

EVERYDAY SAINTS

Stewardship Emphasis



Here are just a few of the ways in which you have shared with us how you have seen God at work here at Good Soil:

"We have headphones available in worship! Now that a new sound system has been installed with hearing assistance capability, I can finally hear the entire service. I like to attend in person worship as much as possible, and I can hear and understand the entire service which is very meaningful to me."

- **Carl Bruns**

"We looked at a lot of places before settling down. I like the art emphasis in the sanctuary, making space that's a little more exciting for worship. Feeling of a future here! Plus, I like the idea that there's people here who haven't been here very long and people who have been here forever and amen—there's a good mix. Feels like we can grow here."

- **Paula Maeder Connor**

"We've focused on the elements in the sanctuary that speaks to why we are there and we're willing to relinquish some of the historical stuff and think about why are we doing what we're doing. I love the playground, the beauty of Easter and Christmas, season of creation. It feel like WOW something's different here! It's fresh, new, and fun. It shows people care and love the church. There's lots of creativity, you can see it and feel the Holy Spirit!"

- **Adam Pate**

"I've enjoyed the welcome we received. It took a long time to find a place to land following my retirement. I served in most of the congregations on the west side, and was not supposed to join one. I'm good at 'denting the rules.' I like being afforded the freedom to do the things I choose, with no pressure to go beyond that--very delightful. It's been surprising and inspiring to see things like the graphics from Adam, interpreting the sermons simultaneously with Pastor Marissa. Wow!"

- **Dave Connor**

"I'm grateful for the presence of the children in worship, the playground, and Sunday school. With a young daughter not quite 2, we are happy to have programs like these. Good Soil is welcoming to families with young kids."

- **Eric Carlson**

"These are interesting discussions [we're having at church when we share our faith stories with one another]. Do people get these kind of conversations anywhere else? Do they get them at work? These are really meaningful things in life, with our spirituality. We're a new church trying to figure out what God wants us to do."

- **Bill Fink**

BUILDING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

What a beautiful community we are part of! God is certainly active here and we look forward to how we can help keep this ministry vibrant in the coming year.

– The Generosity Team at Good Soil

SEEK IN PRAYER GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR GIVING

What do we tend to do when the church asks for our support?

The common tendency is to consult our spouse, our budget, our bills, our income, our tax situation, our investments, our accountant, etc., and *then* determine what we can afford.

Instead, we as Christians are called to discern and **discover what God's will is for us in our giving**. A Christian pledge can really only be made on our knees, seeking God's will in fervent prayer.

Prayer is an integral part of the Christian life. The decision on how much to give should not be made without seeking first in prayer what God would have us do and listening for the voice of God in the prayer conversation.

Giving to the church is not a financial transaction. Instead, giving to the church is a spiritual exercise undertaken only after conversation with God. It is a reflection of our relationship with God and a practice of spiritual well-being. Each of us is on a generosity journey with God and with the help of God.

*Building a Culture of Generosity Materials
Good Soil Lutheran Ministries*