

Welcome ~ Thank you for joining us!

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa | Pastor Stephanie Wood

October 25, 2026 † 8:30am

*Please stand as you are able **Congregational response in bold**

Large Print

Prelude Music

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Martin Luther, Setting by Jacob Weber

Announcements

Gathering

The promise of changing seasons, the sun rising and the air we breathe.

God's creation. **This is grace in action.**

We are blessed. **To be known by God.**

We are blessed. **To know God's grace.**

We are blessed to be a blessing. **We are Grace in action.**

Confession & Forgiveness*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.** Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn*

As Saints of Old..... ELW (back of Red Book) **695**

- 1 As saints of old their firstfruits brought
 of orchard, flock, and field
 to God, the giver of all good,
 the source of bounteous yield;
 so we today firstfruits would bring,
 the wealth of this good land,
 of farm and market, shop and home,
 of mind and heart and hand.

- 2 A world in need now summons us
 to labor, love, and give;
 to make our life an offering
 to God, that all may live.
 The church of Christ is calling us
 to make the dream come true:
 a world redeemed by Christ-like love;
 all life in Christ made new.

- 3 In gratitude and humble trust
 we bring our best today
 to serve your cause and share your love
 with all along life's way.
 O God, who gave yourself to us
 in Jesus Christ your Son,
 teach us to give ourselves each day
 until life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christerson, 1900-1996, alt.; Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Greeting*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

(from *Now the Feast & Celebration*)..... setting by Marty Haugen

Leader



In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have



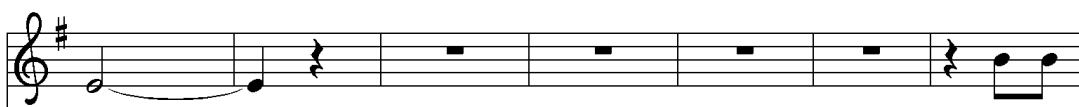
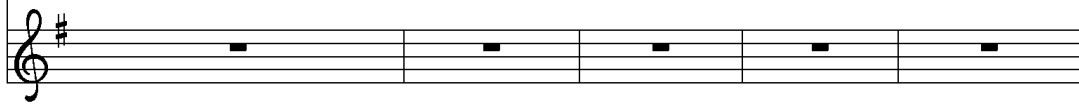
For the reign of God, and for



mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the



Lord.



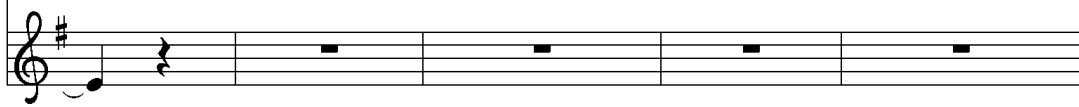
For your



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your



word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have
 Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.
 mer - cy. A - men.

Hymn of Praise*

Glory to God..... written and setting by Marty Haugen

Refrain (may be sung continuously)

Congregation:

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

to Verses

Verse 1

(Refrain begins)

1. You are God: we praise you. You are Lord;
 we ac - claim you. You are God e - ter - nal;
 all cre - a - tion wor - ships you.

to Refrain

Verse 2

(Refrain begins)

2. All the an - gels in the heav - ens chant your



Verse 3

(Refrain begins)



Verse 4

(Refrain begins)



Prayer of the Day*

Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, **we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,**

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message

Scripture Reading | Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

though its waters rage and foam, and
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the
city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not
be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what
desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
**who breaks the bow, and shatters the
spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted
among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Gospel Acclamation*

Blessed Assurance..... ELW (back of red book) **638**

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Holy Gospel* | John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will

make you free.” They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So, if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Blessing*

Blessed Assurance..... ELW (back of red book) **638**

Refrain This is my story, this is my song,
 praising my Savior, all the day long:
 this is my story, this is my song,
 praising my Savior all the day long.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day*

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil ELW (back of Red Book) **512**

Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Handt Hanson, b. 1950; Text © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin.
Augsburg Fortress.

Apostles' Creed

Let us proclaim our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People*

Response: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord's Prayer*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sharing of the Peace* *(Please be seated after sharing the peace.)*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Call to Offering *(The offering plates will be passed along the pews)*

As we enjoy the blessings of our generous God, we are reminded to acknowledge our roles as stewards and our duties as recipients of God's wonderful and perfect gifts. Let us give abundantly, generously, and joyfully to the healing mission of God's church.

Offering Hymn

We Give Thee but Thine Own (v.1-2)..... ELW (back of Red Book) 686

- 1 We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
- 2 May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of creation, **you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

Anointing with Oil for Healing and Wholeness

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Loving God...

Your Son Jesus brought healing and wholeness to all. Bring your healing presence now to all who are sick or in pain. Grant hope to all who are discouraged or in despair.

Siblings in Christ, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

*(You are invited to come forward to receive a blessing and anointing.
As you come forward you may kneel or stand in the front pew.
After you have been blessed and anointed, you may return to your seat.)*

Compassionate God... **the strength of those who suffer, bring hope and peace to all who are in mental, physical, or spiritual distress.**

All-knowing God... **source of human knowledge, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all who provide medical care.**

Loving God... **our creator and redeemer, give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers of those who suffer.**

God of great and abundant mercy... **with your presence sustain all for whom we pray. Drive away their suffering, give them firm hope, and strengthen their trust in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Blessing*

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.** The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.** The God of grace † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn*

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ELW (back of Red Book) **504**

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
 a sword and shield victorious;
 he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
 and wins salvation glorious.
 The old satanic foe
 has sworn to work us woe!
 With craft and dreadful might
 he arms himself to fight.
 On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might!
 We would be lost, rejected.
 But now a champion comes to fight,
 whom God himself elected.
 You ask who this may be?
 The Lord of hosts is he!
 Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,

God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
 all threat'ning to devour us,
 we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
 they cannot overpow'r us.
 Let this world's tyrant rage;
 in battle we'll engage!
 His might is doomed to fail;
 God's judgment must prevail!
 One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,
 no thanks to foes, who fear it;
 for God himself fights by our side
 with weapons of the Spirit.
 Were they to take our house,
 goods, honor, child, or spouse,
 though life be wrenched away,
 they cannot win the day.
 The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Sending*

Go out in joy. Blessed to be a blessing!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Martin Luther, Setting by Jacob Weber



Coming Up at Grace

Scan to view the current Weekly Update Email

Alzheimer's and Dementia Series

Today Between Services

Join Megan Olsen, from the Alzheimer's Association®, between services as she shares information about the following topics: **October 25** Alzheimer's Behaviors and Communication, Caregiver Stress;

Junior Bible Study

Today Between Services

This fall, JBS is during worship for the first three Sundays of the month, and the fourth Sunday will be between worship services. This year we are using *Wonder on the Go* inviting children to wonder about the characters in Bible Stories and what we can learn about God.

Bonfire Church

Wednesday, October 28 | 6-8pm

Devils Glen Park (1101 Devils Glen Rd, Bettendorf)

Grace members in their second quarter of life (20s, 30s, 40s) are invited to join other members from local Quad Cities ELCA churches for a bonfire. We will have snacks and great conversation. Feel free to bring a friend! Pastor Stephanie can answer any questions.

Names for All Saints

by Noon Thursday, October 29

On All Saints Sunday we remember our loved ones who have died, and on All Saints Sunday, November 1, we will read names of our beloved saints who have completed their baptismal journey. If you have names of loved ones you would like to have remembered, please email or call the church office no later than Noon on Thursday, October 29 (be sure to include pronunciations if necessary).

Luther Properties Harvest Gatherings

A Grace Special Projects Grant will sponsor Harvest Gathering events for Luther Properties Residents, offering Grace and its members an outreach opportunity. The three events will offer refreshments, live music, and door prizes. Volunteers are welcome! Contact Vicki Liebe, Grace's Luther Properties Board representative with any questions or sign up in the narthex, and to join in this outreach opportunity. Watch for more info in the November newsletter. **Thursday, November 12, 1pm - Luther Manor; Friday, November 13, 1pm - Luther Towers; Tuesday, November 17, 1pm - Luther Crest**



Trunk or Treat

Saturday, October 31 | 5pm Set Up

Join us for the 20th annual Trunk or Treat at Grace! We gather at 5pm to decorate our trunks. Candy & treats will be handed out until they are all gone (plan for 200+). If you plan to attend, please let Hollie Swain know at 563-514-4022 or 563-650-3213 or email k75hollie@gmail.com. Contact Hollie if you are unsure about the weather.

Hope at the Brick House

Dinner Service Friday, October 30

5:15pm arrive | 5:30pm Serve | 6:30pm Clean Up; We are providing breakfast for dinner! We usually serve 20-30 adults and children. Sign-up in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Jewel at 563-323-0322 or kcjewel21@gmail.com.

IFF Birthday Bash!

Sunday, November 1 | 3-5pm

Everyone is invited to a Birthday Bash at the **Village Cooperative** (4700 Village Dr, Davenport). Bring a simple appetizer or munchie of your choice, and a wrapped birthday present with a value of no more than five dollars. Come join in the fun and have your cake and eat it too! Don't worry! No one has to share their age. RSVP to Kathy Shriver at 563- 650-1952. If you text, please include your name. See you there!

Playground Meet Up

Saturday, October 31 | 9-11am

Tentative Location: Garfield Park Join other families with little ones for some group play at the playground. Watch for more details.

Short Stories by Jesus

11am Thursdays

This fall we will dive into Jesus' short stories, his parables, by looking at the cultural context they were rooted in and how the original Jewish audience understood them. This study will follow along with Amy-Jill Levine's book *Short Stories by Jesus*, (book not required). She will be our resident expert as a scholar in New Testament and Jewish Studies. Contact Pastor Stephanie with any questions.



Ongoing Ministries

See the next **ongoing ministry meeting dates and times in the "Looking Ahead" section below and grab an ongoing ministry pew card. Feel free to get in touch with the group contacts with any questions. (You can also scan this QR Code for the October newsletter.)*

Looking Ahead

**Men's Lunch Wednesdays at Noon*

**Centering Prayer Mondays at 4:30pm*

October 25 Alzheimer's & Dementia Talk

October 28 Bonfire Church

October 29 Short Stories Bible Study

October 30 Hope at the Brickhouse Dinner

October 31 Playground Meetup

October 31 Trunk or Treat

November 1 All Saints Sunday

November 1 Alzheimer's & Dementia Talk

November 1 Green Bag/Food Pantry Sunday

November 1 IFF Birthday Bash!

November 3 General Election Polling Location
November 4 *Grief Support Group 5:30pm
November 8 Coffee with Council
November 10 & 11 *Quilters
November 14 *Page Turners (*note date change*)
November 15 Be a Blessing Sunday
November 17 *Naomi Circle 9:00am
November 18 *Grief Support Group 5:30pm
November 22 Give Thanks Worship & Brunch
November 24-30 Pr. Stephanie vacation

Calendar

Sunday, October 25

8:30am Worship & Livestream
 9:30am Coffee Hour
 9:40am Alzheimer's/Dementia Talk
 10:30am Contemporary Worship

Monday, October 26

10:30am Staff Meeting
 4:30pm Centering Prayer - Zoom
 7:00pm Council Meeting - PBH

Tuesday, October 27

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH

Wednesday, October 28

12:00pm Men's Lunch Group
 6:00pm Bonfire Church

Thursday, October 29

11:00am Short Stories Bible Study - PBH

Friday, October 30

5:15pm Hope at the Brickhouse

Saturday, October 31

9:00am Playground Meetup
 5:00pm Set up for Trunk or Treat

Sunday, November 1

All Saint's Sunday
 Food Pantry & Green Bag Sunday
 8:00am Choir Rehearsal
 8:30am Worship & Livestream
 9:30am Coffee Hour
 10:30am Contemporary Worship
 11:30am Confirmation Class @ Zion

Monday, November 2

10:30am Staff Meeting
 4:30pm Centering Prayer - Zoom

Tuesday, November 3

Election Day Polling Location
 10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
 1:30pm Personnel Meeting - PBH
 5:00pm Property Meeting - Narthex
 6:00pm CYF Meeting - PBH

Interested in Joining Grace?

Please contact the office for information about joining Grace. All are welcome and we would be overjoyed to have you engaged in the worship, ministries, and congregational life here at Grace.

Meal Train Opportunity

We are offering a "Meal Train" for members who are having surgery (or other medical procedures) that may like some meals while they are recovering at home. **Would you be interested in being invited to provide meals for future Meal Trains?** If yes, please call or email the office or sign up on the list in the narthex. **Note:** Saying YES does not mean you are committing to provide a meal. It just means you are open to being invited when the need arises.

Do You Receive the Weekly Update Email?

Every Thursday we email out the Weekly Update with current announcements, links, birthdays, anniversaries, Synod/ELCA updates, and more. If you'd like to be added to our email list, please contact Annie in the church office.

Serving in Worship

Preaching & Presiding	Pastor Stephanie Wood
Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Assisting Minister	Carol Keller
Healing Assistants	Carol Keller, Ruth McAndrews, Chuck Lehman, Deb Gustafson
Acolyte & Crucifer	Matt Levsen
Greeters	Kathy Higgins, Jackie Cain
Ushers	Scott Jewel, Rod Levsen Jr
Jr Bible Study (between services)	Lori Haugen, Caroline Haugen
Sound System	Russ Finkler
Livestream Tech	Dan Carney
Prayers	Sundays & Seasons
Altar Guild	Jackie Cain
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	Kathi Parrish
Coffee Hour	Ruth McAndrews, Sue Janssen

Please complete an attendance card located in the pews or at the usher's table.



Online Giving

Supporting Grace is easy with e-giving. Go to bit.ly/GraceGivingOnline or scan this QR Code to donate one time or to set up recurring gifts. Your offerings support and nurture ministries at Grace along with support for local and global organizations. We appreciate and thank you for your generosity!

Grace Lutheran Church

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YouTube: Grace Lutheran Davenport

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou

Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, adapt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen; Text & Music: © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S Mason Ave, Chicago, IL 60638. All rights reserved. Used by permission

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Deepen Relationships



I will bless you... and you will be a blessing to others. Genesis 12:2-3

Sacred moments. Visiting a member, your friend, in the hospital. Talking over coffee, a meal or a bonfire. Chatting while quilting or discussing scripture. It may not always seem like it, but these are sacred moments of connection.

These opportunities to connect and support one another is important to Grace. It is one of the ways we experience the body of Christ, God in our midst.

Together we dreamed about creating more opportunities to gather. We would like to meet with those in our stage of life, whether that be at a bonfire or day trips for retirees. We will develop a network of helpers who can support a fellow member when they are recovering or in a tough spot. With your support we will continue to learn together at Bible study and from special guest speakers.



"I felt seen."

"It felt so good to learn something new about someone I've known for years."



~ Listening Campaign Participants

The goal of the **Be A Blessing Stewardship Appeal 2027** is to increase our gifts and offerings by \$15,000 or \$500 a week. Pray for a generous response to this 2027 Stewardship Appeal. Consider increasing your giving as the Spirit leads you. Be ready to share your commitment on **Stewardship Sunday, November 15**. Together we will be able to expand and sustain the ways we connect as community.



Range of Gifts Given and Hoped For

This graph displays two charts of our giving. The first shows how many gifts are currently being given at the indicated weekly amounts to the General Fund. The other shows how many gifts are needed in each level to reach our goal.

As you look over the charts, prayerfully ask yourself the following:



How does my giving level compare with other ways I use my money?



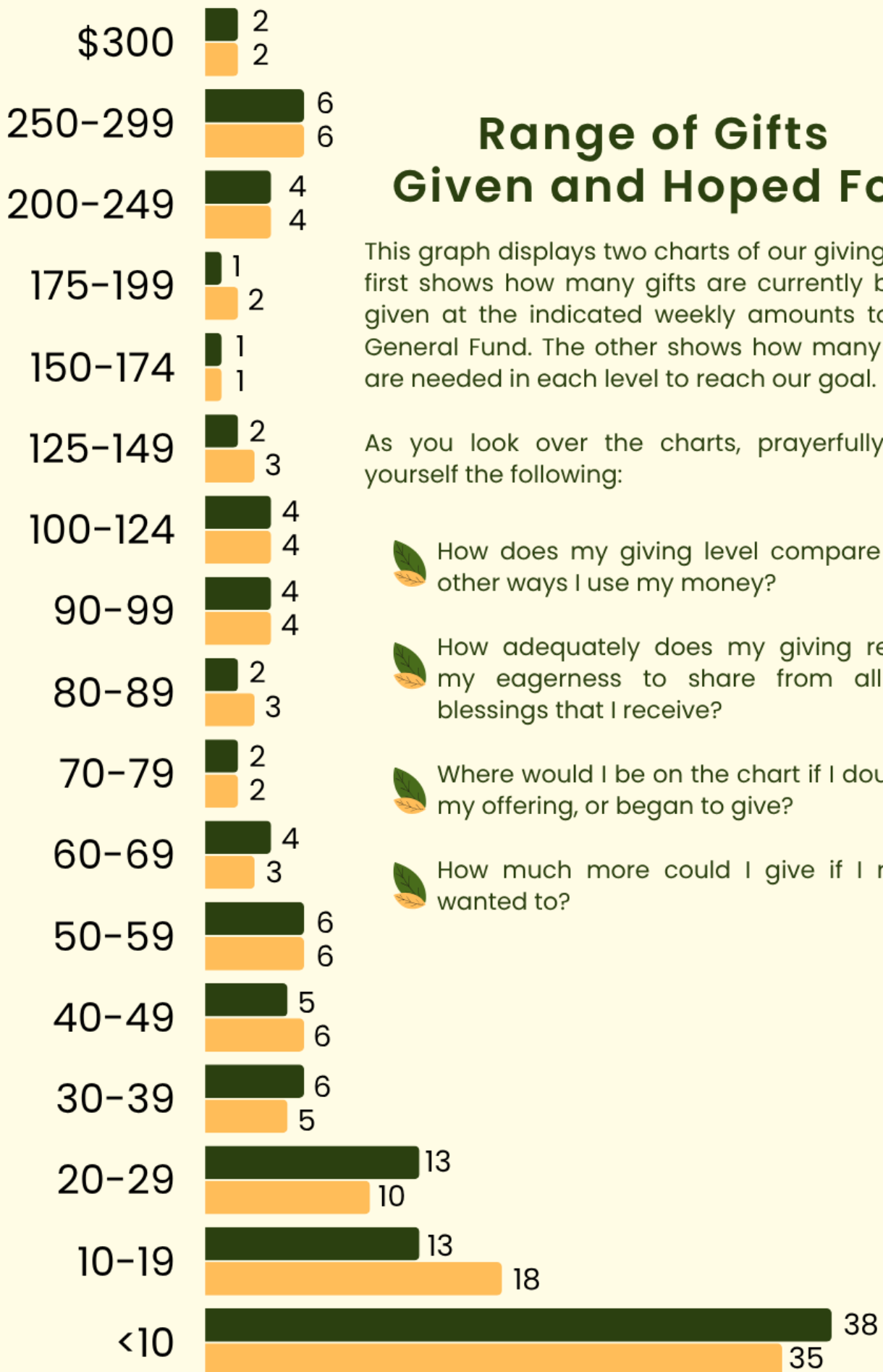
How adequately does my giving reflect my eagerness to share from all the blessings that I receive?



Where would I be on the chart if I doubled my offering, or began to give?



How much more could I give if I really wanted to?



NUMBER OF CURRENT GIVERS = 113

NUMBER OF HOPED-FOR GIVERS = 114