

STEWARDSHIP 2024

Grateful Living
Faithful Giving

COMMITMENT SUNDAY, NOV. 19TH

Dear Members & Friends of WPC,

I look forward to our walking together as disciples of Jesus in 2024 because in this present moment I am grateful for the ways that you/we are transforming lives.

- Children in Sunday School with Mrs. Holly; third graders receiving their Bible, *"Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so..."*
- Confirmation class young people discovering the gifts that God has given them to help make the world kinder, more loving, and just
- Life changing encounters for our Youth on mission trips, and home at WPC, a safe and sacred place to gather, a community of peers where there is no pressure to be anything but ourselves – a beloved child of God
- Family Promise – meals shared, safe accommodation, our children playing with children of different socioeconomic and racial backgrounds – life lessons learned, friendships made
- A Just Harvest/Good News Partners – the hungry fed, the homeless housed, partners together in being Christ's light in Rogers Park
- The Ghulam family – refugees from Afghanistan, finding welcome, support, hospitality, a new home, a new life
- Worship – an encounter with the mystery and wonder of a God who loves us and directs our lives in the way of joy, life-giving community, and peace
- Music – lifting spirits, healing hearts, inspiring faith, *when in our music God is glorified...*
- Bible studies – delving into God's Word, learning how to do what is loving, faithful, and just, following Jesus in this time and place
- Companions – to comfort and to heal, to inspire and to give courage, to share in our joy and our heartache, on this journey of faith

"If you must look back, do so forgivingly.

If you must look forward, do so prayerfully.

However, the wisest thing you can do is be present in the present...gratefully."

Maya Angelou



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Paul's letter continues

Grateful for this life God has given to you, I invite you to be faithful in giving, to prayerfully look forward to what you will give to support the mission and ministry of WPC in 2024. This is not so much an "ask" as it is an invitation. It's an invitation to help us continue to transform lives, to make a difference in our church, community, and world, because God in Jesus has made a difference in you.

Please prayerfully consider your financial gift to the church for 2024. Stewardship Dedication Sunday is November 19th. On that day we will celebrate your gratitude and generosity with a lunch following worship, and a fun-filled auction fundraiser to support the 2023 church operating budget.

In Christ's Peace,
Paul

Commitment Sunday November 19th

Join us for lunch
after worship



Auction Event
during lunch



Letter from Stewardship Committee Chair

Dear Friends:

Stewardship is the virtuous response to what we have inherited: a fully paid for building, a community that accepts us where we are and encourages us, and a staff that cares deeply for our spiritual welfare and the nurture of our children.

To meet your expectations, your Session has provided the current level of programming and services. It costs about \$600,000 to staff and care for the place each year, more if we properly reserve for the wear and tear on our building. That equates to an average of **\$7,000** for each of our 85 or so giving units.

Some of us cannot give that much; others not only carry their own share, but pitch in to help those who cannot. To sustain our program, the Session recommends that we each try to give at least \$7,000 and that, in any case, we each increase our support as much as we can to offset the rising cost of everything.

The Session also asks everyone to pledge for 2024. A pledge to WPC is not a contract. It's not even a promise. It's just an indication of your intentions assuming life unfolds as you expect. Things happen. Circumstances change. Should they change for you, we will strive with all the compassion we can muster to be encouraging and supportive. Wouldn't that be what you would long for from your church? So, pledge so that we can properly budget to responsibly deliver all that you have come to expect.

Sincerely,
George Bermingham, Stewardship Chair



www.winnpres.org

*Grateful Living
Faithful Giving*

Pledge now at winnpres.org/pledge

Faithful giving... Transforming lives



OUR CHURCH which supports us on our spiritual journeys, where the Scriptures are read, the Word preached, and where bread is broken in humility and gratitude...

OUR COMMUNITY where we can make friends, share our joys and concerns, our laughter and our longings, and where we can help each other in countless ways...

OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP where we gather to encounter Christ in the Scriptures and Sacraments, expressing our gratitude and longing in music, meditation and prayer...

OUR PASTORAL CARE when doubt or loss overcomes us...

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL which forms our children in the Christian faith so they may come to know, love and serve Jesus...

OUR MISSIONS where we feed, house, and befriend people who have nowhere else to turn...



OUR YOUTH PROGRAMS which value every young person for who they are, and not for what they have accomplished, and which inspires them to live lives guided by faith in Jesus' teachings...

OUR ADULT FORMATION where we dig deeper into the truths of God's word for our lives...

OUR BUILDING which provides lovely space for all these activities...

OUR HOME where we gather confident that in life and death we belong to God...



STOCK & ESTATE DONATIONS

For those wishing to donate stock or mutual fund shares to WPC before year-end, here are instructions. Tell your broker what stock and what amount of shares you wish to transfer. Provide your broker with the following information as applicable.

If to the **Operating Account** (for pledges or regular and special donations):

- Electronically transfer the stock to ETRADE - DTC #0385 for further credit to the account of Winnetka Presbyterian Church Account 5734 - 3767

If to the **General Endowment**:

- Electronically transfer the stock to ETRADE - DTC #0385 for further credit to the account of Winnetka Presbyterian Church Account 5734 - 3768

Please contact either Michael Jin (mikejin85@gmail.com) or Bill Bringham (ecbfinl@att.net or 847-710-5080) with the following information:

- Name of stock
- Number of shares
- Approximate dollar amount
- Brokerage firm you are transferring the stock from
- Broker's name and phone number
- Date you have given the transfer instructions

IRA ANNUAL REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION (RMD)

Members older than 70½ can transfer up to \$100,000 per year from their traditional IRAs to charity, which can count as their **required minimum distribution** but is not taxable if they follow the rules for a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). *This doesn't apply to a Roth IRA, which has tax-free withdrawals and no required distributions.* The gift stays out of your adjusted gross income only if you make a direct transfer from your IRA to the charity. It doesn't count as a tax-free transfer if you withdraw the money first and then make a donation to the charity. Ask your IRA administrator what steps you need to take, because the procedures can vary from firm to firm. This can be especially important to members who do not itemize (Schedule A) on their taxes, or are borderline on deductions. Contact Bill Bringham for more information.

Pledge
now

SCAN THE QR CODE



PLEDGE ONLINE AT
WINNPRES.ORG/PLEDGE

OR

FILL OUT THE
PLEDGE CARD AND
PUT IT IN THE
OFFERING BOX OR
MAIL IT TO THE
CHURCH OFFICE

2024 PLEDGE CARD

Name _____ Pledge 2024 _____

I pledge to be a loving and generous follower of Christ,
supporting Winnetka Presbyterian Church's vision and mission
with my time, money, and talents.



WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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