

Stewardship themes from past years:
2018 (set in 2017): Answering the Call
2019: Engaging the Call
2020: Living the Vision—2020
2021: Embracing God's Vision
2022: Embracing God's Call (*not used*: Living in Gratitude)

*"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.
Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times,
having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."
2 Corinthians 9:6-8*

Dear St. Giles Members and Friends,

These are exciting times at St. Giles Presbyterian Church! God is blessing us in surprising ways this year. What a privilege it is to serve as your Pastor and grow with you during this period of unprecedented change!

I am writing on behalf of your Stewardship Committee to thank you for your remarkable generosity this year. I chose the scripture above *not* because anyone has "sown sparingly" but precisely because **you have "sown generously" this past year**. During a time of great uncertainty, you have remained steadfast in your faith and commitment. While other churches and non-profits have struggled, St. Giles' giving has continued to exceed our spending throughout 2021. Thank you!

Your generosity is not limited to financial giving, but also includes the sharing of your time and talents. We have continued our outreach to the community and our service work through our committee structure. Your Ruling Elders have continued to work hard and lead us wisely through the uncharted waters of ongoing global pandemic. Together with the Elders, you "struck while the iron was hot" and courageously embraced the decision to expand our Audio-Visual capabilities at exactly the moment it was most needed. It has been nothing short of inspirational!

Our Stewardship theme for 2022 is "**Embracing God's Call.**" If we have learned anything from 2020 and 2021, it is that God has a Call for us as individuals and as a faith community. It may not always be clear exactly how God is leading us. But we have faith that God's steadfast love endures forever and that God will never leave us nor forsake us. Moreover, we want to follow God' Call, and not cower in faithless fear, or, worse, pursue our own self-centered will.

2 Corinthians 9:8 promises us that God will provide generously for us in all times. God always makes sure we have what we need in order to embrace our Calling from Him. One tangible way we can do this is by making a commitment of our time, talents, and finances for 2022.

I am requesting that you prayerfully consider how God is leading you, and complete a 2022 pledge card and Time and Talents survey. These items are included in this mailing. It is my experience that I have always received abundantly more than I could have imagined when I have increased my participation in the Church.

You may bring your pledge card and survey with you any upcoming Sunday or mail it to Dee Dumas' Office at the Church. This is, indeed, an exciting time at St. Giles! Your Pledge will help us plan how we will ever more faithfully Embrace God's call on our life as a community of faith and continue Living the Vision in 2022.

With most sincere gratitude,

Pastor Jake
On behalf of the Stewardship Committee