

CONNECTING

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2022

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONNECTING with Our Campus Ministry

In 1923, Grace was established as the local Lutheran congregation for Winthrop students. Over the last century, Grace has continued that connection in a variety of ways, most recently and visibly through Campus Ministry. This past year, WELCM rejoined Grace as a committee and ministry and adopted a new name – Winthrop Ecumenical Lutheran Campus Ministry. At the recent Winthrop Fall Involvement Fair, our students were asked what the “EL” in WELCM means. Bella F. answered, *“We’re ecumenical, which means we include people from all denominations, and we’re Lutheran, because we believe the church should always be reforming itself, and we want to be part of that conversation.”*

We are blessed to host a ministry full of students who want to explore their faith and how it shapes their lives. These students are engaging in deep discussions around religion, justice, mercy, relationships, and other challenging topics, in order that they might learn and grow together. As Lex H. puts it, *“What drew me to WELCM is that it’s a space where you can bring your religious questions and not necessarily be handed the answers. It’s a space to find answers for yourself.”* Our students are critically thinking about what it means to be disciples of Christ and how they might live out that discipleship in the world.

That discipleship includes being part of the Body of Christ, the community of faith that supports and sustains one another.

The students often comment on the authenticity of their community, where each person is welcomed and celebrated for who they are. C. Franklin shares, *“I can be myself at WELCM and not feel uncomfortable for being different. I’m not put in a box. And our conversations open my mind to other people’s differences.”*

In 2022, we are going to intentionally grow our relationship with and support for Campus Ministry. We are excited about CONNECTING with the students, the staff, and the ministry they are doing in our community. They are a unique, committed, diverse community within our church community, and we have the opportunity to support them, learn from them, and grow with them.

We will be CONNECTING with Our Campus Ministry by:

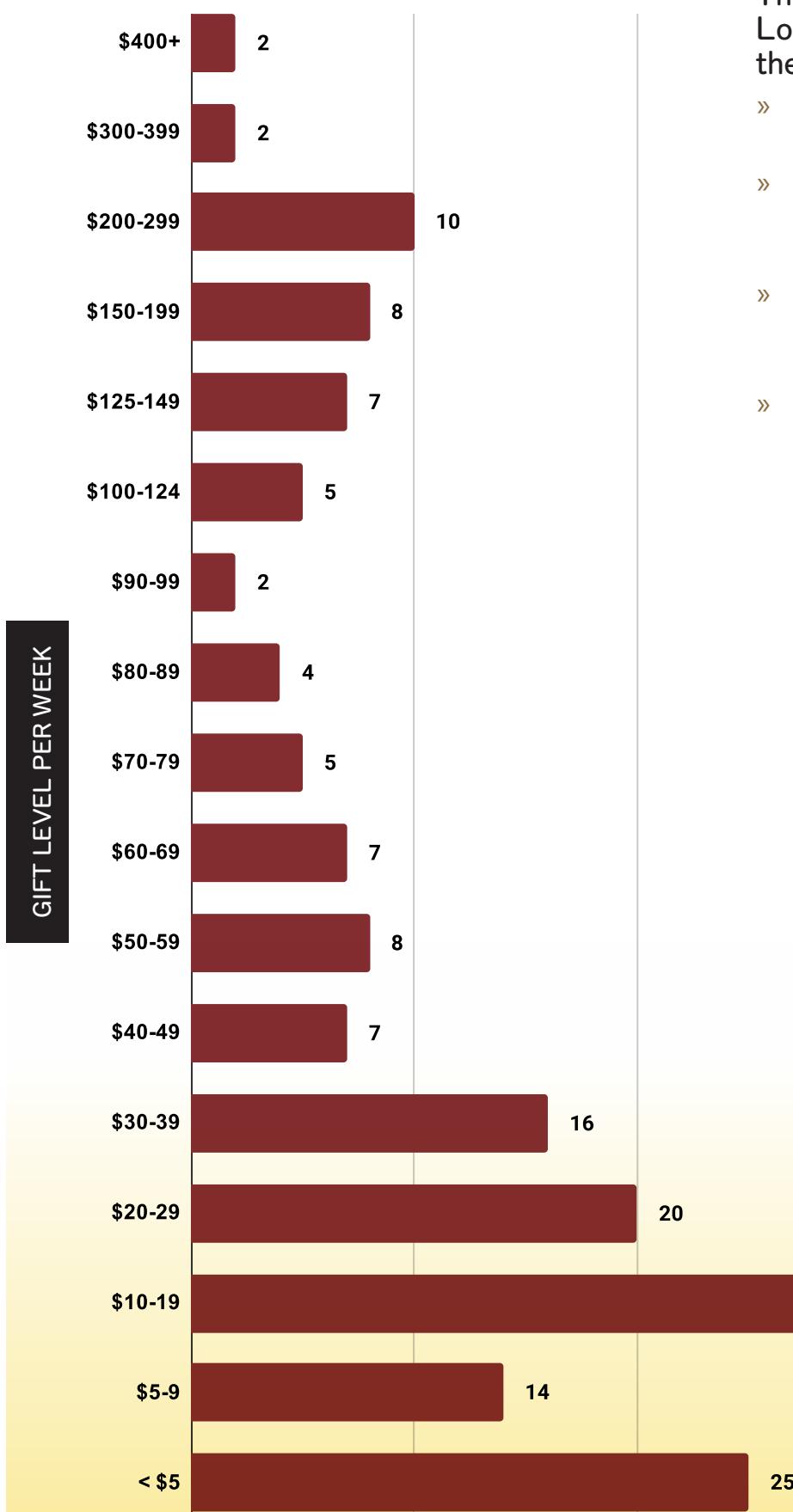
- Providing meals for and fellowshipping with the students
- Inviting them to share their stories and learning from their perspectives and experiences
- Resuming a “Sponsor a Student” program
- Inviting their participation in and input on Grace ministry
- Supporting WELCM financially in our Ministry Spending Plan and in their fundraising efforts.

We invite you to connect with our Campus Ministry by giving faithfully in 2022. Please be in prayer for our stewardship drive, CONNECTING, that a generous response will empower us to support our Campus Ministry community and the faithful relationships God is growing there.



Grace Lutheran Church

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN AND HOPED FOR



This chart points out where we are now. Look over the chart and ask yourself these 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 receive?
- » Where would I be on the chart if I doubled my giving? Can I consider doing that?
- » How much more could I give if I was truly moved to do so?

Current Number of Givers

173 Total