



Dear Friends,

As we enter the stewardship campaign for 2018, we have much to celebrate and reflect upon in the life of University Presbyterian Church. So much has happened in just one year! It was only last September that our interim associate pastor Elizabeth Michael joined us. In May, we bid farewell to Bob and Marla Dunham, following 26 wonderful years of Bob's leadership. This summer, we witnessed the culmination of our Faith Forward campaign: the final stages toward completion of our newly dedicated Dunham Hall. And finally, this month we are welcoming the Rev. Margaret LaMotte Torrence into our UPC family as interim pastor and head of staff.

These significant events in the life of UPC demonstrate that our remarkable church and dedicated congregation are **"More than we can imagine."** We feel the Holy Spirit is moving in all of these changes, stretching and equipping us for the work God now calls us to do. We are grateful for the leadership of the Session, the deacons, and our fine staff—and for so many of you who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

In the book of Ephesians, Paul described the tangible impact of the Holy Spirit to an ancient church in transition:

"Now to the One who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." – Ephesians 3:20-21

The 2018 UPC stewardship team is confident that "the power at work within us" will guide this year's campaign. Our church has seen record generosity for each of the past three years, as measured by total pledged dollars. We believe this trend will continue for 2018, as we move from a strong foundation into a future that is "More than we can imagine."

In keeping with key phrases from Paul's letter above, we hope you and your family will prayerfully consider how the power of the Holy Spirit is at work within you, and how you can do your part in helping UPC to accomplish far more than we can ask or imagine. Please pledge generously – and as soon as possible – either on Dedication Sunday, October 22, or as soon as you are able. Please note that the Session must finalize its 2018 budget a full month earlier this winter than in past years.

We hope you will join us in worship for Dedication Sunday on October 22, when we will bring our commitments forward in an act of stewardship and discipleship.

Grace and peace to you,


Margaret LaMotte Torrence
Interim Pastor


Karen and Brian Vandersea
Stewardship Co-chairs


Kelli and Scott Smith
Stewardship Co-chairs

