



Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church

You might ask yourself, why is the guy who gets up a couple of times each year to report on the church's finances writing a stewardship letter? Well, I have been involved in the church's finances for a number of years now and have seen first hand just how the budget is put together and how things play out during the year.

Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church is blessed to have a generous congregation who support its work not only through monetary donations to the budget but through time and hard work spent supporting its mission. At every turn, folks with particular talents work hard to move the church forward and to keep its operating costs down.

I assure you that every nickel donated to the church is used prudently, there isn't any fat in the budget and we have funded only identified needs; that amount matches up with the contributions the church receives from its congregation.

For years now, CHPC has just been able to raise enough money to fund its operation and little more. The fact is that the average pledge to the church is \$5000 per year, an impressive amount. With rare exception, when someone makes a pledge to the church, they fulfill that pledge, an impressive fact.

When we put together the mission study for CHPC back during COVID and during our pastor search, it became obvious that our church wanted to return to the vitality it enjoyed during the early 2000's and before when the church's membership matched the size of the facility it occupies. That level of membership and activity really defines the dream that our congregation has for itself. So, what constrains us from realizing that dream?

The limits on our budget and in some ways our dreams start with the limits we place upon ourselves as each of us responds to the annual stewardship campaign. Would folks respond with additional contributions if the church tried to expand its ministry through the hiring of additional staff or funding additional programs or outreach? Our church certainly responds with donations when a need is identified such as a Habitat build.

I urge you to prayerfully consider your pledge to Colonial Heights Presbyterian for 2026. If you do not now make a pledge, I urge you to consider making a pledge. What is God calling us to do with this church and this ministry? I assure you, the contributions you make to the church will be thoughtfully spent.

Thank you for your time and generous consideration,

Isaac Webb
Treasurer