





## Dear Friends,

Our stewardship campaign for 2016 celebrates that we, as members of University Presbyterian Church, are firmly *rooted* in Christ; *giving* of our time, talents and treasure to God through our church; and growing as we reach upward and outward on our individual and collective faith

In chapter 2, verses 6-7 of his letter to the Colossians, Paul exhorts:

"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in

Inspired by Paul's words, and by the traditions and actions of our community of faith, our 2016 stewardship campaign theme is **Rooted. Giving. Growing**.

University Church continues to be a place where the roots — and branches — of our faith are nourished and grow stronger each week. Our worship and pastoral care, Christian education and music ministries, local and global outreach, and youth programs are flourishing. Our new education and music wing is rising, along with innumerable possibilities.

Our stewardship has made — and will continue to make — these ministries possible. Our generosity is a clear expression of our thanksgiving to God for His many gifts to each of us, including our very lives. Our financial offerings also convey heartfelt confidence in how University Church uses our gifts to share God's love, changing lives near and far in the process.

Please join us as we gather on October 18 for Dedication Sunday. During worship that day, we will bring our commitments forward in an act of stewardship and discipleship.

Grace and peace to you,

Robert E. Dunham **Pastor** 

Robert E. Dunham Daphne & Crowell Little Ashley Wilson John Wilson

Ashley & John Wilson

Stewardship Co-chairs





Gathering weekly in the sanctuary for Sunday worship is the cornerstone of the life of our congregation. The hour of thoughtful preaching, solemn prayer, inspirational music and warm fellowship renews us and prepares us to move forward in our daily Christian lives.

#### Music

Firmly grounded in the traditions of the Reformed faith, our worship music is a lively compilation of the best from centuries of Christian praying and singing. Already planning for Palm Sunday, the choir will present Gabriel Fauré's beloved *Requiem* with orchestra.

The choir performances and musicals by our children and youth engage young congregants in sharing their talents and gifts joyfully with all.

"Our choirs and fine organ aspire to give their noble voices to the glory of God to adorn and enrich our worship."

— Tom Brown, Minister of Music

### GIVING

#### Outreach

We are a church of generous hearts and servant hands that extend down the block and across the ocean. UPC members invest their time, talents and financial resources to further God's work. The church's Outreach ministries touch countless lives in Orange County and beyond through direct support and engagement.

Our church is among the strongest supporters of the Inter-Faith Council for Social Services and Habitat for Humanity. Internationally, we have worked with 16 groups in eight countries and support missionaries in Costa Rica, the Caribbean and the Middle East.





"The more we keep these agencies in front of people, the more this conscientious congregation responds by joining hand in hand in the Kingdom work in our community."

— Bart Phillips, Local Outreach committee chair

#### Youth

Our youth ministry programs challenge our young people to deepen their faith as they grow in relationship with one another. Middle- and high-schoolers share a weekly meal, conversation and hands-on activities. Summers in Montreat and service experiences in Washington, D.C., and rural Appalachia provide time for youth to step out of their comfort zones and practice the call to mission. The Holy Spirit is hard at work as youth and adults join together in faith-formative experiences.

"My faith has grown this year in confirmation. I discovered I am not the only one figuring out my faith and am not lost on my path. I want to continue to grow and learn things about God's impact on my life."

- Ellen Troxler

### GROWING



#### Education

Our adult education classes might delve into sermons or poetry; hear from an archeologist about ancient Palestine; learn how to cope with memory disorders; or explore Islam, the Gospels or the Psalms. This fall, we welcome the author of a book about race relations and offer a class for parents guiding their children through the teenage years.

Sunday school classes, starting at age three and continuing throughout high school, provide a weekly opportunity for kids to learn about the Bible and Presbyterian traditions as they grow up together in a church family.

In Kirk Club, fourth- and fifth-graders learn to rely on their faith community as the sometimes tough, pre-teen years hit. Children learn from others further along in their faith journey — and everyone grows in the process.

# Presbyterian Campus Ministry

Throughout the academic year, 50-60 UNC students gather for Thursday night programs, small group studies, seasonal retreats, service projects and a spring break service trip. Last year, a Lilly Endowment grant sponsored "Guide My Feet," a program that brought together 14 PCM students to read, reflect and pray. The group traveled to the Virginia mountains in the fall and the Olympic Peninsula and Puget Sound in the spring to contemplate how God's spirit hovers over our lives.

"Joining Presbyterian Campus Ministry helped save my UNC college experience. Fellowship with this community of spiritually like-minded peers grants me opportunities to pursue my passion for serving others while also developing myself as a religious leader."

- Coleman Bumgardner '17



"The children's ministry program roots us by allowing children to learn the stories of the Bible and to learn more about what it means to have faith."

— Nancy Myer, Staff Associate for Children's Ministries

#### Giving and Growing

UPC members responded with unprecedented generosity during last year's stewardship campaign. This year, we can – and we will – do even better! 445 UPC households (68%) pledged for 2015, up from 418 households (63%) for 2014. Half of all 2015 pledges were either **increased** or **new** pledges, relative to 2014. That's great news!

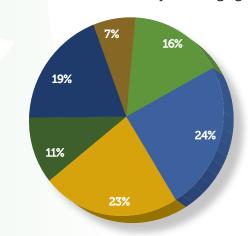
We would love to see more pledges increase for 2016, and we challenge all members to move their stewardship and discipleship to the next level.

Imagine the possibilities!



#### UPC's 2015 Operating Budget

The chart below reflects how we are funding each program area. Staff salaries are allocated proportionally to the ministries in which they are engaged.



**16% Worship:** pastoral leadership, music, choirs, nursery...

**24% Education & Nurture:** pastoral care, Bible studies, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Stephen Ministry, youth programs, membership...

23% Administration: staff, office equipment, technology, postage, phones...

**11% Property:** insurance, building and grounds maintenance...

**19% Outreach:** local and global, campus ministry...

7% PC(USA): support and mission...

## Capital Campaign Renovations and Expansion

Excellent facilities allow us to enhance our outward reach. The recent renovations have transformed our building into a safer, more energy efficient, and accessible space. We have also made improvements to our extraordinary organ.

The 5,200-square-foot, two-story annex under construction will house our expanding education and music programs, and improve accessibility with a second elevator. Rerouting Robertson Lane will make room for a spacious entrance plaza and safer drop-off area for the preschool.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### **UPC Stewardship Committee**

Perry Aycock, Kirsten Barker, Jim Baxley,
Don Hunter, Jay Klompmaker, Crowell Little,
Daphne Little, Nancy Oates, Susan Ross,
Scott Singleton, Ashley Wilson and John Wilson