

[Note: the following letter will also accompany members' 2018 offering statements.]

Faith Lutherans,

God's Word teaches us, "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops" (Proverbs 3:9). Thank you for your offerings to the Lord and His Church during 2018! Your financial gifts this past year not only bring honor and praise to the Lord but demonstrate your trust that He will continue to provide for you.

Our gifts to the Lord are in response to the greatest of all gifts: the free gift of His Son, our Savior Jesus! In Jesus, God's priceless gifts are yours: forgiveness, everlasting life, and salvation. Along with these eternal blessings, our lives and all the resources needed to support our lives come from the Lord's hand. We recognize God's gracious ownership of our lives and our assets as we return to Him a portion of what He has first entrusted to us.

Please faithfully and prayerfully consider how you will continue to support the ministry of the Gospel in 2019!

It's a blessing to join together in supporting the Church's work both near and far. Your gifts this past year have not only helped to further the ministry of Faith Lutheran Church but also that of our local Lutheran Schools: Sioux Falls Lutheran School and Lutheran High School of Sioux Falls, both of which Faith generously supports as an association congregation. Thank you also for your continued support of the "Our Greatest Gifts" Capital Campaign for the new Sioux Falls Lutheran School!

This past year, Faith once again generously support of the wider ministry of our church body through our contributions to The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, the LCMS South Dakota District, and to LCMS ministries such as Main Street Living.

Faith also provides direct support to three LCMS missionaries as they share the Gospel on our behalf: Rev. Adam DeGroot, serving in Albuquerque, NM; Rev. Daniel Jastram, serving in Japan; and Rev. David Warner, serving in Spain.

The congregation was blessed in 2018 to be able to add two new staff members: Rebecca Wiemer was called to serve as Faith's Director of Youth and Family Outreach and Tim Symes was hired to serve as Facility Manager.

Your offerings also continue to make our Matthew 28 Adoption Ministry possible. Through this ministry, Faith's Adoption Ministry Committee is able to provide financial grants to local Christian families who are in the process of adopting children.

Additional ministries supported by your contributions this past year include our Guatemala Medical Mission Team, human care and outreach efforts at the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House, The Community Outreach, and more.

Once again, thank you for your sacrificial giving in 2018! The Lord is using your gifts to make a difference for His Kingdom! May He lead you in this New Year to continue faithfully offering both yourself and the resources the Lord has entrusted to you in support of the body of Christ and in Christian love toward our neighbors.

God bless and keep you in 2019!