

*Good Shepherd
United
Methodist
Church*

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October 28, 2019

Dear Companions in Christ:

Peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. It is my pleasure to greet you at this season of Thanksgiving. I give thanks to God our Heavenly Father for the works of the Lord we have done together. May God brings to you abundant blessing at this season.

This Sunday, we gather to commemorate our forefathers in faith as we celebrate "All Saints Sunday." You may want to bring a votive candle for your beloved. We also will prepare extra candles for you to use. While celebrating the great legacy of the saints, we the church – gathering of the faithful disciples of Jesus Christ here at Good Shepherd, will find a way to commit to our faithful works of the Lord through "pledge."

We gave thanks to God for your faithful giving for this year with \$236,043.35 as of September 15, which includes weekly giving, rental income and other seasonal giving for liturgical and mission events. Compared to the same time last year, your giving shows \$30,455.85 more. I pray for God's blessing upon you, the primary workers of the Lord, so that our time, talents and treasures to the glory of God can allow us to pass through a finish line ahead of us with a triumphal shout to the Lord "Praise the Lord!"

Your giving allows us to fund all the aspects of ministries and mission. We paid \$32,320.95 for connectional mission share, including "apportionment" up to date for \$26,793.28. For programs, ministries, and mission we spent \$5,262.99. For total operation including building maintenance, insurance, secretary salary, etc. we paid \$48,235.87. We are glad to have significant repair done with the sizable donations from you. For staff salary and benefits we paid \$113,811.28. We hope and pray that God will bless us through your faithful giving for another great year, so that we can meet our goals and go beyond at this last quarter.

Enclosed is the brochure, entitled "Means of Grace that Shapes Our Future," which provides you with what we do throughout the year. It gives us a roadmap "toward the year of multiplication." The Committee on Finance will present the annual budget, for approval, for next year at the Church Council on Sunday, November 17, with \$350,620 - 89% of \$394,058 - last year's budget. This reduction of the budget is derived mainly from the faithful disbursements of the spiritual leaders of the church. Special thanks to the committee chairs and coordinators. 60% of pastoral leadership beginning last July contributed a sizable reduction. All the details will be available for you in the office shortly.

Please review the brochure and learn how much "more" we can be made through our goals in ministry. This year, we are thinking about giving of "first fruits," which will help us accomplish our goal in a joyous way as well as deepen our faith in God – by putting His first!

May God bless you richly! May God be with us – the gathering of faithful disciples of Jesus Christ – who would like all God's people be blessed by the gospel of Jesus Christ!
Sincerely yours,

Rev. DaeHwa Park
Pastor

Enclosure: 2020 - Means of Grace that Shape Our Future

Our journey is to praise God, experience God, serve God, and share God.