



Geneva Presbyterian Church

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November 11, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of Geneva Presbyterian Church,

I said in a recent sermon that I love to talk about stewardship: of time, talent, and treasure. Especially in this moment I'll say that I'm not shy in talking about our financial giving at Geneva Presbyterian Church, because it's an opportunity to celebrate your generosity, recognize God's ministry in and through our church family, and look together toward what the Holy Spirit has in store for us ahead.

This past year we have continued to grow and adapt our ministries to meet the challenges and opportunities of our day. I am especially grateful for the ways we have incorporated technology to offer live worship streaming online. I hear repeatedly what a blessing this is for our church family and how it has increased access to this vital aspect of our Christian faith -- praising God together!

Our Christian faith is also expressed in our robust mission ministries, our education opportunities such as Wednesday Bible Study and book studies, and our "community of caring" ministries led by the Deacons and Fellowship Committee. Each of these ministry areas have continued to shine forth the love of Christ while meeting the needs of this time.

In this "new day," we have become what I describe as a "blended community": faithful disciples who gather both in person and online, both equally important and both equally participating in our ministry together. How incredible is that? Geneva Presbyterian is a church living out our calling anywhere and everywhere, at our physical church building but also spread out across the country. We're making connections and sharing the Good News in ways that weren't possible even just a few short years ago.

This past year we have especially lived into our vision of becoming a more welcoming and inclusive community for people with disabilities. Our Disability Ministry Team has been hard at work making this vision a reality. Hosting neurodiverse playdates for families of autistic children. Raising money to purchase speech generating devices for local non-speaking students. Hosting disability focused educational opportunities for our congregation. Striving to make worship more accessible.

And to top off all this wonderful, life transforming, God-glorifying ministry, Geneva Presbyterian Church also has a top notch, dedicated, and energized staff to walk alongside the congregation in all of this.

It's been a big few years complete with challenges we've all faced together, and I'm proud to say that Geneva Presbyterian Church is thriving and moving into the future with ***Open Hearts, Open Minds.***

That is the theme of our stewardship campaign this year: ***Open Hearts, Open Minds***. Because to answer God's call in our midst, to continue following where the Holy Spirit is leading, it's going to take each of us together stepping forward with ***Open Hearts*** and ***Open Minds***.

This coming year our Disability Ministry Team will build on our good start in exciting ways. We are investigating installing a system in the sanctuary that would work with hearing aids to be sure everyone can hear and participate in worship. We are reviewing and installing new signage to ensure our accessible parking, ramp, and entrances are easy to find and use. We are considering child care options for Sunday morning that would meet the needs of all children.

In 2022 we also plan to hire a staff member we're calling the Director of Next Generation Ministries. Their role will be to reach out into the community and make connections, to use technology and social media for effective ministry, and to build our ministries for children, youth, and families.

You can be a vital partner in supporting the incredible ministries of Geneva Presbyterian Church this coming year with your financial stewardship.

Sunday, November 21st (Christ the King Sunday) is Stewardship Sunday and we will dedicate our pledges to God during worship that day. In the coming days, we invite you to consider your financial contribution to God's ministry through Geneva Presbyterian Church this year. You may indicate your intentions for pledging this year by returning the enclosed pledge form.

This year we also have a secure and confidential online form for making pledges electronically through our church website. This form gathers only the same information as the physical card (no banking information) and enables us to return our pledge intentions directly to the church office via computer, tablet, or smart phone. Check your This Week at Geneva email or church bulletins for the link or [click here](#) if reading this letter online.

Not everyone will choose to make a pledge this year: many faithful and consistent Genevans choose to make donations throughout the year. Whether through a pre-planned pledge or donations made in other ways, we celebrate and appreciate all gifts made to support our ministry through Geneva Presbyterian Church.

Your generous giving enables our Gospel witness at Geneva Presbyterian Church – thank you. Every gift of every size matters and we can do amazing things with ***Open Hearts, Open Minds***.

Yours in Christ,



Ken Denaburg, Stewardship Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor