



Expanding our INclusivity

At Advent we are committed to being **IN**clusive, adapting to meet changing needs. We meet people where they are comfortable via the creative use of technology and care of our building.

Our in-person worship services combined with on-line worship services show that spiritual fulfillment can be met while accommodating safety considerations. Our online worship services allowed us to connect not just with our own Advent members, but with people all over the greater metro Milwaukee area, and even around the country.

The outdoor worship services in the park offered us the opportunity to share our **IN**clusive welcome with each other after a long period of being physically separated. Over 120 Advent members worshiped at least once in the park. Not only that, but we welcomed at least 29 visitors to worship during those outdoor services. Half of those visitors worshiped with us more than once. Several of them are interested in joining as members, and two families signed their children up for Sunday School!

We found a creative approach to enlarge our communion table by offering to-go communion to the community. This **IN**clusive gesture was more impactful than we could have imagined. Not only were Advent members able to partake in Holy Communion, but also Cedarburg neighbors and visitors expressed their deep gratitude for the opportunity to be **IN**cluded in the sacrament.

Through our adaptive use of Zoom we have created a unique Sunday School and Vacation Bible School experience for our children that is safe, fun, and engaging. We have also used Zoom to continue to do the work of the church and even host an intergenerational Coffee & Conversation discussion series.

We have invested in creating a reassuring and **IN**clusive space by providing multiple hand sanitizing stations throughout the church, masks for those entering the building, and a vigorous cleaning schedule to ensure that our sacred space remains safe for all who enter.

Membership Care was intentional about reaching out to homebound and vulnerable members of the congregation, so that they wouldn't feel isolated or disconnected from their church family during the pandemic.

Advent is living its commitment to our Reconciling in Christ (RIC) heritage by demonstrating that All are truly embraced. We have rededicated ourselves to this radical welcome and love.

God has **IN**cluded us in the great plan of salvation. God has given everything for us and to us, **IN**cluding an invitation to the abundant banquet table of life eternal. With this knowledge, we can all grow in our gratitude and generosity.

The goal of our "All IN" 2021 Stewardship Appeal is to increase gifts and offering by \$1,200 per week. Please pray for a generous collective response. Prayerfully consider increasing your gift for the coming year to first support our existing ministries and then grow into expansions of them. With your help, we not only say we are an **IN**clusive and welcoming worshipping community, we invest in doing so.

Week 3

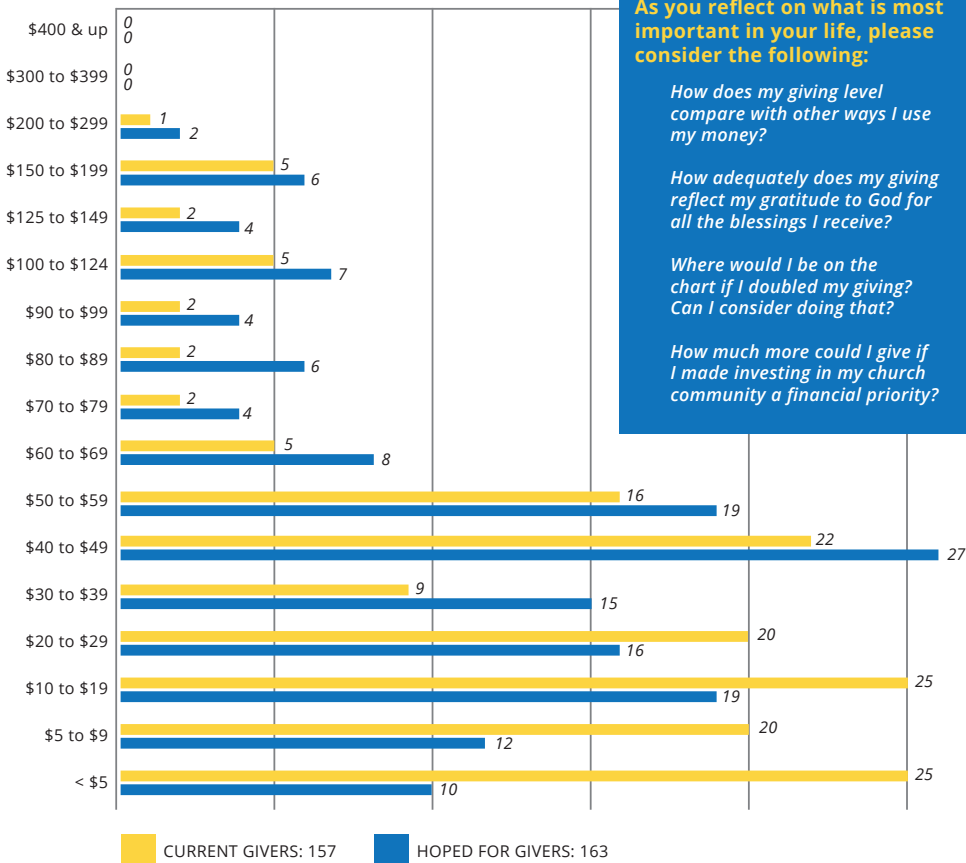
All In
2021 STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

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The chart shows our current giving levels and how we can reach our goal.

GIFT LEVEL WEEKLY RATE



As you reflect on what is most important in your life, please consider the following:

How does my giving level compare with other ways I use my money?

How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I receive?

Where would I be on the chart if I doubled my giving? Can I consider doing that?

How much more could I give if I made investing in my church community a financial priority?

"We love the diversity of ministries and people that our donations support. We are very blessed in our lives, and feel grateful to share some of our resources with others in need."

- Carol Feuerstein and Anne Mattson

"I feel I belong to a wonderful and active church, whose goal is to help others by working together as Jesus Christ asked us to do!"

- Sammie Herkert