

This is a generous church community,  
We offer a warm welcome  
We pray for needs and for joys  
We make music so the building sings  
We ponder the great mysteries of God  
We bring goodies for coffee hour  
We are generous to the community around us

We are generous as we open our buildings to many groups, welcoming over 1,000 people each year. Take a look in the bulletin where we list all the organizations we host that week.

We are generous as we open our doors 5 days a week to 30 preschoolers and their parents in our Nursery School. We host a quite diverse group of children - and we have been doing this for over 50 years.

We are generous as we charge our Outreach Committee to organize us to directly fund some causes and to support us as we spend time and effort on Abraham's Tent, on the IRIS backpack project, and, soon, hosting Chinese middle schoolers visiting New Haven.

We are generous as we support the beauty of the New Haven Green by maintaining our iconic meetinghouse. This week an art project honoring immigrants is going up on the Green and on the outside of our meetinghouse.

All of this generosity is possible because people like us have given and continue to give.

We have so many ideas but to make plans to spend we first need to have some idea how much each of us plans to give this year (whether we call it annual giving or pledging). I know each of you has an idea of what you would like to give the church next year. Don't keep it a secret. Fill out an annual giving slip and return it in the offering or to the church office.

Think about what you gave last year - can you give a bit more this year?

My husband's childhood minister, Pastor Rogers, would get to the stewardship time of year and tell his congregation the following:

“Many pastors ask you to give until it hurts. I ask instead that you give until it feels good.”

Please join me in giving until it feels good in support of our remarkable, generous church.