

Christ Lutheran Church Highlands Ranch, CO

2019 - 2022



VISUALIZE

What do you “Visualize?”

As we explore the weekly themes during our capital campaign, **Visualize** what God could do through CLC when we move beyond our annual debt service of \$152,772 per year. *Dream* about what ministry and mission would look like then. *Envision* the ways our ministry and congregation will grow in Highlands Ranch and far beyond Colorado. *Have hope* for what will happen when we go beyond our fears and take risks to share God’s love with each other and strangers in exciting new ways. **Visualize** about what lies beyond today. Can you see it?

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future

Step 5: Decide to Give Sacrificially

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

And 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? Where is my heart?

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR CAMPAIGN

Why am I being asked for two pledges?

In order to avoid the confusion of two campaigns (Visualize and our annual stewardship drive), we have combined them. In doing so, you may prayerfully consider your commitment to both the operations of Christ Lutheran Church, focused on supporting our 2020 ministry, and the Visualize three-year commitment, focused on moving past our debt, renewing our building for enhanced ministry and increased support of ministry outside of our walls. We ask that you complete both forms at the same time.

How long does the campaign last and when do we begin making our contributions?

Contributions toward the Visualize campaign will continue for up to three years. Contributions may begin December 1, 2019.

Will I be told how much to give?

Absolutely not! Information about the gifts necessary to meet our important campaign's challenge goal of \$2,000,000 will be provided to all members. You and your family will be asked to prayerfully consider two pledges; one for a three-year financial commitment to the Visualize campaign as well as another for your annual commitment to next year's stewardship effort. In preparation for these decisions, we ask that your family open your hearts and minds to what God is calling you to do through prayer, Bible study, and worship.

Will gift amounts be published?

No, only the amounts for the entire congregational response will be celebrated.