

September 29, 2024

Dear Trinity family,

This year's Commitment theme is Whole Faith. We hear again the greatest commandment:

'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Matthew 22:37-39

What does it mean to love God with our whole hearts, souls, and minds and to love our neighbors without holding anything back? Committing to love with all we've got? As you see, this year's pledge cards remind us that we are called to love and serve God with all that we are and all that we have. I invite you to consider the fullness of the gifts God has entrusted to you and to pledge your time, talent, and treasure to God's service.

As you consider the financial resources you will pledge for 2025, know that over 95% of our annual budget comes from member gifts. We have shortened the commitment season and shifted the budgeting process to mid-fall so our Session can adopt a budget at the beginning of the year. Session will rely on the pledges we make in this commitment season to budget for 2025; every pledge is necessary in order for us to plan faithfully.

In 2025, we hope to call a full-time Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and expand staff support for our education ministries. These new calls, along with regular evening worship in the chapel and expanded engagement with our mission partners, will require a budget increase, so our commitment goal this year is \$4,000,000. We hope to reach this goal both through increased dollars given and increased participation from our church.

We have come through a lot as a church in the last few years—pandemic uncertainty, staffing changes, missional discernment, building repairs, and the return to a full calendar. Some of you have been engaged with your whole selves, helping to bring our church through challenging times. Others may have found that your habits and interests have changed. You may be waiting for an invitation to re-engage with your whole self at Trinity. Let this be that invitation. Come back! Reconnect with our worship and many ways to learn, serve, care, and advocate for others. Be part of our intergenerational fellowship as Trinity lives out the call to a whole life of faith.

As we give thanks for God's unrelenting love for us, let us love with all that we are and all that we have. Thank you for your abiding commitment to this community and our call to love.

With deep gratitude,



Rebekah

