



**Hope Lutheran Church, Levittown, PA
Frequently Asked Questions**

Why a special campaign? God has blessed our congregation over the years with many people offering their gifts and their lives to the Lord's service. Today our ministry and buildings need significant enhancements. While our school ministry and is alive and well, our ministry to youth and families is nearly nonexistent. Additionally, monies allocated to debt restrict resources that could be used to enhance our outreach.

What is our goal? Jesus states our goal is to make disciples. Eternal life is the goal. Sharing the saving message of Christ is our number one concern. To bring us more in alignment with God's mission for us, we have chosen a financial goal of \$250,000.00. With your support we can fulfill the mission of Christ and bring real hope to more people.

What if we are unable to meet our goal? We have every confidence that God will move among us in a mighty way. We will adopt a prioritized method of allocating resources for maximum impact in our ministry. All our gifts, regardless of the amount, will be dedicated to ministry enhancement and sharing the hope we have in Christ.

What if our goal is surpassed, what will happen? 50% of resources beyond our goal will be allocated to debt reduction. The other 50% will be dedicated for further ministry enhancements and brought to our Voters for allocation.

When will giving to the campaign actual begin? Our campaign extends for a period of three years. Pledges and commitments begin in December of 2019. Donations are welcome anytime.

Based on our giving, what will be the sequence of ministry enhancements?

- 1) Pay off our \$75,000.00 mortgage. Relief from debt payments free us to support ministry.
- 2) Expansion of Celebrate Recovery. This is an outreach that brings Christ centered hope to people who struggle with substance abuse, family members who have loved ones who struggle and need support, and for others who have hurts, habits and hang-ups. Advertising will reach more people and materials will be used in the program.
- 3) Call a Youth Worker/Teacher. A Youth Leader/Teacher will serve both church and school, building a stronger youth and family presence among us as well as among the families of Levittown.
- 4) Enhancements to our Sanctuary: ADA improvements including an improved ramp in the narthex and handicap seating in the sanctuary. This will make ministry accessible to those with handicaps and to our senior saints.
- 5) Visual and Audio technology in our sanctuary will aid in worship and improve school worship and programming.

Do we have estimates for the ADA enhancements and Audio- Visual enhancements? At this time we have only general figures. People now are gathering information for each of these areas.

Will calling a Youth Worker/Teacher disrupt our present staffing? Some turnover in teaching occurs on an annual basis. When and if a vacancy arises, we will seek a Youth Ministry person who is also a teacher.

How will hear about on our progress in the Fulfilling the Mission of Hope Campaign? You can expect regular updates in our bulletin, and contributors will receive (annual) reports from our financial secretary.

Why is it so important for ALL families/individuals to participate in the Fulfill the Mission Hope Campaign? Every person, every prayer, every talent, everyone's time and gift is important. The success of our Campaign relies on everyone. This is not about equal giving but equal sacrifice. People of all ages can be blessed by learning to give generously and trusting God to provide for our needs. Your prayers to God and reflection will guide you to what is appropriate for you.

Will anyone tell me what to give? No, every member is encouraged to reflect and pray on God's blessings, responding as the Holy Spirit leads and guides you. We are lifting up our faith in a God who promises to do *"immeasurably more than we can ever ask or imagine!"* **We are inviting giving that is in addition to your current offerings**, trusting God to bless sacrificial gifts that are cheerfully, joyfully and generously received in response to His love.

What ways can I contribute? The Giving Guide serves as a way for you to envision a **three-year commitment**. Givers at every level are valued and valuable. You may choose on your commitment card to contribute, **over a three-year period**, weekly, monthly, one-time, or multiple gifts, lead gifts, contributions from qualified retirement distributions, stock proceeds and other assets and resources God has provided. We do ask that you return a commitment card so that we can thank you for your gifts and celebrate the overall results with all the members as we reach the giving goal. Most people will give money but some may choose to give stocks, real estate or even the required minimum distribution from an IRA.

How do these changes promote the Gospel? Supporting Celebrate Recovery is helping our neighbor and giving hope in Christ. Calling a Youth Worker/Teacher promotes the spiritual well being of youth and families in our church and school. Improving accessibility to our services makes our space inviting and comfortable to visitors. Enhancements in technology aid in our worship and make us relatable to younger generations. Sharing the saving news of Jesus is the center of this effort.

How will this campaign help us increase participation, attendance, and school enrollment? These changes will improve access to and the overall experience of the services and events we offer. They make participation here more possible for some, more likely for others, and therefore more fulfilling for all.