



PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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In recent months we have been hearing, reading and even singing about stewardship. Stewardship is simply the ways in which we utilize the gifts which have been given to us by our gracious God. You have probably noticed that stewardship at Prince of Peace is not just an emphasis for a few weeks in the fall.

Throughout the year, all of us are called to give and serve through this community of faith in Christ in some way. For some, the service may be visible; teaching, singing or ushering – all vitally needed for the work of the church. Others may serve in less obvious ways like praying, tithing or studying– developing the spiritual strength that is absolutely vital for a healthy congregation.

We have an inspiring church community filled with talent and an abundance of resources for ministry. It is my hope that we can leverage these God-given gifts to have the greatest possible impact on our local community and the world. I challenge you to constantly consider your own contribution to the life and work of your church carefully, prayerfully and joyfully.

As you are well aware, it requires a considerable amount of money to fund the operation of our facilities, mortgage payments, and the ongoing ministry of Prince of Peace. If every member of our congregation took **one faithful step up** in their giving, our ministry and outreach would be fully supported and resourced.

I am convinced that it is through the stewardship of our finances that we most honestly proclaim what we really believe. No other means offers a more telling revelation of where our faith lies. To sing boldly and pray loudly while hoarding the very means of ministry is to reveal most clearly the kind of creed we truly confess. I think we need to be honest about this.

The life and work of this Christian congregation depends upon you. You alone decide where the mission and ministry of your church rates on your list of priorities. You alone know the truth of your convictions. The offering plate is as telling a witness of our faith as the creeds we confess. It is my deepest hope that you will take this opportunity to fill out your estimate of giving card as an act of worship and gratitude.

Please notice that this year there is a place on the card to indicate *both* a commitment of your time *and* your financial commitment. Many of you already give considerable time supporting the ministry of your church. For many others, this is a chance to take the first step and see how your life will be blessed! Will your first step be committing to one hour a month? Maybe you are ready to give one hour a week or even more!

Stewardship is a commitment of our whole selves. After prayerfully recording your responses on the card, please return it to the church by mailing it in or dropping it in the offering plate during worship. On November 17, we will celebrate your faithful response, which will be combined with mine and hundreds more, supporting the ministry we share.

These are truly exciting times here at Prince of Peace. There is a strong sense around here that God is leading us into a new season of growth and vitality. From the enthusiasm of our Sunday school children to the faithfulness of our seniors, God is on the move at POP. What a privilege it is to be on this journey of faith with you!

Your partner in ministry,

Pastor Chad