



October 31, 2023

Dear Church Family,

Once again, we are honored and grateful to introduce ourselves as your 2024 Stewardship Campaign co-chairs. There are so many exciting things happening at FUPC! During the last eight months, we have welcomed 22 new members to our church, and Amanda McDonald is now our full-time Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. God's faithfulness continues to be demonstrated in our midst!

- A group from our church participated in our presbytery's Spring Break mission trip to Honduras, financing and helping to build a home for a retiring Presbyterian pastor.
- Our office staff (Stacey Luebker, Amy Rossetti, Yesenia Nevarez, and Amy McCann) is now complete, and our office has a fresh, welcoming, helpful, and efficient atmosphere.
- The Fall Festival was a huge success, connecting the church, First School, and our community.
- This fall we packed disaster relief kits for those in the recent tornados, hurricanes, and fires.
- Our leadership retreat with Jason Tucker has helped us create new pathways for growth.
- Youth and young adults are connecting with God and each other through regular gatherings led by Amanda McDonald and supported by adults and church families.
- The Deacons continue to give attentive care to the congregation in a myriad of ways.
- New chrismons are being made and the Hooks and Needles group is growing rapidly.
- Many members benefit from connecting to worship through the livestream.
- We are reaching out with God's love in creative new ways to serve First School families and welcome them into the life of our congregation.
- Our Third Worship Service embraces new, more contemporary approaches to praising God.
- Aging heating and air conditioning units are being gradually replaced.
- Important steps have been taken to make our campus safer.

Due to the generosity of many members and friends, First United Presbyterian Church is taking the lead on fulfilling God's mission in our community...and we will continue to grow and sail toward 2030!

Our goal for this year's pledge campaign is \$630,000, which calls for a 5% increase in pledged income. The increase includes additional funding for multiple ministry areas, including fellowship, spiritual growth, properties, and communications, as well as our amazing staff.

This Sunday, November 5, is Stewardship Challenge Sunday. Between services at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall, we invite you to join us for the **Muffin Mania Brunch**. The brunch will be a time for both fellowship and reflection, and an opportunity to learn more about the ministry needs set forth by the Session in our 2024 Challenge Budget. We'll share beverages and a delicious assortment of muffins!

The following Sunday, November 12, will be Stewardship Dedication Sunday when you can bring your pledge card to the service. If you are unable to attend church that Sunday, please return your pledge card by Sunday, December 3, 2023. It is possible to complete the pledge form online. Please see the back of the enclosed pledge card for instructions.

We ask that you be in thoughtful prayer with your family over the next couple of weeks about how your pledge will continue to lead our church forward in 2024. As the Spirit leads you, we invite you to prayerfully consider a 5% increase in your pledge as you are able. We also encourage you to consider an additional pledge to the church's Building and Maintenance Fund. Also, if you have not yet filled out a spiritual gifts inventory, please go to our website or come by the church to receive the forms.

With many blessings,

Mark and Corrine Power