

JOY TO THE WORLD 2023

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SPACE

The hymn “Joy to the World” was not originally written as a Christmas song. It wasn’t even a song at all. It was a poem written by Isaac Watts. Joy to the World is based on Psalm 98. Watts adapted the poem to focus on the work of Jesus Christ, whom he considered the King of the Church and the World. The *first verse* of the poem calls us to “**Let Heaven and Nature Sing.**” As we celebrate 50 years of ministry here in Parker, we also recognize our thankfulness to Jesus, who is still the King of our Church and our World. Thank you for making Joy Lutheran a place of generosity, love, and grace. Each year we ask you to consider your gift to support the work we do together in this place. This year our goal is to increase our giving by \$30,000 or more to support the following ministry:

LET HEAVEN AND NATURE SING OUTDOOR WORSHIP SPACE

\$10,000

- ❖ Build an outdoor worship space to enhance worship experiences in the presence of the God of All Creation and to celebrate the beauty in which we live.

Each year many members of our congregation have the opportunity to worship at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. There is something



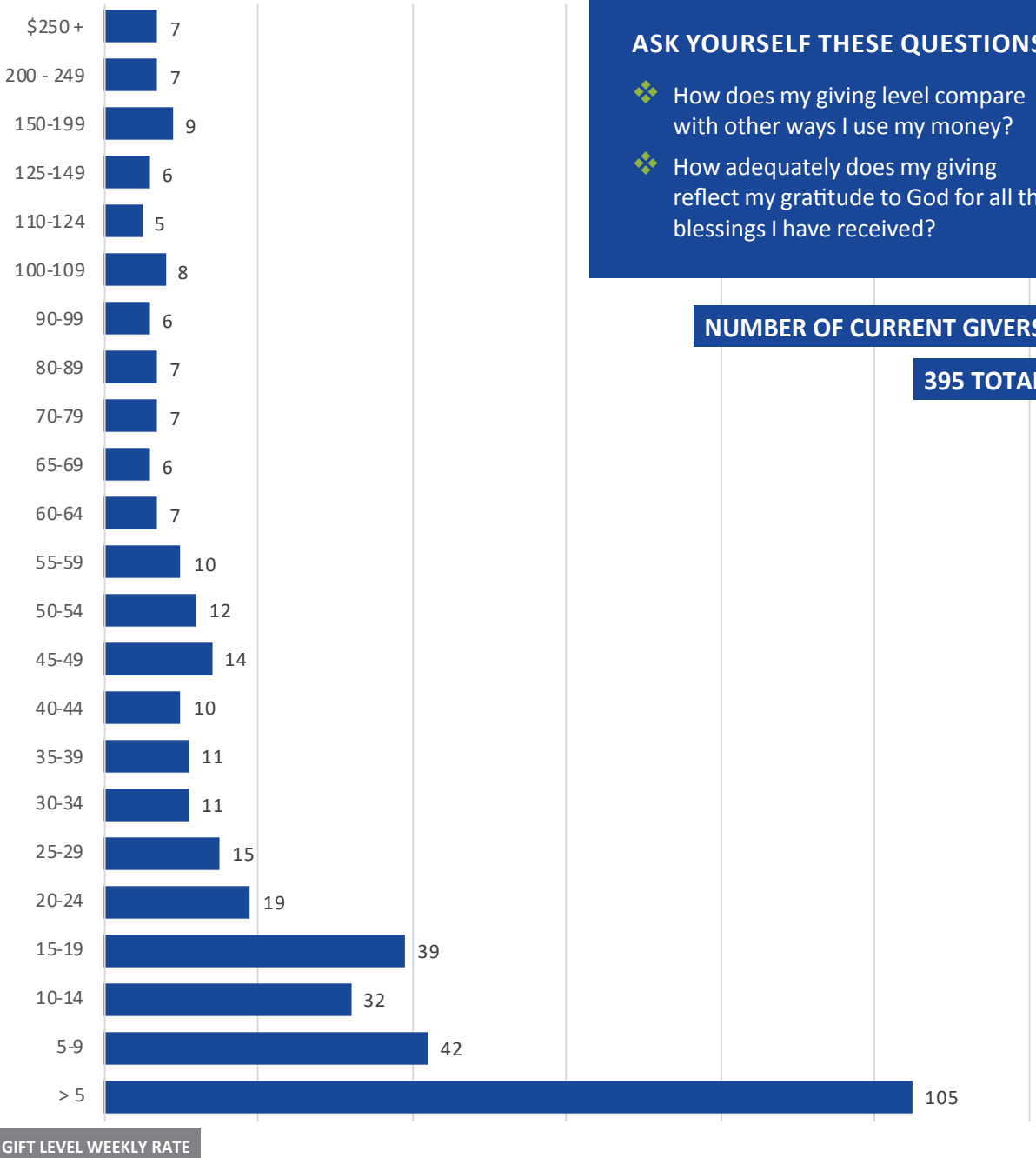
powerful and holy about receiving the grace of our God within the context of God’s amazing creation. Two years ago, the Men of Joy began discussing the possibility of creating an outdoor worship space on our property. This would be a significant opportunity for worship experiences, youth events, and possibly even weddings. It would also be a good use of our property. We could extend our space without engaging in a major building project on our current facility. This is an opportunity for us to “**Let Heaven and Nature Sing.**”

We ask you to pray for our church. Pray for a generous response to this appeal. Pray about your own response. Consider increasing your generosity as the Lord leads you. Be ready to make your commitment known on **Joy to the World Weekend**, November 5-6. In our generosity we will be returning to our God what already belongs to God and, through our gifts, we can enhance our ministry with an outdoor worship space.

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN

This bar graph displays our giving. One bar shows the number of gifts that are currently being given at the indicated weekly amounts. The other bar shows the number of gifts that are needed in each level to reach our goal.



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 have received?