



*We aspire to be beacons of God's love and truth ...*

September 17, 2025

Dear Friends,

Each fall, our church takes a few weeks to focus on stewardship—prayerfully considering how we will support God's work here at FPC Moorestown in the coming year. In past years, our stewardship themes, including *God's House – Our House* and *Grow the Kingdom*, reminded us of where we've been and where we're going.

This year, we thought we could use something a little lighter. Life already has enough stress, and talking about money often increases our stress. Since these weeks lead right into the World Series, we have decided to use baseball imagery to think about generosity. Together, we'll explore how we can **Step up to the Plate**, get on base, bring in runs, and hit a home run in our financial relationship with God and our church. Then, on Sunday, October 12 at 9:30 a.m. in a combined service, we'll "bring it home" by returning our pledge cards and consecrating them to God.

Scripture gives us good reasons to step up to the plate. Paul writes in 1 Timothy 6:17–19 that we should "be rich in good deeds, generous, and willing to share." Giving doesn't start with huge amounts—it begins with a simple commitment. Like baseball, nothing happens until you step into the batter's box. When we share, we discover the joy of giving. The goodness of life and the blessings of God come most fully when we're willing to open our hearts and generously share our financial resources.

While our church has made strong progress toward financial stability and balanced budgets, rising inflation and increased costs to maintain our building and grounds remain a challenge that strains our annual budget. We can't afford to wait and see — it's time for all of us to **Step up to the Plate** and do our part.

This year, in response to your requests, we're combining the 2026 Stewardship Campaign with the 2026 Capital Campaign. This will be our third year in raising capital money outside of the general budget. We have a beautiful Church and grounds that need constant upkeep and financial resources that we cannot satisfy from pledges to our annual budget alone. The last two years through your generosity we have averaged \$150,000 in additional pledges for our Capital Fund without adversely impacting your generous pledges to our annual operating budget. Your generosity has enabled us to improve our parking lot, upgrade the electrical and HVAC systems, upgrade our fire prevention system and smoke detectors, and address many more capital needs. For your reference, we have included a chart of planned projects for 2026 that depend on your help.

**Enclosed are two donation cards: one for your 2026 Estimate of Giving to our annual budget and one for the 2026 Capital Campaign Fund. Please return both in the envelope provided.**

We look forward to worshipping with you on Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup> and sharing a covered dish Celebration Luncheon together after the service.

With gratitude and hope,

Members of the Stewardship Committee, Board of Trustees, and Pastoral Staff

