



St. Peter Lutheran Church
243 Benedict Avenue
Norwalk, OH 44857
419-668-2856
<https://www.stpeter-elca.org>

November 14, 2021

As we prepare to return our Statements of Intent for our generosity for next year in worship today, several of our Council members have shared their excitement about our ministry moving forward:

Growing up we went to church with my grandparents and other family members. It was hard to come to a new church even though we already new many of the people here. Over the years we have developed deep relationships with many. While our children don't regularly go to church with their biological grandparents, they have honorary grandparents that they have here. For that we are grateful and blessed.

Megan Culler

I love coming to St. Peter to worship, sing and praise God! I enjoy listening to Pastor Ann's great sermons about God and our Savior. I also come here to grow my faith and get recharged. I come to St. Peter to receive communion with my fellow believers and Christian family.

Ernie Mangold

St. Peter: a worship community experience that helps worshipers find the peace found in faith.

A Member of Council

With so much uncertainty around us in the beginning of the pandemic God lead us out into the community to feed his sheep. What an amazing act to witness when our church provided all of those meals during a pandemic. It makes me feel truly blessed to be a part of the St. Peter family.

Nicole Skinn

Keeping our ministry strong will enable us to dream about an ever-growing ministry into the future. Take time this week to reflect on the ways in which connection to our ministry has impacted you and those you know and love in the past year and start dreaming about what God may be up to here moving forward.



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DECIDE TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY

Little has ever been accomplished without sacrifice. This is true in our homes, our work, our church, our country. Sacrifice is a necessary component of successful living.

So it is with the Christian life and faith. Our salvation cost God the cross. Bonhoeffer rightly said there is no cheap grace.

Much of church giving is only token giving, averaging about two percent of income. No wonder there is so little joy or satisfaction in it! It requires no sacrifice! We have given only what we could easily afford, what we would not really miss.

Experience has shown that giving, to be meaningful and joyful, has to be sacrificial! Each will have to determine what amount or percentage is sacrificial for his or her circumstances. But experience again suggests that for most people sacrificial giving begins at five percent of income with proportions under five percent falling into the token giving category.

Church interest is often low, studies have shown, because investment is low. There is no sacrifice. It doesn't really cost anything. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also." (**Luke 12:34**) Where is my treasure? That is where you will find your heart.



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