



November 2022

Dear Friend of the Church,

Jesus tells a parable in the Gospel of Luke about a dishonest manager who was about to be fired. In a last-ditch effort of self-preservation, he cuts a few cunning deals with friends which, in turn, thoroughly impresses his wealthy boss. The point of the parable certainly isn't to condone dishonest business practices, but rather to remind us that how we treat our time, talent and treasure in the present has tremendous implications on the future. The investment we make in the present has a Kingdom-impact on the future.

Friends of The Reformed Church, what kind of spiritual investments are we making for the future? Whatever we have, however much we have, how might giving these gifts to God make a profound impact on our collective future? I wonder how many more kids in this community could hear about the love and mercy of Jesus? I wonder how many more missionaries this church could support who are on the front lines of being the hands and feet of Christ? I wonder how many more people we don't even know might be drawn to this old church set back on the hill and find a safe haven in a time of personal crisis?

Our present impacts our future. While there are countless causes worthy of charity and philanthropy, I can honestly say that the Church is the best place to give. When we give to the Church, we are giving to our youth groups that are pushing 100 students and children's choirs with over 50 young voices. We are giving to an organization that has doubled the number of service opportunities and tripled the number of missional partners in the last year. We are giving to a family of fellowship that cares deeply about creating community for all walks of life. We are giving to a place, a space. Something that we have a deep relationship with through weddings, baptisms, bell concerts, and candlelit services. We are giving to something going back generations with eye focused on future generations. We are giving knowing that our gifts are being stewarded with the same care as a treasured set of Grandma's pearls.

Our goal of \$1.6 million might be a stretch - a leap of faith. It will take all of us giving what we can, knowing that what we give now will make a difference on our future, later this year, next year and in eternity. Our campaign officially kicks off on Sunday, November 13 and I'd like to begin by simply saying, "thank you." Thank you for taking this leap of faith with me. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for committing your present to make a kingdom impact on your future. You can make a pledge to our 2023 campaign online at reformedchurch.org/give or by filling out the enclosed envelope. What investment in our future can you make today?

Grace & Peace,

Rev. Dr. Matthew J. Waterstone