

November 10, 2024



People of Hope,

First, thank you from our entire Stewardship team for engaging with us as we have encouraged and challenged you to prayerfully consider your financial intents for Esperanza's ministry in 2025. Thank you for your prayers, for your stories, and for all the ways that you have been and continue to be people of hope in our community. Esperanza Lutheran Church could not exist without you because Esperanza Lutheran Church *is* you. You are the ones reaching out into the community to serve our neighbors. You are the ones who gather in worship weekly, bringing gifts of fellowship, food, and resources for the continued growth of this community.

Over the course of our stewardship campaign this year, we have invited you to ponder the theme, "**Great is Thy Faithfulness!**" As God has been faithful to us, so we are now invited to be faithful in return, by using the many gifts that God has given us for God's glory, including financial support. Over the years, your faithful giving has allowed Esperanza to **Deepen the Wells of Our Faith, Build Bridges into Our Community, and Invest in Our Future**. As a community, Esperanza has responded to the challenge to increase our financial commitments and number of returned giving intents. Two years ago, we received 55 responses recording the giving intent of our community. Last year, we received 66. This year, we are targeting a receipt of 73 giving intents. Even if you regularly give, but have never filled out an intent card, you can contribute to our achieving this goal by doing so this year.

In order to expand ministries and due to rising costs, the financial expenses of Esperanza for 2025 are projected to be about \$2800 per month higher than in 2024. You can be a part of helping us continue to do the amazing ministry that has happened here at Esperanza for nearly 35 years. In response to God's faithfulness to us, and in celebration of all the incredible ministries that have happened through Esperanza over the years, we invite you to prayerfully consider increasing your financial support for 2025. We will receive the enclosed giving intent card in worship on Sunday, November 17. Alternatively, you can indicate your giving intent online at <http://myesperanza.org/intent-card/>. As a reminder, these intent cards are meant to only reflect your giving to the general mission fund.

Thank you for your generous response to God's faithfulness experienced at Esperanza Lutheran. Your support and partnership allow Esperanza to continue being a voice of hope in Ahwatukee and the whole world that we are blessed to be a part of.

With joyful gratitude,

The Esperanza Stewardship Team  
Linda Dickson, Chuck Yount, Tami Hass,  
Barb Yurka, and Pastor Chris Heller

## Stewardship By the Numbers

### *Number of Giving Intents Received:*

2023: 55

2024: 66

Goal for 2025: 73

### *Average Monthly Intent Amounts:*

2023: \$356

2024: \$385

Goal for 2025: \$400

### *Average Monthly Expenses:*

2023 (actual): \$25,780

2024 (estimated): \$28,015

2025 (planned): \$30,838

*“They rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest” – Isaiah 9:3b*



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