



FPCLY Families and Friends,

God wants to partner with YOU! Giving to God and to God's church a contribution of financial resources is a tremendous Christian responsibility YOU have the privilege of participating in. The good news is YOU are not alone with First Presbyterian being strong in families and in faith and in witness.

God has not only been abundantly alive and active in First Presbyterian Church since 1815, God is STILL abundantly alive and active in the life and many different ministries of First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg in 2022. God is indeed doing wondrous deeds among us, and it is a joy to partner with YOU in worshipping God joyfully, growing spiritually, loving God and others boldly, and serving our neighbors faithfully. As we, the church, unite in these ways, God's call for us is faithfully pursued for God's glory. I think we can all agree the world could use a whole lot more of God's glory!!!

From 2021 to 2022, First Presbyterian Church welcomed 35 new pledge and giving units that were added to a generous foundation of historical givers. Together they helped bolster new and exciting opportunities of ministry among us. As we look toward 2023, the power and presence of the Holy Spirit continues to call us forward in opportunities of relationship and discipleship. Whether it is...

- Developing the lives of children through the FPC Weekday School, Sunday morning Worship Workshops, or Vacation Bible School;
- Enjoying singing and praise of music through the Chancel Choir and First Pres Presents Fine Arts Series;
- Offering care and nurture to the hospitalized and home centered;
- Benevolence and service to a community partner agency or national and global partner;
- Partaking in faith and relationship building opportunities within the church including all ages;

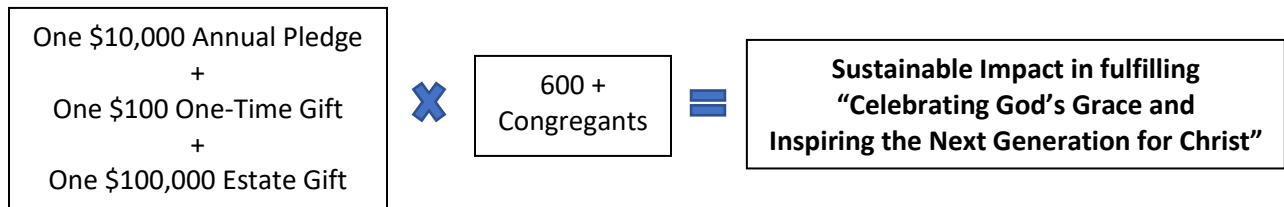
... YOU are invited to be a part of helping God's work happen here at First Presbyterian.

The magnitude of God's calling to First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg to operate in 2023 is outlined more fully in the enclosed *Narrative Budget*, which total costs north of \$1.1 Million. There are three significant highlights to note with the Narrative Budget.

1. The costs associated to each ministry represent demand aspirations in line with where God is calling First Presbyterian Church to go; doing what God calls and trusting God provides. This is a slight change from years past when the budget has been developed on a supply method; doing what can be done with what is given.
2. The work and call of the church are structured in four main ministry areas: Worship, Education, Outreach, and Resources. These four ministry areas align with the new Session structure of leadership as they hold the work and call of the church in discernment.
3. Personnel expenses are not included as its own focus. The reason for this is because all the Personnel in the church are called to help support and lead one or more of the four main ministries. Therefore, the annual Personnel budget is allocated by percentage to the different ministries in which the staff serve.

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So, moving forward what may a faithfully abundant and overflowing response look like?



Making a pledge and commitment to God and God's church, whether large or small, makes a significant difference as it indicates your support of and participation in the church. Making YOUR pledge is made possible through a few small steps.

✓ Pledge Financially:

- PLEDGE CARD: Complete and return the enclosed pledge card in the return envelope addressed to Lori Wright, Business Director. You may also complete the pledge card and place in the offering plate during worship on Sunday morning. * If you would like to request a booklet of giving envelopes, please be sure to indicate on your pledge card. *
- ELECTRONIC GIVING: The back of the enclosed pledge card has information on electronic giving set up. It is easy to complete and return. You may also visit www.fpclly.org and go to the giving page to submit your generous gift.
- ONE-TIME GIFT GIVING: Pledging is helpful for planning, however, giving when able is also a faithful way to generously give to God and God's church. The time of offering during worship provides all who are worshipping the opportunity to respond to the good news of God and giving during this time is encouraged and welcome.
- PLANNED/ ESTATE GIFTS: Much of how First Presbyterian Church is able to do what it does today is because of gifts dedicated in generosity many years ago. Information on how to include First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg in your financial trust or will is available upon request.

- ✓ Pledge Leadership using your God-given gifts and skills to help foster and support the operations and ministries of First Presbyterian. This is also known as giving of your time and talents.
- ✓ Pledge Presence and Participation in worship, education, and outreach ministry opportunities.
- ✓ Pledge Prayer for Paul says (Philippians 4:6-7), "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, make your requests be known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will keep and guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

YOUR generous gift in partnering with God and God's church is welcome anytime, however, YOU are encouraged to submit YOUR 2023 PLEDGE COMMITMENT no later than October 23, 2022. Doing so will allow for a more accurate budget process and more effective planning of ministry opportunities to take place.

A special thank you to all in recent years who have partnered with God and God's church here at First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg. God and God's church looks forward to partnering with ALL OF US in 2023!

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson (aka Pastor Pete),