



INSPIRATION VISITS

Today every Easter family will receive an Inspiration Visit on behalf of our **One Easter One Mission Campaign**. We rejoice in the service of the Inspiration Visitors and ask that you receive these 5 minute “front porch” visits in warm fellowship.

Take a look in the bag, you will find your invitation to an all-congregation One Easter One Mission Festival on Sunday, February 25. That day only, we will worship together in a single service as One Easter at the Pilot Knob and Cliff Roads location, enjoy fun activities (indoor and outdoor), share lunch, and receive a short presentation about the Campaign. No commitments will be requested at the event.

Also in the bag, a book of stories authored by members of Easter, sharing their experiences of generosity in their lives, our campaign Bible Verse, our campaign prayer, and some gifts for your household.

We hope you will read the stories, pray the prayer, and contemplate the verse. Then place them in a prominent place in your home and pray daily for Easter Lutheran Church, the campaign, and our dedicated volunteers.

If you are not home for your visit, your campaign information will be left at your front door.

If we miss you, please pick up your gift on Sunday, February 4.

As we prepare for this campaign, each week we will share excerpts of Six Steps to Joyful Giving, written by Dr. Bob Gronlund, which will remind us that generosity is a faith practice. Like prayer, study, and worship, it requires our attention.

STEP 1: RECOGNIZE YOUR NEED TO GIVE

It is a fundamental spiritual and psychological principle that life and its gifts are to be used and shared. Life cannot be hoarded or it turns in upon itself and you lose it.

“Whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” (Matthew 16:25)

We each have a deep inherent need to give. To give is to live!

But unfortunately, instead of focusing on our own need to give, all too often we center on the need of the church to receive. The church does seek our support, but we must remember it is God’s church and it will prosper and flourish in God’s own good time whether we give to it or not. The wonder of it all is what God invites us to be a part of – God’s church, and to experience the joy and blessing of generously supporting and extending its mission.

Just as a coin, Christian giving has two sides. For too long, we centered mostly on the side entitled “The Need of the Church.” We need to begin concentrating on the other side, “My Need to Give,” because giving is an integral part of spiritual life and growth.



“Every time I take a step in the direction of generosity,
I know I am moving from fear to love.” - HENRI NOUWEN