

March 28, 2024

Dear FPC Family,

On behalf of your Community Ministries Team, I am excited to announce the annual **Be Generous** campaign at First Presbyterian Church happening Sunday April 7th through Friday April 19th. By now I hope you have seen the video from Pastor Jonathan and Rick Gilbert offering our thoughts on the importance of this initiative. The video can also be viewed on our home page at <u>www.fpcrome.org</u>.

The mission of your Community Ministries Team is to mobilize the church to support local charities delivering essential services with a high degree of excellence to the "least of these" in our community. In doing so, each of us can, at least in part, fulfill Jesus' command in Matthew 5:16:

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and glorify your father who is in Heaven".

Enclosed is a flyer highlighting the work of the ten local organizations currently supported by FPC both financially as well as volunteers from our congregation. But most of these organizations are underfunded. More recently, the dramatic rise in the cost of living is adding new burdens on the families dependent on the services provided by these charities. Over the next two weeks, you will see short videos and brief presentations from a few of the charities your donations will bless.

What can you do to help? We have established a two-part goal for the Be Generous campaign. Over the next two weeks, we want to raise **\$100,000** above and beyond our usual donations and we are asking **100% participation** from our congregants – at the "family level" (a single donation given on behalf of your family). Every dollar you give will help!

For your convenience, an envelope has been enclosed for you to return your check to the church office or place in the offering plate during the worship services. (Please designate "BE GENEROUS" to ensure proper credit.) In addition, donations can be made online at fpcrome.org or through your ShelbyNext Membership app.

In 2 Corinthians 9, Paul provides guidance for our giving: You will be enriched in every way to BE GENEROUS in every way, which through us, will produce thanksgiving to God.

Thanking you in advance for your support,

Pastor Bill Pardue

on behalf of the Community Ministries Team, Pastor Jonathan Schwartz; Rick Gilbert, chairman; Dan Pate;.Ed Brewster; Mark Brewster; Frank Fleming; Greg Garrett; Ron Kiefer; Toby Morgan

a member congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church