



Samuel P. Warner, Pastor



First Presbyterian Church

102 South Central Avenue, Belmont, North Carolina 28012

STEWARDSHIP 2024

October 10, 2023

Dear Church Family,

As we all know social media gets a lot of attention these days. While I'm not a big social media user I have to admit I'm guilty as perhaps some of you are in scratching a 'daily itch' of scrolling Instagram reels. However, last week one particular reel caught my attention....a quote from Dave Ramsey, a Christian financial consultant who has taught thousands of people how to manage their finances in a way that puts God first and takes the stress out of financial friction in the family. The reel was simple, a white screen with black text that simply read... "No one has ever become poor by giving". Well said Mr. Ramsey, well said.

The reality is while we may have some reservation about giving, we always feel 'good' once we give. One of the best parts of gift giving is observing the recipient's reaction. This is true of God as well. God is waiting and watching to see what our reaction will be to the many gifts God has given us. How will we respond? Will God see in us appreciation, gratitude, and thankfulness?

Throughout the Stewardship season, we are presented with the following questions: What does the way we spend, invest, and donate our financial resources say about our spiritual life and our relationship to God, to our neighbors, community, and those in need? What are our true treasures, and how are we showing God our gratitude for all that He has provided for us?

As a member of our church family we are grateful for your financial gifts and commitments to our shared ministry which have produced much fruit in the past year—just look at all the ministries and organizations you have supported (enclosed insert)! Additionally, your support allowed expansion of our church property with the acquisition of the 204 S. Central property, improvements to our kitchen and classroom areas, and pending upgrades to our sound system.

We have been asked by God as His chosen vessel to share our gifts. Jesus said, **"Much will be required of the person entrusted with much and more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more"** (Luke 12:48). The gifts we are given do not belong to us. They are not given to be hidden, but rather to be shared with others. When Jesus is our treasure, we will commit our resources—our money, our time, our talents—to God's work in this world.



First Presbyterian Church
Belmont, NC



"Anchored in Faith, God's Chosen Vessel"

When we live anchored in the faith of Jesus Christ we are able store up treasure in heaven. When we offer just a bit more of ourselves, our treasures, we can be confident in finding the riches of our relationship with God deepened, our faith renewed, and our community strengthened. Even seemingly small acts of service do not go unnoticed by God. **"If anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward" (Matthew 10:42).**

In closing, consider that heavenly treasure is infinitely more precious than earthly material treasure; when your eyes sees things this way, you are full of light and never poor.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." - Matthew 6:21

Thank you for your prayers, thoughtful consideration, and commitment.

Faithfully,

Stewardship Annual Giving Committee

**~Anchored in Faith~
~God's Chosen Vessel~**



First Presbyterian Church
Belmont, NC

As members of FPC Belmont, we sail our boats powered by God's giving wind to do His will:

- Early Outdoor Worship
- Catawba Heights Elementary School Supplies
- Belmont Community Organization
- Habitat for Humanity
- Community Bible Study
- Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America
- Feed the Children
- Ala-Teen Anonymous
- Nickel-a-Meal
- International Missionaries
- Black Mountain Home for Children
- Meals on Wheels
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- Rise Against Hunger
- Guatemala Women's Microloan Program
- Blood Drives
- Faith & Blue
- Unbinding Lazarus
- Love's Chapel
- Rice N Beans
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace
- Young Life



"Anchored in Faith, God's Chosen Vessel"

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- Sunday School
- WOW: Worship On Wednesday: Learning about God, Scripture, missionaries with activities, music and crafts
- Operation Christmas Child
- Feed the Children
- Vacation Bible School
- MAD Mondays (Mission Adventure Days)
- Wacky Wednesdays
- Acolytes
- Children's Choirs

YOUTH MINISTRY

- Sunday School
- Midweek High School Bible Study
- Youth Fellowship
- College Mission Trips
- High School Mission Trips
- Middle School Fall Retreat
- Operation Christmas Child
- The Hunger Experience
- Feed the Children: -Belmont & Mt. Holly
- Middle School Summer Service Projects
- Volunteer at Victory Farms

ADULT MINISTRY

- Sunday School
- Visitor's, Inquirers & New Members Classes
- Women's Circles
- The Marriage Course
- Women with Faith
- Women's Bible Study
- Grief Share Support Group
- Men's Midweek Fellowship
- Pastor's Bible Study
- Men's Breakfast
- Choir & Hand Bells
- Young at Hearts (Senior Adults)
- Financial Peace University