RENEWING OUR PURPOSE

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2025





GROWING VOLUNTEERS AND LEADERS

In 2024, many Grace members shared their talents and time as volunteers for our ministry. We saw new people taking part in Family Promise. Our acolyte team welcomed a 7-year-old and a 67-year-old. On top of that, over 30 members volunteered for Vacation Bible School! Theresa Miller shares her experience of volunteering with VBS:

"Early this year, I was talking with other Grace members about our hopes VBS would come back for 2024. When I found out there was going to be VBS this summer, I said to myself, "Ok, we can't just say 'they' should do VBS; it's time to say Yes! I will help!" When Pr. Rachel asked if I'd run Imagination Station, I said yes right away. At least 4 of us from that original conversation were part of VBS this year, finding where our gifts would be best used. I also invited others to volunteer. Several people had been thinking about it, and with the extra invitation, they said yes, too.

One of the gifts of VBS was getting to spend time with other volunteers. Andrea Weigand was my station partner, and we were a team made to be together! I also enjoyed setting up with Sabrina Blanks, and I even brought my sister to help with setup.

And we had such a good time with the kids! In the moment, it can feel like a lot of fun to me, but then I wonder, "Did the kids have a good time?" During the closing session, I would hear the kids say they saw God in Imagination Station, and I heard that the kids were talking about how much fun they had. It was an affirmation that we were making a difference.

I was so glad to spend time with the kids. My favorite job was a nursery-school teacher, and I have missed working with younger kids. I'm a grandma, but my grandchildren live far away, and I know that's the situation for some of our Grace kids, as well. As a VBS volunteer, I was able to connect with the kids and help them grow. And our connections have continued! A few Sundays ago, Ava Stegall came up to me and shared the story of Solomon she'd just learned in Children's Word Time. Before VBS, she didn't know me well, but now, she knows I care about her and her thoughts.

You never know how what you do will continue to have impact and that's a great part of volunteering. I am still seeing the benefits from VBS for me, the other volunteers, and the kids. Volunteering with Grace ministries helps me, and I feel like I'm helping other people – that's a great feeling! I'm happy that it was a good VBS year, for all of us, and I'm looking forward to what next year brings!"

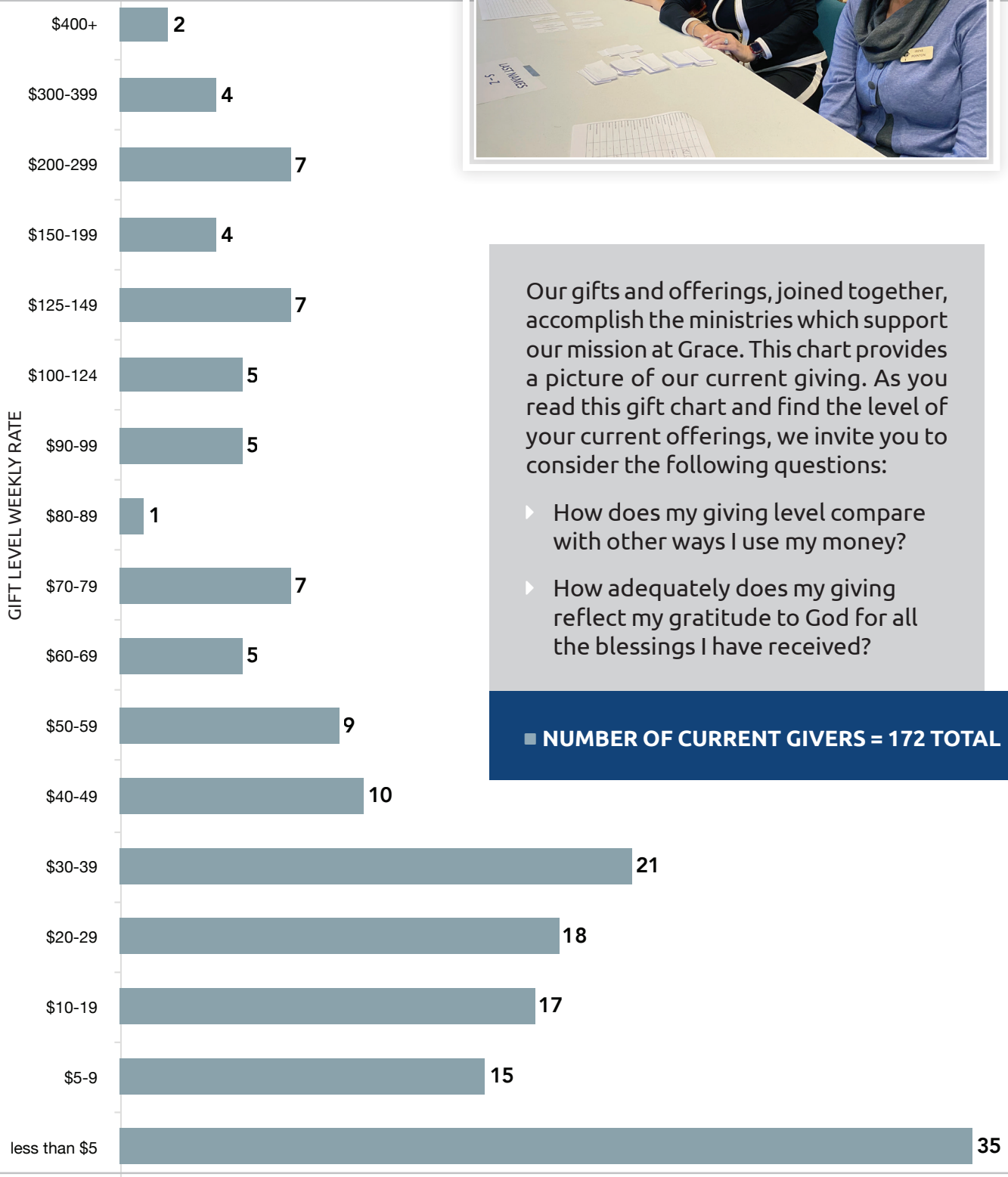
In 2025, we will renew our commitment to new participation, our thanksgiving for the work being done, and our dedication to opening more volunteer opportunities for all ages and abilities. We are Renewing Our Purpose as we grow the number of people serving together, expanding the gift of volunteering and the joy it brings!

To reach our ministry goals in the coming year, we will need to grow our giving by $750 per week. Together, we can meet this need and live into our mission!

RENEWING OUR PURPOSE

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN





Our gifts and offerings, joined together, accomplish the ministries which support our mission at Grace. This chart provides a picture of our current giving. As you read this gift chart and find the level of your current offerings, we invite you to consider the following questions:

- 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 have received?

NUMBER OF CURRENT GIVERS = 172 TOTAL