September 30, 2022

Dear Church Family and Friends,

Believe it or not, there is more to Central Congregational Church than just what you see on Sunday morning! During the week, you may find the choir rehearsing, the youth group meeting or the Women’s Christian Fellowship lunching together.

All these things are planned and prepared by leadership and staff who are deeply committed to our becoming who it is God is calling us to be. The ministry and mission of our church take place because of the spiritual and financial gifts our members and friends choose to share. These are the resources that fuel our mission; and yes, it does take money to provide these spiritual things!

Your decision to give a gift is the response to an invitation—a choice—but as a follower of Jesus, it really isn’t an option! Based on what we have received, we are encouraged to give: out of thanksgiving for what God has done and as a sign of faithfulness and commitment to be a part of the good things that God is continuing to do in our world. We have the gift of Jesus and we are invited to respond to what God has given us with our own generosity.

When you give, you are making a decision to give something away that you might use for something else. The amount may seem insignificant, but did you know that gift of just $1 every week can allow the sick or lonely to be visited or a quality Sunday School class to be taught. Your choice matters, your response matters, your gift matters: it matters to you as the giver, and to our ability together to resource our shared mission.

There is joy in practicing generosity, and it begins with a simple step of a commitment to contribute even a onetime gift brings blessings. We hope you will see the opportunity to make a commitment as a way of developing a healthy habit – one that can change you, and the world!

My prayer is that I will see you in worship during the remaining weeks of our reflection on what it means to move *From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving* and that you will plan to be present for **Stewardship Sunday on October 30, 2022.** Your response to this invitation and the gifts that we all bring will make good things happen. Thank you for being a part of it. The enclosed chart can give you an idea of how others practice generosity and hopefully help you find a comfortable starting place. Challenge yourself to give in a regular and disciplined way. I promise you won’t regret it.

We celebrate the way you will respond to God’s invitation to give!

Blessings,

Warna Reynders

Warna Reynders Stewardship Committee Chair, Central Congregational Church, UCC Attleboro Falls, MA