

Commitment to the Future



There is much excitement around every baptism at The Village Church.

As a congregation, we vow to support each child and family as they grow on their faith journey. This commitment includes supporting the church with time, talents, and especially treasure.

Faithful stewards of the Lord return a portion of their good fortune to God to further the work of His kingdom. Help us cultivate a culture of giving at The Village Church by prayerfully determining what you will return to God this year.



Our renewed commitment to children and their families is making a vital difference!

Our Vacation Bible School continued to grow this past summer with a majority of the children coming from families who do not attend the Village Church. VBS attendance grew from 100 children in 2015 to 120 children in 2016 to 140 children in 2017. Your giving in 2018 will help our church reach out to more children and their families in our surrounding communities.

Giving Makes a Difference



The Power of Your Pledge

This chart shows the many ways your giving impacts lives within our church family, the North Shore community, and the world. Thanks to good administrative oversight, our church's expenses have been held within the planned budget for the past several years.

New! Online Pledging

We are excited to offer a simple process to save you time and effort—make your 2018 pledge online!

- The online pledge form is identical to the printed pledge card.
- Online pledging is *secure and confidential*. The information is sent directly to our Financial Secretary—exactly as the printed cards.
- You will receive a digital copy of your online pledge for your records.
- The online pledge form is available at:
www.jotform.com/build/72485801263154.

The link will be available on the website and in the eBlast. If you have difficulty, contact the church office at 847-272-0900 or kkarpeles@tvpchurch.org.

Automated Giving for 2018

There are several easy ways to automate your giving electronically:

- Schedule weekly or monthly giving from checking or savings accounts.
- Give using credit or debit cards and earn points while supporting God's work at The Village Church.

For more information, check the box on the online or printed pledge card and the church office will be in touch.



Cultivating Generosity



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Cultivating Generosity



We are sowing the seeds to become a missional church.

The Making the Shift conference, attended by 120 members, was an exciting and encouraging weekend for the church. Participants addressed all three shifts of becoming better disciples, sacred partners and a missional church. Throughout the conference, the church was energized by discussions of how The Village Church can affect real change in our local community.



We are cultivating in Worship.

Many good things have happened at The Village Church in the past year. It is now time to tend to the good seeds that have been planted. The sermon series this fall focuses on cultivating in different areas of the church and our own lives. In Worship we are learning how to tend to both fruitful aspects and those that require more care. By changing the culture at The Village Church, we hope to see our church live out its new mission.



We are growing as disciples in youth ministry.

The Village Church welcomed 19 new confirmands who committed to follow Jesus in April this year. Friday Night Live events are always a great time of fellowship and fun for the youth of the church. The youth and their families eagerly await a new Youth and Family Minister to lead them on their faith journey.

Dear Village Church Disciples,

By making a financial pledge to our church in 2018, you accomplish several important things at once:

- You make a critical investment in full-time leadership for our Children's and Youth ministries.
- You show your dedication to support God's work that touches hundreds of lives every week.
- You begin a habit of regular giving that offers you spiritual growth. *God loves a cheerful giver!*
- You help our Elders better predict our expected income and thus plan a realistic budget.

In 2018, we will welcome a new Senior Pastor and new *full-time* staff members to lead our Children & Family and Youth & Family ministries (previously, both positions were part-time). As God tells us in 2 Corinthians 9:6, "a farmer who plants a few seeds will get a small crop, but the one who plants generously will get a generous crop."

To build on our current momentum and become a missional church filled with disciples of Christ, we must "cultivate generosity" in our congregation. Cultivating generosity begins by embracing the biblical principle of proportionate giving. Proportionate giving asks each of us to give a specific percentage of our household income back to God in 2018—mindful that we are stewards of all God's provision to us.

Financial pledges are extremely confidential—known only to God, you, and our church's Financial Secretary. Your pledge is a commitment, not a contract—feel free to modify it if your circumstances change. This year we offer you an easy, streamlined process to make your pledge online. (See more information on the back page of this brochure.) You may also bring the enclosed pledge card to our Dedication Sunday on October 22.

Your faithful giving will ensure that The Village Church remains God's beacon to our community and shines even more brightly in years to come!

Your 2018 Stewardship Team

Elder Jeff Myers (Chair)
Tony Forchetti
Michelle King
Joe Lee
Rick Stuckey

Cultivating Generosity



We are sowing seeds in our community and beyond.

Missions continue to be an important focus of The Village Church. Members of our church volunteer to cook and serve meals locally for PADS and A Just Harvest Soup Kitchen monthly. Refugees new to the Chicagoland area receive welcome packs comprised of donations made by many in the church. Globally, The Village Church supports many missionaries around the world.



We are cultivating in children's ministry.

Each week in Sunday school the children dive into the Deep Blue curriculum to learn about God and what it means to be a follower and disciple of Jesus. In April, Children's Ministry hosted over 100 children and their families for an Easter Egg hunt, fellowship, food and crafts. The majority of attendees at this community outreach event were not familiar with The Village Church prior to the event. Last summer VBS had over 140 participants from our community celebrating Jesus' victories in the Bible and everyday life.



We are growing in our faith.

Adult education classes meet weekly and, among other topics, have studied Discipleship 101: What is a Disciple and What Does it Mean to be a Disciple? The number of small groups at The Village Church has grown to about 15 in the past year, representing about 150 members of the church. These are crucial ways to grow as disciples as well as strengthen relationships with others in the church family.