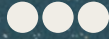


# MUCH

	GIVEN
	EXPECTED

COMPANION GUIDE



**“FROM EVERYONE WHO HAS  
BEEN GIVEN MUCH, MUCH  
WILL BE REQUIRED; AND FROM  
THE ONE WHO HAS BEEN  
ENTRUSTED WITH MUCH, EVEN  
MORE WILL BE EXPECTED.”**

**LUKE 12:48 (CSB)**

The Gathering will turn 20 years old in 2026, and it has me thinking about all the defining moments and lives changed along the way from our humble beginnings to the thriving multi-site church we've grown into. **We've been blessed with so much over the years.**



In Luke 12:48, Jesus is teaching his disciples about faithfulness, and sums up his lesson with the often quoted: "From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, even more will be expected."

The same thing is true of a church. Here at The Gathering, we aren't called to just be content collecting the blessings and favor that God has given us. **We are called to take those blessings and use them to bless others.** You've heard me say it many times - I believe that the best is yet to come - because we can't be content merely looking back at all we've accomplished. We've got to continue to answer God's call to create a Christian community that is compelling for new generations of people.

This book contains a vision for what I believe God is asking of The Gathering over the next two years. It is a bold vision, one that isn't satisfied with only continuing to do what we've always done, but makes space for new things. And we can't do it alone; it requires each and every one of us to answer that call. So, this book is also about a vision for you. I hope you will join me for this adventure. Whether you are new to The Gathering, or have been around for a long time, I am asking you to recognize how MUCH God has given you and to respond accordingly.

**PEACE+**  
**REV. MATT MIOFSKY**



# OUR MOMENT IS NOW

After nearly 20 years of growing and maturing as a church community, we stand today at a critical juncture.

**“Much Given. Much Expected.” is a two year initiative to fund the vision and mission of The Gathering.**

This book will be your companion guide as we celebrate everything we’ve been given as a church and wrestle with what’s expected of us along the way to a bright future.

With a sermon series, alongside our CoreGroups, and through personal reflection, we will...

1

## REFLECT & CELEBRATE

WHO WE ARE

2

## IMAGINE

WHO WE COULD BE

3

## PARTICIPATE

IN THE GATHERING'S JOURNEY THROUGH GIVING

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome Letter from Matt Miofsky .....	1
About this Companion Guide .....	2
Who We Are.....	4
A Gathering Timeline .....	6
Testimony.....	8
About “Much Given. Much Expected.” .....	9
Where We’re Heading .....	10
How Will We Get There? .....	16
Testimony.....	19
How To Participate .....	20
Sermon Notes & Activities.....	24
Generosity Evaluation Activity .....	29
Generosity Pathway .....	31
Commitment Card Examples .....	32
Gift Profile Guide .....	33
Testimony .....	36
FAQs.....	38
Family Generosity Activity.....	40



## OUR VISION

**To create  
a Christian  
community that  
is compelling for  
new generations  
of people.**

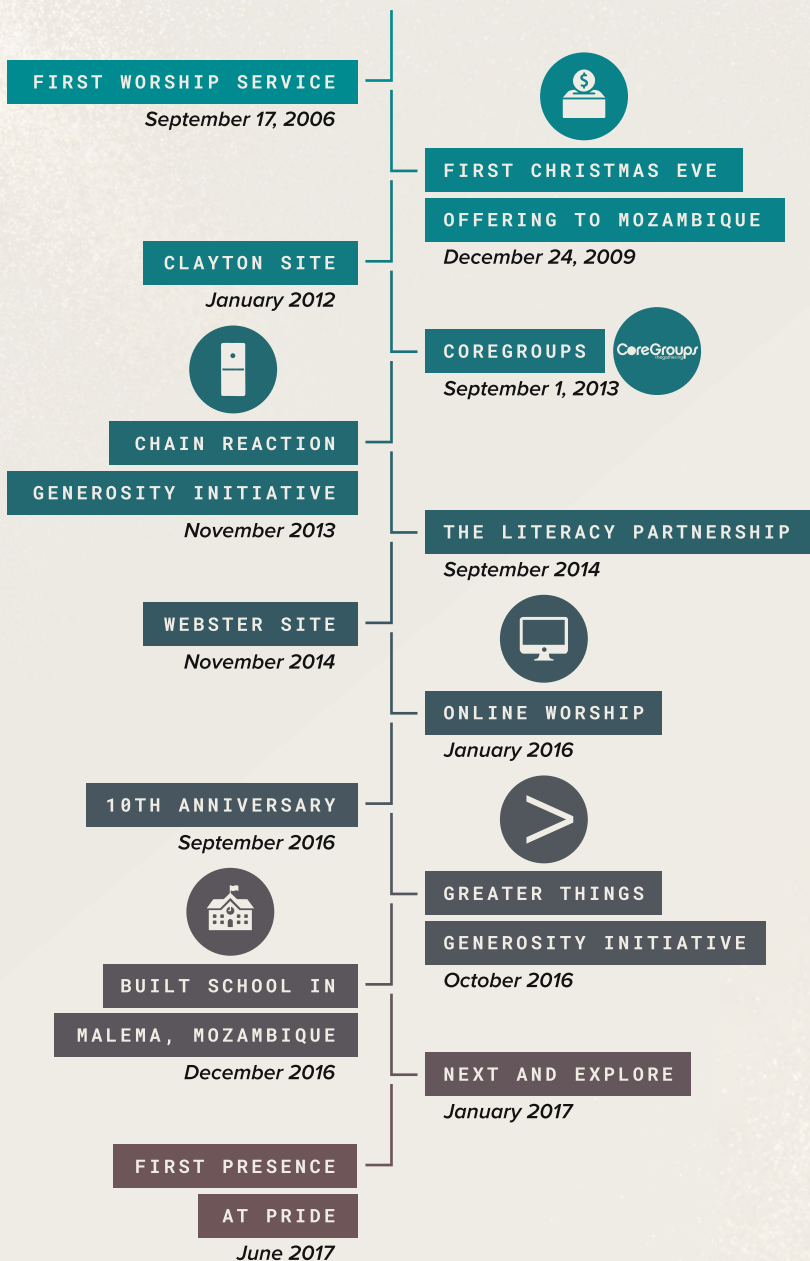
The Gathering is a place for

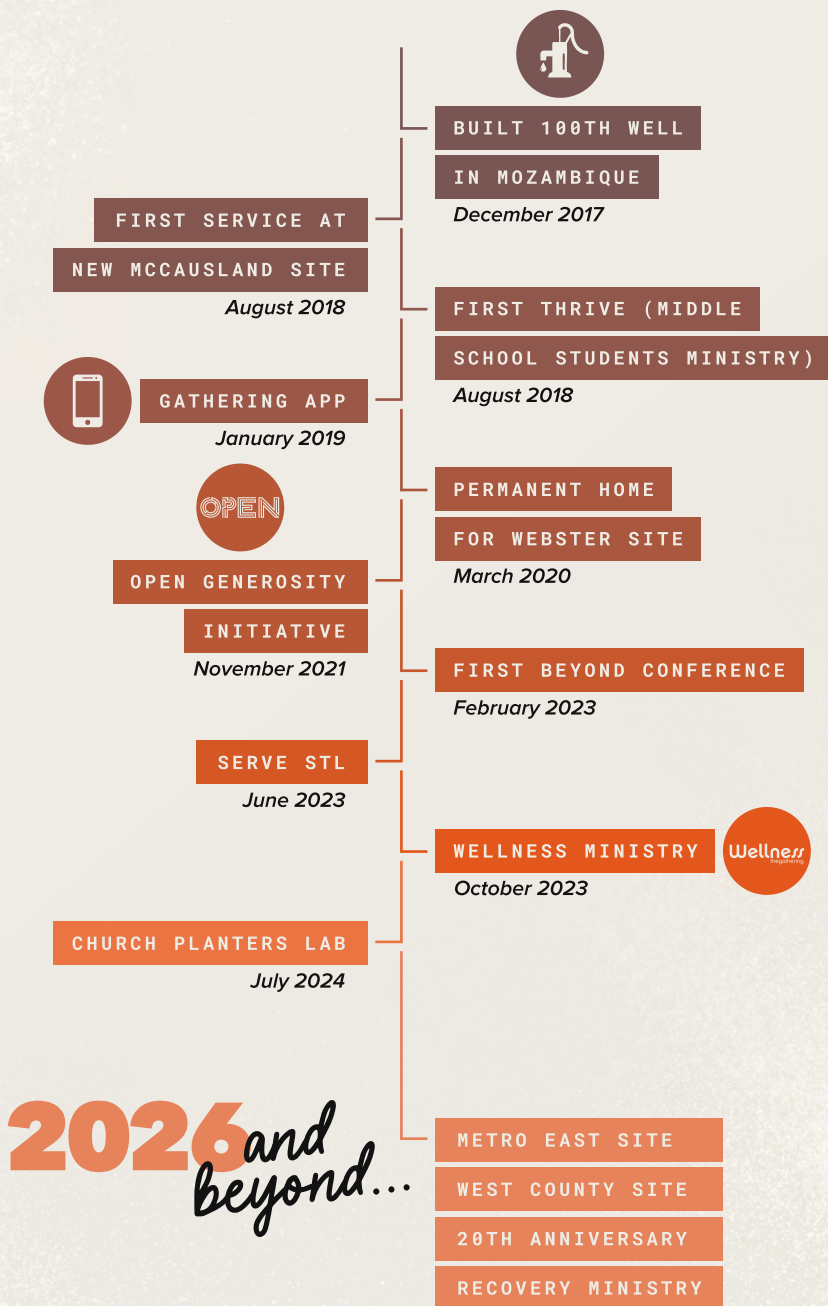
**THE SKEPTIC,  
THE BELIEVER,  
AND EVERYONE  
IN-BETWEEN.**

It is a place for those who've been convinced that church is not for them. Whether you're falling apart or have it together, at The Gathering you are welcome as you are and challenged to grow in light of Jesus.



# A GATHERING TIMELINE





# LIVING GENEROUSLY, LEADING BY EXAMPLE

## Our Story – by Andrew & Nan Barnes



*We found The Gathering during the pandemic. Our previous church didn't offer much online and expected people to be in the building, even when that wasn't possible. But, The Gathering was different—it had a robust online presence. For four years, that was our church home from the living room couch, especially while our daughter, Joanna, was still little.*

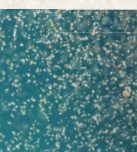
*Eventually, we began attending in person and quickly got involved. Both of us grew up in churches where serving and giving were just part of what you did. So, when we found a new church home, we knew we didn't just want to attend—we wanted to participate. Church isn't something we consume. It's something we contribute to.*

*We joined a CoreGroup, started serving, and committed to giving financially—not out of obligation, but because we believe belonging requires commitment. Now that our daughter is getting older, we're even more aware that she's watching. We want her to see that faith isn't just something we talk about—it's something we live. And we want to model an authentic faith, not a performance. That means showing up, being honest, serving with joy, and giving even when it stretches us.*

*Giving has been part of both our stories for a long time. Andrew was raised to tithe. And, generosity became a habit early in Nan's faith journey—even when money was tight in college. For us, giving is like investing. We're business school grads—we know that when you invest in something, you become more connected to it. Giving makes The Gathering our church, not just a church.*

*We give because we believe in what's happening here. Whether it's CoreGroups, community outreach, or meaningful worship and teaching—our gifts are making a difference. And, we want Joanna to grow up in a church where love, justice, and generosity are lived out loud.*

*Much has been given to us. And with joy—we embrace that much is expected.*



GIVEN

EXPECTED

**For nearly 20 years, The Gathering has grown through pivotal moments of bold vision and increased generosity.**

From expanding our sites and staff at key times, to building our new McCausland site, to reconnecting post-pandemic—each step forward has been made possible by your generosity.

The growth has continued as we've built new and vibrant ministries, welcomed an increasing number of new people seeking community, and become a place of refuge and meaning in uncertain times.

We believe God is once again calling us not simply to maintain what we've been given, but to raise expectations with a comprehensive, two-year \$10 million generosity initiative to:

1

STRENGTHEN OUR

**FOUNDATION**

2

FUEL OUR

**GROWTH**

3

ENLARGE OUR

**FOOTPRINT**

**1**

**STRENGTHEN OUR**

# **FOUNDATION**

You have helped to lay the groundwork for The Gathering to create a uniquely welcoming Christian community. Together we have impacted lives in ways we never could have imagined. While we are always excited to explore new opportunities, we also know it is time to reinforce and reinvest in the most critical components of our foundation as a church.

## FELLOWSHIP & FACILITIES

In 2019, we hosted about 400 meetings for CoreGroups, recovery ministries and community groups across all sites. That number has now grown to more than 1,400! **We want to utilize our spaces in meaningful ways outside of Sundays, which means keeping up with resources and infrastructure.** With your help we can continue to be a hub of hope and healing in our local community.

## NEW GENERATIONS

225+ kids now attend The Gathering every week. They represent almost 25% of the total population on any given Sunday! 152 Middle and High Schoolers also participate in Student Ministry events each month. **We must be relentless in our support of families and kids. They represent the next generation of Christian servant leaders.** This will require ongoing investments in caring and talented ministry leaders as well as updates to our technology, classrooms, and curriculum to meet the changing needs of young people.

## WORSHIP & MINISTRY

Online and in person attendance is increasing at The Gathering. We have an opportunity to build upon compelling worship and explore opportunities for additional services. Ministries like CoreGroups, Care and Connections fuel spiritual depth and a sense of community. **We need to continue to invest in thriving ministries and the talented staff and volunteers who lead them.**



## **2 FUEL OUR**

# **GROWTH**

When we see that ministry is succeeding at The Gathering, we want to fuel its growth. Right now there are several areas of ministry that have grown significantly. We want to invest in expanding them.

## WELLNESS & DISABILITY MINISTRIES

In 2023, The Gathering launched a Wellness Ministry to help people feel safe to share their struggles, offer practical tools to reduce stress, and replace the stigma around mental health with empathy, shared wisdom, and support. **In just two years, Wellness has served nearly 500 people throughout St. Louis. We have the opportunity to support thousands more.**

We have also made strides to better welcome people with disabilities and their families into the full life of the church. This includes one-on-one care and other accommodations in Kids Ministry, a bible-study for adults with disabilities, and several special events. **However, there is so much more to do.**

## BETTER DIGITAL & ONLINE PRESENCE

More than 12,500 people have downloaded The Gathering app and thousands more are looking for spiritual guidance and a place to belong online. **An investment in our online presence will allow us to reach beyond our physical walls, connect with homebound members, engage with seekers online, and offer spiritual resources 24/7.**

## FURTHER INVESTMENT IN LOCAL NEEDS

**We want to be a church that actively addresses local challenges and makes a tangible difference in the lives of neighbors.** With your help, The Gathering has given thousands of dollars and directed hundreds of volunteers to local nonprofits. We've sprung into action when the Red Cross needed blood, tornado victims needed relief, and our neighbors during the pandemic needed assistance for groceries or medical bills. And yet, we know so much more is expected and possible.



**3**

**ENLARGE OUR**

# **FOOTPRINT**

For years, we've prayed for opportunities to deepen our roots and broaden our reach. We've seen lives transformed within our community, and now, it's time to multiply that impact.

## NEW CHURCH SITES

**We believe God is calling us to launch two new church sites to serve areas hungry for hope, connection, and a place to be curious about Jesus.** These sites won't just be buildings; they'll be gathering places for worship, community, and service, tailored to meet the specific needs of their unique contexts. They will be sites of The Gathering, which means all will be welcome, no asterisks.

## RESOURCING PASTORS AND CHURCHES

Beyond planting new churches, we will come alongside and empower pastors and churches outside the St. Louis area. **Think of the impact we can have by supporting dedicated leaders who are often ministering with limited resources or feeling isolated.** Through the BEYOND Conference, which now has been hosted in St. Louis and North Carolina, we've interacted with hundreds of pastors who feel this disconnect. We have an opportunity to invest in the larger body of Christ, strengthening the Church as a whole, and seeing the ripple effect of healthy, thriving ministries across the region and beyond.

## RECOVERY MINISTRY

**There is a growing need for worship and community spaces for people in recovery from addiction.** We are already deeply invested in a recovery center in Illinois and our spaces are home to hundreds of community recovery meetings each year. We're ready to create an even more robust Recovery Ministry, including worship services tailored for those on this journey.

# TWO YEARS, \$10 MILLION

As we approach the 20th year of ministry at The Gathering, **we feel a strong call from God to offer the hope of Christ in a radically welcoming way to more people in St. Louis and beyond.** We want to strengthen our roots, invest in ministries that are working, and plant new churches for the first time in 10 years. In order to accomplish this bold vision it will take gifts totalling \$10 million over the next two years.

## STRENGTHEN OUR FOUNDATION

*Worship, Students/Kids,  
CoreGroups, Facilities,  
Care, Outreach*

## FUEL OUR GROWTH

*Wellness/Disability,  
Digital Ministry, Local and  
International Missions*

## ENLARGE OUR FOOTPRINT

*New Church Sites,  
Reaching Outside St. Louis,  
Recovery Ministry*



**We are 95% funded by those who call this church “home.” Every gift, from \$5 to \$5,000, has helped impact the ministries that you and others fuel here at The Gathering.**

# ONE FUND

## TO FUEL ALL MINISTRY

As one church that meets in many locations, this generosity initiative will encompass everything The Gathering will do over the next two years. Together, we will multiply the impact that you and so many others have experienced. Many will hear messages of hope that feel tailored to their needs. Others will finally respond to the nudge to tackle addiction or depression. New generations of kids and students will discover Jesus. People in cities outside St. Louis will come to know The Gathering.

Over the next two years, all of the gifts we receive will go into ONE single fund that will fuel the mission and vision of The Gathering. This ONE fund will be the catalyst for everything we do together. **When we open our hearts to what God is trying to do through us, it's incredible to see what can be accomplished. We can all be a part of God's ongoing story through the practice of giving.**



## PAUSE & REFLECT

[illegible]

## COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

### Kimberly Wilson

Principal, Pierre Laclède Elementary School



The Gathering began our work with Pierre Laclède Elementary School in St. Louis Public Schools as part of The Literacy Project in 2018. Over the years our program has evolved with their changing needs and that flexibility, along with the personal connections and trust built over time, are what Principal Kimberly Wilson believes really set our partnership apart:

*“One of the things that’s important is having community partners that value our goals the same way we do. Some partnerships just provide resources, which is always helpful. But, one of the unique things about The Literacy Partnership is that you all provide human capital, which is very special. And, as needs have changed over the years, The Gathering has asked me for my feedback, which is awesome. With a lot of community partnerships, it might be, ‘Hey, this is what we’re offering, do you want it or not?’ It’s something special when someone comes in and says, ‘What do you need? What do you see this program looking like? How would it benefit your school, your teachers, your students?’ That’s powerful.*

*There’s also a community connection as you provide students with books that they can take home through the My Own Library program. You’ve even started working directly with our preschool families giving them tools and facilitating workshops to help them get their children ready for Kindergarten. So this partnership doesn’t just impact the school, it also impacts the home as well.*

*Another important aspect of our partnership is your help appreciating my staff. That’s a hard thing for principals sometimes. We don’t get a budget to appreciate our teachers. And so we have to be very strategic. It’s nice to have a partner who can do that for me.*

*I’ve been in a couple of schools that have had partnerships with different organizations, and I’ve never experienced one quite like this. I’ve never seen where someone is providing that constant inspiration for students, families, and staff. I really do think this partnership is special.”*



# HOW WE PARTICIPATE

We believe God has entrusted The Gathering with the responsibility to significantly impact peoples' lives and reach new generations for years to come. **To meet these expectations, each of us must allow God to challenge us to step out of our comfort zone into the future.** A future we believe is full of possibility and hope.



## HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN



### ATTEND

**Attend weekly worship,** whether in-person or online. Make it a priority to listen to all the messages in the “Much Given. Much Expected.” series, even if you can’t make it to worship.

### PRAY

**Pray for our church, our community, our world.** Recognize the work God is doing in our midst. Ask God to reveal your role in supporting this vision for the future.

### REFLECT

**Reflect on your personal relationship with God** using the prompts and activities contained in these pages.

### LEARN

Learn with your CoreGroup each week. **Listen to the ways God is speaking to you** through the weekly material and through the stories of others.

### MAKE TIME

**Make time to review your finances.** How does giving fit into your life? Consider making one specific change that will allow you to take a step toward greater generosity.



**“EACH OF YOU SHOULD USE  
WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE  
RECEIVED TO SERVE OTHERS, AS  
FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF GOD’S  
GRACE IN ITS VARIOUS FORMS.”**

**1 PETER 4:10**

# ABOUT THIS STUDY GUIDE

## **“MUCH GIVEN. MUCH EXPECTED.”**

is ultimately a discipleship journey. How we show up in worship (in-person or online), the messages we hear, and our time together in CoreGroups will determine how God can do something new in our lives.

If you aren't in a CoreGroup, now is a great time to take that step. Even if you don't join a CoreGroup, please follow along each week. Listen to the sermon and set aside time for reflection.



# MUCH GIVEN. MUCH EXPECTED.

**We've been given so much as a church, now what is God calling us to do?** We believe it's time to lean into the moment, and take new steps in our ministry as we start to Strengthen Our Foundation, Fuel Our Growth, and Enlarge Our Footprint.

## SERMON NOTES

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LISTEN TO  
"MUCH GIVEN.  
MUCH EXPECTED."  
SERMONS



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SEE WHAT  
COREGROUPS  
ARE DISCUSSING  
THIS WEEK



## REFLECTION

We've been given much as a church, now what is God calling us to do?

[illegible]

*Dear God,*

*I recognize that you have given me so many gifts, and I am so grateful. Help me to focus on that gratitude, especially as I personally experience or witness challenges, pain and suffering so often around me. God, please guide me to use my unique gifts to rise to the occasion, and exceed your expectations for your followers. Keep my mind and heart open to whatever you are leading me and The Gathering toward.*

*Amen*

# INVITATION TO THE PRACTICE OF GENEROSITY

As Luke 12:48 says, “From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, even more will be expected.” **Most people living in the United States are among the top 20% of the wealthiest people in the world.** Knowing that, what is really expected of us when it comes to what we’ve been given?

## SERMON NOTES

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LISTEN TO  
“MUCH GIVEN.  
MUCH EXPECTED.”  
SERMONS



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SEE WHAT  
COREGROUPS  
ARE DISCUSSING  
THIS WEEK



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# THE PRACTICE OF GIVING

**Making generosity a significant part of our lives is challenging, but Jesus tells us it is an important and powerful aspect of faith.** What can we do to make it easier for generosity to play a larger role in our lives?

## SERMON NOTES

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LISTEN TO  
"MUCH GIVEN.  
MUCH EXPECTED."  
SERMONS



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SEE WHAT  
COREGROUPS  
ARE DISCUSSING  
THIS WEEK



## REFLECTION

### Evaluating Your Generosity

Best-selling author Joshua Becker offers up nine ways that generous people see the world differently:

1. They recognize the resource pie is not finite.
2. They know that generosity leads to greater happiness.
3. They find success in helping others succeed.
4. They believe changing even one life is worthwhile.
5. They trust others.
6. They dream big dreams for their money.
7. They see more resources to give than money.
8. They fully embrace the reality that life is short.
9. They are content to live with less.

The Gathering is full of generous people who are using their gifts to impact others. But every so often, it's helpful to pause and take stock of how we are using our treasure and talents. Below is a short form to help you do just that.

How much money I make annually through all sources of income:

How much I gave away to individuals and charitable causes over the past year:

Three ways I used my time and talents to help individuals or organizations over the past year:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

# WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO GET THERE?

We've been given so much as a church. Perhaps, the same is true for you personally. And, we are called to use those blessings to positively impact others. Whether it's laying the groundwork for brand new sites, giving your first gift in the offering basket, or simply inviting a friend to church, **it's going to take all of us, collectively, to rise to the expectations God has for The Gathering.**

## SERMON NOTES

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LISTEN TO  
"MUCH GIVEN.  
MUCH EXPECTED."  
SERMONS



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SEE WHAT  
COREGROUPS  
ARE DISCUSSING  
THIS WEEK



## REFLECTION

# A GENEROUS PATH

The spiritual discipline of giving is a journey.  
All journeys begin somewhere.

### Where are you in your giving journey?

**Where would you like to be and what is the next step in the path to getting you there?**

Check the box that represents the step you are taking in your journey.

☐

LIFETIME GIVER

*I am setting a lifetime giving goal that requires me to ask God not "how much should I give", but rather "how much am I supposed to keep?"*

☐

TRANSFORMATIVE GIVER

*I am continually making choices about my lifestyle that enable me to give more generously to my church.*

☐

INTENTIONAL GIVER

*I have decided to give a percentage of my income to the church and have signed up online to schedule a regular, recurring gift.*

☐

CONSISTENT GIVER

*I am making giving a regular practice, giving an offering at least once a month.*

☐

BEGINNING GIVER

*I am deciding to give for the first time, trusting God and the church with my gift.*

PLANNING FOR MY TWO-YEAR GENEROSITY COMMITMENT TO

MUCH

GIVEN

EXPECTED

Use this formula to calculate your commitment.

\$ 600      What I normally give each year  
(including Christmas Eve & Easter)

+ \$ 700      The **additional** amount I commit to give  
each year for "Much Given. Much Expected."

= \$ 1,300      **X 2 YEARS** = \$ 2,600

+      Stored Resources Gift (appreciated stock,  
sale of property, vehicle, heirlooms etc.)      \$ 400

=      **My Two-Year Commitment to**  
**"Much Given. Much Expected."**      \$ 3,000

\$ 4,000      What I normally give each year  
(including Christmas Eve & Easter)

+ \$ 1,000      The **additional** amount I commit to give  
each year for "Much Given. Much Expected."

= \$ 5,000      **X 2 YEARS** = \$ 10,000

+      Stored Resources Gift (appreciated stock,  
sale of property, vehicle, heirlooms etc.)      \$ 2,500

=      **My Two-Year Commitment to**  
**"Much Given. Much Expected."**      \$ 12,500

\$ 12,000      What I normally give each year  
(including Christmas Eve & Easter)

+ \$ 12,000      The **additional** amount I commit to give  
each year for "Much Given. Much Expected."

= \$ 24,000      **X 2 YEARS** = \$ 48,000

+      Stored Resources Gift (appreciated stock,  
sale of property, vehicle, heirlooms etc.)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

=      **My Two-Year Commitment to**  
**"Much Given. Much Expected."**      \$ 48,000

# GIFT PROFILE GUIDE

Every gift helps move us closer to our **\$10 million** two-year goal to fund the ministry of The Gathering.

*As you think about your commitment, please consider this gift profile below to help you determine where your giving could fall.*

GIFTS NEEDED	TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT	ANNUAL GIFT OF	MONTHLY GIFT OF
2	\$1,000,000+	\$500,000	\$41,667
2	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$20,833
6	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417
12	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167
30	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083
50	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042
100	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417
250	\$1,000-\$5,000	\$2,500	\$208
452			

# A TIME TO COMMIT

We've spent the last month reflecting about all we've been given as a church over the years, and dreaming about how we can use those gifts to build toward the future. **Thank you for coming along on this journey, and for considering how you will be a part of The Gathering's next chapter as we live into what's expected of our church.**

## SERMON NOTES

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LISTEN TO  
"MUCH GIVEN.  
MUCH EXPECTED."  
SERMONS



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SEE WHAT  
COREGROUPS  
ARE DISCUSSING  
THIS WEEK



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## REFLECTION

## Celebration

**What are you most looking forward to about The Gathering's vision for the next two years?**

## How do you hope generosity will transform your life?





*"Something that reignited our commitment to the church was having kids. We love our CoreGroup and value the community, and now our daughters have that, too."*

**- Ben and Denee Bowers**

*"Our favorite thing about The Gathering is we're always asking who's next and who haven't we invited? And we don't have to worry about any person walking through those doors and not feeling welcome."*

**- Hannah and Martin Leathers**

## THE NEXT GENERATION

If you spend time watching the Bonham, Leathers, Bowers, Barnes, and Olney families on a typical CoreGroup night, you'll see there are fewer parents than children (most of whom are not even in kindergarten yet) and families scattered around tables haphazardly filling plastic plates and tightening sippy cups. To the uninitiated, it's pure chaos, and you may wonder how they'll ever start the meeting.

*"As a parent, at CoreGroup, you're able to go be in peace, be with God, in that moment; and just that brief moment is exactly what you need."*

**- Mark and Andrea Barnes**

*"I think if you're expecting to get a lot out of church and you want it to fulfill you, you also have to give to church, just like you would anything else.."*

**- Jared and Sophie Bonham**

But if you watch long enough, you'll pick up on a few things: the ease with which the kids and adults interact, the seamless chatter and laughter rising above the noise, and the word "Jesus" shared freely.

Parenting, especially in this age, is one of the more difficult seasons of life. And, this particular group of parents is grateful to have a CoreGroup to share life with. They are modeling what faith looks like, and at the same time, building the faith of the next generation.

CoreGroups is one of the thriving ministries that is foundational to The Gathering's DNA, and also key to our future. "MUCH Given. MUCH Expected." will ensure this ministry will grow and change with our congregation and be ready to provide generations to come with this kind of community.

*"We've gotten to see all these kids, worshipping and dancing together, so excited to see each other. They love going to church and CoreGroup to spend time with their friends. With our immediate family back in Kansas, we've built this incredible church family here."*

**-Tessa and Chad Olney**

# FAQs

## WHAT SHOULD I INCLUDE IN MY COMMITMENT?

As you consider your financial commitment over the next two years, you will want to factor in the following: (1) what you typically give on a weekly basis, (2) your faithful increase over what you typically give, (3) any special offerings you plan to give, such as Easter and Christmas Eve, and (4) any stored resources. **There are three different commitment examples on page 32 to help you with yours!**

## WHAT ARE “STORED RESOURCES”?

**Stored resources are the funds or assets you have other than income.** For example, you may have savings, stocks, bonds, or other investments that you decide to give to the church. You may have been holding onto a car, boat, a vacation home, or other property. What would it look like to let go of some of the “stuff” to reinvest in the lives of others?

## WHAT IF I AM CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL STRESS OR HARDSHIP?

If you are currently struggling with unemployment, or if you are carrying the heavy burden of substantial debt, we are here for you. **This fall, The Gathering will offer Saving Grace, a multi-week class that helps you develop a plan for taking control of your finances.** If you are in need of care, we have trained care ministers and pastors who can meet with you to discuss your current situation. As you work to overcome financial barriers to giving, consider that giving isn’t about what God wants from you; rather it’s about what God wants for you.

## WHAT ARE THE AVENUES THROUGH WHICH I CAN GIVE?

You can make a gift by visiting our website at **[gatheringnow.org/give](https://gatheringnow.org/give)** or by opening the Give tab in The Gathering app. Consider setting up a recurring gift on the website/app or through your bank's billpay system. Recurring or one-time checks can be mailed to:

**P.O. Box 435010  
St. Louis, MO 63143**

If you would like to give a gift of stock or securities or are interested in naming The Gathering as a part of your will or estate, please contact our Executive Director of Operations, Dave Dietrich at **[dave.dietrich@gatheringnow.org](mailto:dave.dietrich@gatheringnow.org)** or **314-968-5189**.

## I GIVE TO OTHER CHARITIES. WHY SHOULD I DIRECT MY GIVING TO THE CHURCH?

**As followers of Jesus, God calls us to give first to the Church for the work of the body of Christ.** At The Gathering, we know firsthand that the church changes people -- we regularly hear those stories of transformation. Giving directly to specific causes can help people in need; however, those causes were started by people whose lives were transformed. When you give to The Gathering, you are investing in a new generation of people who will transform our world.

## WHAT IF I AM NEW AROUND HERE?

We hope you'll find the vision for The Gathering something you want to be a part of. **We believe that the local church is one of the most compelling missions to give towards, and we would really love for you to make The Gathering your home and join us in this initiative.** If you are ready for it, this is a perfect time for you to put a stake in the ground and make this your church. **YOU are the future of The Gathering!**

# THE WHOLE FAMILY CAN PRACTICE GENEROSITY.

1

Label three mason jars: **Save, Spend, Give.**

2

Get creative with decorating your jars!

3

With your allowance or spare change, decide on a percentage or amount to put in each jar. Consider setting a personal goal. For example, you may want to give away to others as much as you spend on yourself!

4

When the “Give” jar is full, decide where, or to whom, you will give away the money you’ve collected.



# THANK YOU

**FOR COMING ALONG ON**

**THIS JOURNEY AS, TOGETHER,**

**WE EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR**

**ALL WE'VE BEEN GIVEN AND**

**RISE TO THE EXPECTATIONS**

**FOR OUR FUTURE.**

thegathering

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