

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together

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"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."

1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19

#### 1. Just what is the purpose of this campaign and what are its goals?

The primary goal is for us to experience spiritual renewal and growth as we work together to raise an awareness of how the scriptures address our own personal stewardship of life. Working in partnership with Abundant Congregations, our campaign consultant, we have studied our membership and financial statistics, including our recent history of giving, to determine Lamb of God's ability and willingness to support a three-year Freedom for Mission campaign to reduce the congregation's indebtedness. We have determined that a potential exists for giving in the range of \$2-3 million and beyond over the next three years. By reducing our indebtedness Lamb of God will be freeing up funds for the support of our future ministry and mission.

#### 2. Why do we need a campaign now?

Every dollar pledged to this campaign will enable us to further our mission in the community of Flower Mound and beyond. The rationale for the campaign is outlined in the booklet you may have received in the mail or is available from the church office and will be presented by the leaders at the Mission Rallies.

#### 3. Will people step up for this campaign the way they have done before?

The research indicates the congregation has the capacity to raise up to \$3 million through **Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together**. What people choose to give is, of course, strictly a matter between themselves and God. However, several factors point toward such a positive capacity. First, people overall believe in the congregation's leaders and in the overall direction it is taking in its ministry. The spiritual growth of our members as well as our growth in numbers indicates clearly the effectiveness of Lamb of God's ministry. That is a significant indicator of support for this "Mission Freedom" campaign we are undertaking. Lamb of God is a growing, thriving congregation. Clearly, we need to reduce our debt in order to allow our congregation to continue its growth. To keep moving forward, we need to trust in God's Abundance and Grace as we take these next steps to expand our mission!

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*Loving, Outreaching and Growing, Together in Christ*

#### LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

1401 Cross Timbers Road | Flower Mound TX 75028  
(972) 539-5200 [log.org/freedom](http://log.org/freedom) [freedom@log.org](mailto:freedom@log.org)

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#### 4. How can I decide what to give?

Members and friends of the congregation will need to decide for themselves, but here are some financial stewardship ideas to consider:

- Spend time in prayer, giving thanks for your many blessings and asking God about how to respond to this campaign.
- Consider giving in proportion to your ability, as the church and scriptures speak about.
- Come to a Mission Rally. Listen to the presentation. Consider the challenge to lift your sights, and if you choose, discuss your decision and response with a significant person in your life.
- Make your commitment, giving thanks to God for your ability to respond according to God's will and grace.

#### 5. How will I be contacted about my commitment?

During Abundance Sunday Worship everyone will be given the materials necessary to complete their three-year pledge response. If you are not ready to make your response that day or cannot attend, please send your pledge to the church office. Campaign leaders will reach out to members who do not submit a response.

#### 6. How is my *Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together* 3-year pledge/gift different from my regular giving to the congregation?

This *Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together* gift is a completely new gift and will be **above and beyond your current giving** for the ministry and support of Lamb of God. Its objective is to raise the necessary financial support for reducing the congregation's indebtedness in order to create enhanced funds for mission. The giving period for "Freedom to ACT" over three years begins following our Abundance Sunday Worship.

The **current annual** giving you provide gives support to the ongoing outreach ministry programs of our congregation, staff salaries, benevolence to support the wider ministry in our community, building maintenance, utilities and other ministries during 2020.

#### 7. What if my financial situation changes or I move out of the area before the end of the three-year response?

We live daily by the Grace of our loving God. If your circumstances change, your giving may be increased, decreased, extended or canceled by notifying Lamb of God's Office Administrator. If you should move from the area and become involved with another Lutheran congregation you should offer that church your support. Lamb of God would be honored if you would then decide to continue your support of *Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together* but you are under no obligation to do so.

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#### 8. Will there be an opportunity to contribute memorials and honorariums?

Yes. The Leadership Team would be happy to work with you to establish a memorial or honorary contribution you feel is appropriate.

#### 9. May gifts other than cash be pledged?

Yes, there are strategies for immediate gifts, or long-term planned or deferred gifts. Some of these include gifts of appreciated stocks or real estate, life insurance policies, will bequests, annuities or charitable trusts. Information on how to you may carry out these options will be made available to you upon request and will be discussed during the Mission Rallies. Should you wish to know more about these options in advance, kindly contact a **Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together** leader at [freedom@log.org](mailto:freedom@log.org)

#### 10. What should I do to prepare for my decision?

Read carefully all the materials for the campaign so you may be informed. Communication will be a regular practice between now and Abundance Sunday Worship. Participate in one of the Mission Rallies, join us in prayer at the Prayer Vigil and celebrate with us at Abundance Sunday Worship. Pray regularly for wisdom and courage to be loving and generous. Trust and have faith in God's many promises and gifts to us for our lives as Christ's followers.

#### 11. Once I make my commitment at Abundance Sunday Worship or the days following, will I receive envelopes to use for my giving?

Yes, you will receive separate envelopes for **Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together**. You may also set up your giving online at [log.org](http://log.org)

#### 12. I've heard that giving to Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together will allow us to expand our ministries. What will my giving to this campaign really enable Lamb of God to do?

**This is a pivotal time in Lamb of God's history.** We are very blessed as a congregation and it would be easy for us to just get comfortable as a community of faith. We have a wonderful staff and volunteer leaders, a beautiful sanctuary, fellowship spaces, and educational areas. We know Lamb of God has been *"Blessed to be a Blessing."*

We will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the year 2020. And as much as we've been blessed during the past 50 years, we firmly believe that God will continue to bless our ministry to this community in the future to which God is calling us! **Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together** is about Mission Freedom that will allow us to be in ministry to God's people without the burden of debt. We invite you to consider giving generously for the future mission at LOG!

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*Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together* will allow Lamb of God to step "**Forward in Freedom**" with a goal of reducing or eliminating our congregational debt of nearly \$3 million (\$155,112 per year/\$12,926 per month). This will free up the needed funds for current and future mission and ministry, particularly:

1. "**Freedom to Support and Grow Talented Staff and Appealing Ministry Programs**" enabling us to support growth in Pastoral Care Ministry, Outreach to the Community, Ministry with Families, Children and Youth, and enhanced Senior Adult Ministry, to name a few.
2. "**Freedom to Serve our Neighbor and Invite Others to Know Christ**" by fostering relationships, becoming equipped as disciples through expanded small group ministries, helping to plant a new mission congregation, and reaching out to serve those needing to experience the love of Christ.
3. "**Freedom to Use Our Beautiful Facilities**" for worship, teaching, serving, welcoming and inviting others to join us in Advancing Christ Together and reaching out to serve our community.

#### **13. What about getting more people involved in the work of the congregation? Won't the same people be depended upon for supporting an appeal like this?**

Lamb of God receives a broad base of financial support across the congregation. In an age when most congregations are not growing, Lamb of God not only enjoys significant support, but it also attracts significant numbers of young families and new members. This sign bodes exceptionally well for Lamb of God's future as a mission-oriented place.

#### **14. Is Lamb of God getting to be too big? Is there a danger we will become too "out of touch" with each other because of our size?**

We have a happy predicament. Because of the quality of Lamb of God's ministry programs, new people regularly decide to join the church and attend our preschool. For many leaders, a decision not to grow could lead to becoming stagnant. But in order to grow, careful planning is important to keeping the quality of faith life in our community rich and alive. Small group ministry, inspirational worship and growing deeper in our walk with Christ will be key elements in that strategy. And Lamb of God certainly has the resources potentially to do even more beyond its walls than it currently does, by God's Grace, **Freedom to ACT - Advancing Christ Together**.

"One generation shall commend Your works to another and shall declare Your Mighty Acts"

PSALM 145:4

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