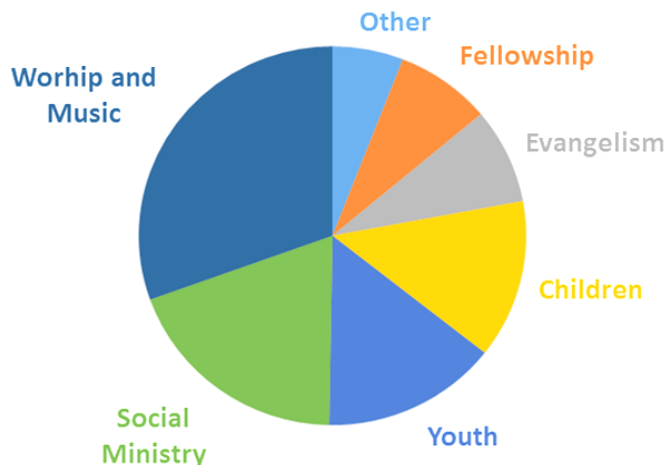
Pastoral care for those in special need

Growing children and youth ministries

Support all our members on their walk with Christ

Our Vision Is Our Focus

The chart below shows where our gifts of treasure go. It shows how much we spend on individual ministries. The bigger the pie slice, the more we spend on a ministry. The four largest pie slices are the ministries of worship & music, youth, children, and social ministry (which includes pastoral care and visitation). As we serve the church's mission, these are the ministries we value the most and receive the greater portion of our gifts of treasure.



The Year Ahead

The 2019 budget continues to focus on what is most important to St. Stephen members.

Worship We offer a variety of worship experiences. Whether it is Sunday traditional, Sunday contemporary, or Wednesday evening praise, all our members will find meaningful worship at St Stephen.

Youth And Children The number of youth and children involved in the life of St. Stephen continues to grow. Our giving to these ministries represents not only an investment in the spiritual growth of our youth and children, but an investment in the future of St Stephen.

Social Ministry In addition to leading worship and spiritual growth, our pastors devote a great amount of their time caring for those in need.

2019 Proposed Budget

STAFF EXPENSE	\$344,049
OFFICE EXPENSE	\$21,800
ADMINISTRATION	\$16,000
OPERATIONS	\$22,560
MAINTENANCE	\$10,450
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	\$3,625
YOUTH MINISTRY	\$6,000
WORSHIP AND MUSIC	\$9,650
EVANGELISM	\$5,000
FELLOWSHIP	\$6,450
STEWARDSHIP	\$1,200
SOCIAL MINISTRY	\$350
ADULT LEARNING	\$250
TOTAL	\$447,384

Pledge What You Can

2019 will be an incredible year in the life of St. Stephen Lutheran Church. We have a vision of the future. We have a talented and dedicated staff. We have a congregation that is welcoming and supports each other. To continue to fulfill our mission and vision, we need everyone, to generously and joyfully give, of their time, talent, and **treasure!** As you consider your pledge, please consider raising your giving to the next level (as seen in the chart below) or increasing your giving by 1% of your annual income.

Thank you for your generous giving!

Annual Giving Level	Number of Families
\$0	60
\$ 1-99	33
\$100-199	19
\$200-299	13
\$300-399	14
\$400-499	11
\$500-599	10
\$600-699	11
\$700-799	7
\$800-899	6
\$900-999	4
\$1000-1999	53
\$2000-2999	19
\$3000-5999	25
\$6000+	4

You Choose How Your Pledge is Used

Current Fund is used to pay for all salaries, utilities, maintenance, office supplies, operations, postage and fund all of our Ministry Programs.

Capital Fund is used for capital improvements and large maintenance expenses including, furnace replacement and parking lot improvement.

Benevolence Fund is used to support ministry work outside of our walls including support of the ELCA, St. Paul Area Synod, Tanzania and various other ministries.

The Bible tells us about stewardship:

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and return not thither but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth;

It will not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign which shall not be cut off.

Isaiah 55:10-13

*Thank you for your discipleship to St Stephen
and continued support of its ministries!*

Please fill out and return your pledge card by Nov. 11th.



ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY BRINGING GOD'S LOVE TO THE WORLD.

Stewardship 2019

Moving Forward In Faith Together

Welcome to the Ministries of St. Stephen in 2019.

What does stewardship have to do with the ministries of the church? Everything. Stewardship is everything we do as Christians after we declare *I believe*. It is how we show our faith, how we work together to drive our ministries, and how we act as disciples. Without our stewardship, there would be no ministries.

After declaring our faith in Christ, we are compelled to ask *what can I do to exercise my faith?* And the answer is that each of us gets to choose what our personal journey with Christ will look like and what ministries we will support along the way. We don't make our journeys alone but rather as members of our church family. That is why our stewardship program can be regarded as **Moving Forward In Faith Together.**

It's Not Fundraising

Stewardship is not fundraising. Yes, stewardship raises funds. But, it is more than that. It's about rejoicing in God's blessings and joyfully offering Him our gifts in return. It's not about the church's need to *receive* as much as it is about our need to *give*.

This is your opportunity to give. Please take time over the next week to reflect on how God has blessed you and consider prayerfully how you can give back in proportion to those blessings.