For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...and we were all given one Spirit to drink.

1 Corinthians 12:13

October 4, 2019

Dear Church Members and Friends,

This fall we have been exploring and living into the richness of what it means to swim in the waters of the Holy One. We together are discovering that the waters of grace are boundless, and that in those waters, we shall find rest for our souls and strength for the journey of justice and love. And Federated Church is the place where we find both that rest and that strength. The ministries and missions here at Federated represent the journeys that we take on a daily basis in the name of the One who gives us life and breath.

Enclosed is a proactive Ministry Investment Plan for 2020 – a new format that illustrates the pledge dollars needed for each of our ministries and missions, which share grace joyfully just as God has shared that grace with us. Your financial pledge will make the investment plan a reality next year. This is an exciting plan for all of us that asks us to stretch. This investment plan

- increases our mission giving,
- provides funds for unanticipated repairs,
- supports and provides modest raises to a staff that is able to exercise a full range of ministry, and
- effectively utilizes our facilities to engage in the life-giving work of God

A habit of gratitude is a reminder that grace comes to each of us every day in very specific ways and it invites us to give generously in return. In both receiving and sharing God's abundance, we take God's outstretched hand and are led into healing waters. We are all invited to faithfully and joyfully give back to God a generous share of the gifts we have received, whether that is by

- pledging for the first time,
- sizably increasing our pledge (stretching),
- or striving to tithe (10% of income), increasing our pledge by a certain percentage of our income.

Please join us on Commitment Sunday, October 27th, in this habit of gratitude and generosity by reviewing the investment plan and returning the completed pledge card. If you're unable to be there, you can submit your pledge information to Janis Stefanchik (business@fedchurch.org, 440-247-6490 x114). Be ready to take the plunge as we commit our pledges to Federated Church – because the waters of God are always renewing and refreshing us.

Yours in Christ,

Hamilton Coe Throckmorton Senior Pastor

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