

February 2023

Dear Fellow Congregants,

When I joined the Community Church in 2019, I was returning in retirement to my family's childhood church. My parents, Morris and Dorothy were founding members of the Church in the early 1950s. It was their spiritual home twice; 4 years in the 50s and when they returned to Chapel Hill in 1966 and for the rest of their lives. I was an active member of Liberal Religious Youth (LRY) in the Hamden Connecticut UU church; a foundational growing experience that followed my earlier life in Chapel Hill. I felt that I had truly returned home when 3 years ago, I sat in the sanctuary of our church as a new member. This Church is my home and my community.

Most of you have not had the off and on relationship with the Community Church that I have had. Nevertheless, I hope that the Church is your spiritual home in all senses. It's my hope that you are active in the many activities within the Church and represent the Church in good works, social justice, public education, and so on, in the larger community. In this often-discouraging world, you and our church are a beacon, and a reason for optimism and joy. I reexperienced that joy and sense of meaning by being in the church I call home.

As a congregant, you are a "fiduciary", responsible for the well-being of the Church. Thom reminded the Orientation Group of new trustees recently, fiduciary is not only, and not originally, a financial word. It comes from the same root as faithfulness and is more closely related to trust in modern times. But one aspect of faithfulness and trust is your financial investment in the Church – an investment you make every year during the Pledge Drive.

I have rebalanced my giving in my retirement with weight on local concerns where participation brings a sense of making a difference: church, Habitat, food security, social justice in NC. This is the time of year I debate where my donations/pledge will go. I hope you feel the church is worthy of your faith and trust and that you plan to support it financially in the coming year(s) to the extent you can reasonably afford. These are challenging financial times and I hope you are able to be generous.

With deep respect and love,

Glenn C Davis
President Board of Trustees