

Roundtable Stretching Our Ministry Dollars Conversations

- 1. What are some ways that you have found to stretch your dollars at home (e.g. 2 for 1 deals, loyalty/rewards programs, matching programs, etc.)?**
 - Rewards Programs/Loyalty Programs
 - Shop Value Village/Goodwill.
 - Only spend what's in your wallet/envelope
 - Don't buy if you don't need or use
 - Credit card – pays points or frequent flyer miles
 - Coupons
 - Buy Used/Don't Buy
 - Fred Meyer gas miles
 - Amazon Smile (x2), Gift Cards, give gas points, prescription points
 - Not eating out
 - Public transportation
 - Discount produce at Fred Meyer
 - Buy on get one
 - Companion fare w/Alaska
 - Employer gift matching (x2)
 - Rebates from credit cards.
 - Buy in bulk/close-outs
 - Costco Trips/Vacations

- 2. How has this impacted specific areas of your household expenditures?**
 - Need vs. want for kids. Friends w/different lifestyles
 - Frugal now helps to cut back in other areas

- 3. How have these techniques impacted other areas of your life?**
 - Appreciate what we have
 - Only spend what's in your wallet – frugality
 - Less time w/family. Hinders social calendar. Less vacations
 - Shopping sales

- 4. How does utilizing these techniques impact your generosity or ability to give?**
 - Not at all – church comes first
 - Pay church first -so the frugality comes second
 - We can tithe.
 - Some members in better financial position
 - Prioritizing money to the church rather than vacations or new cars.
 - Savings to share with others
 - Plant veggies – extra for food bank
 - Matching makes it easier to be more generous

5. How might these techniques help benefit the Ministry & Mission of Mountain View Lutheran Church?

- Giving could increase if people paid church first.
- Having the knowledge helps – education helps
- Giving could increase if more people paid the church first
- Educate congregation on financial issues (i.e. credit card fees.) – envelopes
- Church use gift cards or certain credit cards
- Set it up and forget it (simply giving/bank bill pay – Amazon Smile, etc.)
- Thrivent Choice – based on what you have with Thrivent
- Thrivent Action Team cards – could use for community items.

6. What do you see as areas of ministry opportunity for Mountain View Lutheran Church in the next 5 years?

- Sponsoring a family in Palestine
- God's Work Our Hands – This came up at Property Committee today as well – wanting to send teams out to the community to do work on people's homes (e.g. yard work, one-time small repairs, etc.)
- Foster family
- Constant Education (x2)