

Come and follow me

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Beloved in Christ,

A few weeks back, amid the hustle and bustle, I noticed a reoccurring pattern in the dust as I made my way through the church... footprints! No matter what room or what hallway I entered, there they were. Large and small, pointing in different directions.

These prints illustrated the busyness and sheer volume of workers traipsing through the building during an extensive renovation. But it dawned on me that they didn't belong just to the construction crew. Some of these footprints were made by students from Lutheran Campus Ministry, or St. Paul's students attending mass. Others yet were from parishioners who had come for bible study or the Wednesday organ recital. Some were left by folks seeking assistance or simply a place to come, sit and pray. I'm sure some of the footprints even belonged to you!

Come and Follow Me is Luther Memorial's stewardship theme this year. To celebrate, we are creating a paper pattern of congregational footprints on the wall near the children's gathering hall. These prints are to remind us of our call to follow in the footsteps of discipleship, in faithful response to God's enduring grace.

Together, the prints serve as a visual echo of the many footsteps that fill the hallways and sacred spaces of this wonderful place. The footsteps of the choir on their way to the balcony to lift their voices in praise. The footsteps of our children as they gather to learn about our gracious and loving God. The footsteps of those attending meetings, watering flowers, preparing for worship, and assisting in the office. The footsteps of our many volunteers as we celebrate in the Great Room over delicious food and good things to drink.

What kind of footsteps do you create here in this place? For that is what our ministry is, the sights and sounds of the Body of Christ walking together faithfully, to support and to live out his ministry in our life together.

In peace,



Rev. 

John Worzala Dumke
Associate Pastor







Dear sisters and brothers,

As the church renovation nears completion, it's easy to see all the physical improvements to the building—incredible changes that *you* made happen. Most importantly, phase 1 of our building renovation paves the way for new outreach opportunities and the expansion of existing ministries.

Throughout, your faithful support has not wavered. This past year many of you gave generously to the 2017 annual appeal and the 2017–2020 capital appeal. With gratitude for your leadership, I am inviting you to continue your support and renew your annual operating pledge for 2018.

Your financial pledge to support operating in 2018 is critically important. It funds all of our ongoing ministries, like music and worship, faith formation for all ages, service projects, care and visitation to those in need, and social gatherings to enrich our daily communion. It also covers routine facility maintenance and keeps our (new energy efficient!) lights on. Your dollars, help keep the church humming, vibrant and welcoming.

Join me in the sacrificial challenge of increasing your pledge by 3% or more.

As you prayerfully consider your pledge to Luther Memorial for 2018, join me in the sacrificial challenge of increasing your pledge by 3% or more over 2017. Many small improvements end up making a big difference!

Here's to another great year in ministry with you, in celebration of God's abundance!



Mike Heggeseth
Chair, Administration
& Finance Committee



FAQ

What does it mean to pledge?

By making a pledge you indicate your desire and intent to help support Luther Memorial financially in the coming year. You choose the amount you wish to give, and how frequently. As Christians we view financial giving as a sacred rite, a practice that deepens our faith. For many, making a pledge creates a structured way to do this.

How is my pledge donation used?

Your giving is vital to the daily work of our congregation. You create opportunities for worship and music, learning for all ages, small group and community enrichment, and outreach programs to serve those in need. Your pledge to the operating fund also covers regular building maintenance and repairs, and Luther Memorial's support to our synod and other key ministry partners.

How much should I give?

Give an amount that is meaningful to you. Prayerfully consider what is possible for your household at this time. Many in our parish strive to tithe, to give 10% of their income away to charity each year.

How much should I increase my pledge?

We have set a target goal to increase pledged income by 3% in 2018. If you are able to help our congregation reach that goal, please do what you can!



How does my pledge impact the Capital Appeal?

It doesn't. This past spring, many people pledged to the 3-year capital appeal that runs July 2017–June 2020. This pledge is separate from your pledge to the operating fund. Of course you may wish to increase your capital appeal pledge; you can do this at any time.

Can I pledge to LM electronically?

Yes, many people set up a recurring gift. You can do so online at www.luthermem.org/giving.

Do I need to fill out a new pledge card if I give a recurring gift electronically?



Kim O'Leary

It is helpful if you do. This action also gives you an opportunity to prayerfully consider the amount of your gift for the coming year. For assistance, please contact Kim O'Leary, our church administrator.

Is there a deadline to receive my annual pledge?

Yes. Giving is good anytime, but please try to make your pledge by Sunday, November 26. This assists the church in making ministry plans for 2018.

Are the footprints only for pledgers?



Suelyn Swiggum

No, we hope everyone who participates in the life of Luther Memorial will put a footprint on the wall! If questions, chat with Suelyn at the welcome desk.

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stewardship 2018

