



# Greater.

Reach. Relationships. Impact.

## Questions to prayerfully consider before giving:

- 1 What difference do I want my financial commitment to New Life Church to make in my heart and life? How do I want my pledge to change me and allow me to more meaningfully invest myself in this vision for our city?
- 2 How willing am I to pray for God's guidance in how He might want to work through me in this gospel movement in Kalamazoo? Am I thinking in a way that is easy and effortless or more challenging and requiring more discipline to be selfless in response to this vision?
- 3 What things can I afford, but am intentionally choosing to live without because I am committing to give sacrificially? Can I order my financial priorities to better reflect the order of my loves?
- 4 Am I thinking creatively about a comprehensive giving plan that represents what I am capable of giving? What assets and resources could I use as a gift beyond my income?
- 5 Am I discovering a new joy in giving through this process? As you prayerfully consider your commitment ask yourself: How is it demonstrating an expression of faith?

# Opportunities for Giving:

Every person can meaningfully invest in what God is doing through this movement. While there is no formula for what one might give, below are opportunities and strategies for giving to consider.

## Income and Giving

### Income-Stream Giving

Giving as you receive income – from your regular income, bonuses, and/or through your personal business.

### Sacrifice

Changing your lifestyle/priorities can create additional resources for giving.

### Delaying Expenditures

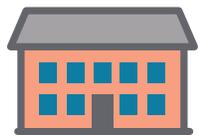
Postponing anticipated purchases can free resources for giving.

### Freedom from Debt

After a debt is retired, the resources that were applied to that debt are now available for giving.

## Giving Assets

If an investment – like stocks, real estate, and other assets – has increased in value since its purchase and has been held for more than one year, then there may be tax advantages to transferring ownership of that asset to the church as a charitable donation. Giving the appreciated asset may eliminate potential capital gains taxes for the donor while still allowing the donor to receive the contribution credit for the current market value of the asset. Because of its tax-exempt status, New Life Church can sell the asset and receive full market value less transaction costs.



The average fair-market value of a home in the Kalamazoo area is \$200,000



The average American family spends \$2913 per year (or \$5826 across two years) on entertainment.



The average American spends \$1145 per person (\$4580 for a family of four) per year (or \$2290/\$9160 across two years) on vacations.



The average American family spends \$3008 per year (or \$6016 across two years) on eating out.



A person who purchases one beverage each weekday will spend approximately \$1040 per year (or \$2080 across two years) at Starbucks.

# Discovering Your Potential for Giving

*This worksheet can help you evaluate what you have available to give.*

## Income and Sacrifice

Estimate your projected income and spending patterns for the next three years, and determine how much could be given and when, once you discern how you could alter your lifestyle.

POSSIBILITIES	AMOUNT
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

## Giving Assets

What accumulated assets in your life could be transferred to the **Greater Campaign**? What assets could be sold so that their value could be permanently invested in this vision?

POSSIBILITIES	AMOUNT
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

# The Giving Ladder

I am/We are stepping up to:  
CHECK ONE



**What does God want me to keep from God's resources?**  
Generous givers live out their belief that God owns everything. They keep only what they need while investing the rest in His Kingdom.

**What does God want me to give from God's resources?**  
Tithers believe God owns everything. They live off 90% and invest 10% in His Kingdom.

**What does God say to do with God's money?**  
Consistent givers have an understanding that God owns everything. They give consistently, but they haven't yet reached 10%.

**What do I do with God's money?**  
Occasional givers are beginning to understand the concept of biblical stewardship. They haven't yet developed a regular pattern of giving and don't yet give a certain percentage, but they give.

**What do I do with my money?**  
First time givers are moving in practice from owners to stewards. They have taken the first step of faith and invested something financially in God's Church and His Kingdom.

I/We are fully supportive of the vision of New Life Church and want to make the following commitment.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ My/Our *Current* Annual Giving To The Church

+ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ My/Our *Expanded* Giving For **Greater**

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Our New Annual Giving Amount

x 2 Years: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

+ My/Our Gift From Stored Assets: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Savings, Stocks, Bonds, Securities, Personal Property, Appreciated Real Estate, Paid-Up Insurance Policies, Charitable Trusts

= **My/Our Total 2-Year Commitment:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions to our **Greater** Initiative will begin on Commitment Sunday, November 13, 2022 and continue through November 2024. *Your commitment does not include contributions to special offerings or projects that may occur within the next 3 years.*