

September 20, 2022

Dear People of Hope,

Generosity is all around us, but sometimes we have to look for it. In the Feeding of the 5,000 in the Bible, significant generosity happened once the child shared (John 6:9). That is how it is here. Once we begin to share, we will see that God has blessed us with plenty.

**Building a Culture of Generosity is the theme of our fall stewardship appeal.** This theme points us to the generosity that we have witnessed around our church over the last year, but also points us to know that we can grow into this in even more profound ways.

When the pandemic began in March of 2020, many of us worried there would not be enough. Our ministry remained strong and in fact, many of us recognized just how critically important this community is to our faith.


**Our grateful response** in generosity helps to demonstrate to us and to the world around us that in fact God has provided us everything and we have enough, even enough to share.

In the weeks ahead, you will be hearing more about generosity. Newsletter articles, bulletin inserts, mission moments, letters and more will be used to share this story and our hopes for an even more robust ministry next year.

So, in the coming weeks, please engage with the materials. Pray about how you can become more generous. Then, on **Intent Sunday, October 30**, please bring your intent card with you, or use the pledge form online, to declare the generosity that you intend to share with Esperanza.

Our picture isn't complete without you. You are a valuable part of this family of Esperanza Lutheran Church, and we thank you! Pray for our intent to come together in our common work as we continue to reach out with the Hope of Christ.

Peace and grace to you,

Pastor

Council President

Stewardship Team

P.S. Your intent card will be mailed to your home on October 14 for you to return on October 30 or you will be able to pledge online in the coming weeks.