



Dear Members and Friends of the United Church on the Green,

Thank you so much for all your past support during my five years of ministry at UCG!

During the coming fiscal year, we expect a new and exciting chapter in our church's history to begin with the calling of our new settled Pastor who will begin her tenure with you all on August 1st. Consequently, we all need to be particularly generous in our stewardship for this coming fiscal year which starts on July 1st. As you all know, there is a strong social justice component to our mission. And the Meeting House and Parish House are used continuously to serve our church and the wider community. Our Nursery School provides education to 30 international and local families who might not have this educational opportunity were it not for our sponsorship of the school.

There are many reasons why we need to be generous Christians we are called to support the Church and its important ministries. With a new Pastor coming, with fresh, new and exciting ideas, we want to be able to expand our ministerial resources as we move into this new chapter.

One day I heard this story, and it made me think about our stewardship campaign which is coming up:

One evening a sanyasi was just getting ready to sleep under a tree when he was approached by a villager who came running up to him asking that he give him a precious stone. "What stone" the sanyasi asked? "Lord Shiva appeared to me in a dream last night and told me that if I came to this place at dusk tonight a sanyasi would give me a precious stone that would make me unbelievably rich. The sanyasi rummaged in his bag for a moment and, smiling, said, Lord Shiva probably meant this one. I found it in the forest today and you certainly can have it. The villager gazed at the stone in wonder. It was as large as his fist and, even in the fading light, filled with luminosity. He took it and walked away. But that night he couldn't sleep. He was deeply troubled. Next morning at dawn he rushed back to the sanyasi, and thrust the diamond back into his hands. "I don't want it," he said. "What I want is whatever you have that makes it possible for you to give it away so easily."

May you all find it easy to give generously!

Pastor Bonnie

To make your pledge of support for the coming year, please send back the enclosed pledge card AND then go to our website: unitednewhaven.org to set up an automatic monthly contribution plan. You will feel better immediately!