



November 15, 2016

Dear Fellow Members and Friends,

We hope you are feeling excited about the conclusion of “*Go and do the same*” and that you are planning to be with us for the Stewardship Sunday worship services on Sunday, November 20th.

Our theme for this year has been rich with reminders as to how we have been blessed by God and how God invites us to respond. What we believe matters. What we do about what we believe matters even more. Our congregation is committed to putting our faith into action and this is one opportunity for us to act in accordance to what we believe. Are we willing to allow our stewardship to reflect our discipleship?

Since this stewardship campaign began, we have had a series of coffees with our ministers so that we could learn how our church changes lives and what our church may look like in the future if we have the resources to do so. We have had a series of sermons on The Good Samaritan and learned how Jesus is calling us to “*Go and do the same.*” We have redesigned our church website so that we now have a “Giving” section that explains how members and friends can contribute to First Church’s ministries.

You will find a pledge card included with this letter, as well as instructions on how to pledge and pay towards your pledge. We do not provide you with an estimate of what you should give as we believe this is a personal decision made after prayerful discernment. We do hope that you keep our two goals in mind as you discern: (i) increased pledge participation by all members and friends and (ii) a ten percent increase in the total amount pledged over last year. If you don’t currently do so, please consider pledging now. And if you do pledge and are able to increase the amount by ten percent, please do so.

There will be a designated time in our worship this Sunday to bring our cards forward and place them in the tithing box. As always, these cards represent our best intentions based on what we know at the present time. They can, at any time, be adjusted should your circumstances change.

These last weeks have been enriching and our worship together has been inspiring. Now the decision to act on how we will allow God to use us and our resources for the good of the church and community is up to us. We remember what is at stake and what the possibilities are. May we respond as the Samaritan, out of our compassion and commitment, may we “*Go and do the same.*”

See you Sunday!

Sincerely,

Stewardship Committee

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