

Dear Beloved Congregants,

I am writing to invite you to respond to the Annual Pledge Drive by giving as generously as you are able to give.

This has been an exciting year at our church. It's been a year of returning. We've returned to two services. Beloved programs like the church musical, the Greening and Chili Supper, and the Children's Pageant have returned. At the same time, I hesitate to call it a return because it's not like we ever went away. We thrive because we've invested in relationships, in leadership, in programs, and in buildings that meet our needs.

Our work matters. Our justice work saves lives, literally. Our work with children and youth is a blessing in their lives. The community we create holds us when life is challenging. We honor those people who have received their call to ministry here. And, we honor those people who have touched our community when their lives come to an end.

I think of words by Marge Piercy from a favorite reading from our hymnal, "The work of the world is common as mud. Botched, it smears the hands, crumbles to dust. But the thing worth doing well done has a shape that satisfies, clean and evident."

Your generous support of the church in the coming year will allow us to continue all our good work, our ministries and programs and groups and events. It will allow us to sustain our community, compensate our staff, and maintain our buildings.

My family is honored to make a leadership pledge of \$7,000 for the coming year. I hope you will give as generously as you can. And, please don't hesitate to reach out to me if your financial or life situation prevents you from pledging. We do not want finances to be a barrier to anyone's participation in the life of our church.

With Love,

Rev. Thom