STEWARDSHIP 2025



Take hold of the life that really is life. -1 Timothy 6:17-19

As we begin our new church year, I hope you will join me in reflecting on how fortunate we are to call Williamsburg Presbyterian Church our church home. WPC touches the lives of so many: those within our congregation, our neighbors in greater Williamsburg, and worldwide. And the church reaches us in many ways, from meaningful worship, inspirational music, and thoughtful Christian education to innovative family and youth programs, and impactful outreach missions. All this is possible because of the financial grounding of our operating budget, which is funded almost entirely by our congregation's pledges.

Hopefully, you received and have had an opportunity to review the Stewardship Committee's recent letter regarding WPC's financial status. Its focus was on the shortfalls in our operating budget that covers essential expenses: salaries; utilities; minor facility repairs, and programs for worship, education, outreach, music, family, and youth. In short, these are all the things that enable WPC to touch so many lives. Unfortunately, our operating budget shortfalls over the past 4 years have begun to affect our ministries and present personnel budget challenges.

Please consider pledging for 2025. Your financial support is critical as we look to the future. Historically, one of WPC's strengths has been the large percentage of members who make that pledge commitment.

Pledging is the foundation of our annual operational budget. More importantly, though, it strongly impacts one's spiritual relationship with God and the church's mission. When you pledge you truly become vested in the church; it is a blessing that opens new opportunities in many ways. I believe we go through three phases in our relationship with the church: First, we *attend*, then, we *join*, and finally, we *strengthen our relationship* with the church when we commit to pledge.

We are thankful that you are members of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church and hope you will prayerfully consider pledging in 2025. October 27 is Dedication Sunday. Enclosed is a pledge card you can bring on the 27th, return by mail, or drop off at the church office. You can also pledge online at mywpc.org/pledge. Your financial support is critical as we embrace the future – *It's time to flourish!*

Sincerely,

Pete Osman, Chair Stewardship Committee-Pastor John Morgan, Jaynelle Oehler, Gerry Ward, Sherry Volk