

SESSION NEWS

Greetings to you from the Stewardship Commission! We hope that you are feeling well – physically and spiritually – as you read this edition of FPC’s newsletter, and we trust that edition brings you hope and joy knowing that God’s work is being done throughout our church and community.

This past Sunday, August 18, Christopher Small, chaplain at Hunterdon Medical Center, served as a guest preacher while Nancy and Charley enjoyed some vacation time. Chris’s message was based on the old testament reading, Psalm 8, in which David writes:

⁶ You made [mankind] rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: ⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, ⁸ the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. [NIV]

Chris related this passage to words from Genesis to illustrate our responsibility for God’s creation, but also and more importantly, each other. I thought about these words as I sat down to write to you about Stewardship and our church. Yes, our commission focuses on the budget and asking each one of you to honor the financial pledge you made for the year.

Today’s message reminded me that stewardship is not just about getting ready for the annual pledge drive – which of course is so critical to our church’s mission. Stewardship is also about taking care of all that is around us, taking care of the people that are around us, and taking care of God’s kingdom. You’ll be hearing more from our commission and all of Session over the next weeks and months about gaps that we need to fill to ensure that our church continues to fulfill the mission that God has in store for us.

Summer is coming to a close, and that signifies the start of Kid’s Communities, youth group, choir back in full swing, services being back to 8 and 10 AM, and so many other church programs back to a full schedule. There are many, many ways that you can plug in to do your part of being a good steward for our church and community. Everyone has something to give – and everyone’s contribution is equally as important no matter how big or small you might feel the effort is. We do not walk alone, and we cannot accomplish our mission, our service to God without you. **Our commission asks that you pray about your annual pledge, but also where you will step up to serve** – talk to anyone on Session about how you can help. Here are just a few ideas about how God might be calling you:

- Teach Kid’s Communities
- Become a Deacon
- Join choir
- Participate in worship (read scripture, collect the offering, light the candles)
- Lead a fund raiser to support our general fund
- Follow through with your financial pledge
- Help with spring and fall church clean up days
- ??? What ways can you think of?
- Get involved with our mission teams
- Help with the sound board/slides during worship
- Invite a friend or family member to church / Sunday school
- Join Session
- Contact someone who hasn’t been to worship in a while
- Support our Presbyterian Women’s missions
- Assist with counting weekly offerings

Where will you plug in?

Yours in Christ, Leslie Callanan and Diane Reed