
SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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September 2023

“Keep the Faith, Mind the Gap”

Dear SPC Members and Friends,

With great enthusiasm for the plans unfolding in 2024, we write to update you on our financial position and encourage you to pledge for the coming year.

We enter this season with a strong foundation: fully staffed, with a growing children and youth ministry, a faithful online community, and a leadership team of Session and Deacons equipped to engage the congregation ever more deeply in our ministry of *Radical Hospitality, Holistic Spirituality, and Engaged Compassion*.

The Session has spent the past two years immersing itself in a deep dive of our budgeting needs and opportunities. We have assessed the desires of the congregation expressed in the Interim period and affected by the emerging realities of the COVID era. **By faith, we have made strategic investments in worship technology, children and youth ministry, staff benefits, and increased giving to mission and advocacy beyond the congregation.**

However, to maintain and build upon these investments into the future (and keep up with inflation), **our total annual congregational giving needs to increase by \$45,000 - \$75,000 (15% - 25%)**. Our current reserves will sustain us for only 3 - 5 years as we work toward this goal. If each household increases its pledge by 5% per year for the next 5 years, we will bridge the gap and build our long-term vision.

While we understand that many households may not be able to meet this request, others may be in a position to increase far more. We trust the Spirit to multiply whatever pledge you can offer into such great abundance that all needs will be met in abundance!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to any or all of us if you have questions. It is our privilege to serve you.

Bob Tucker
Budget and Finance Chair

Dave Smith
Clerk of Session

Pastor Gusti
Moderator of Session