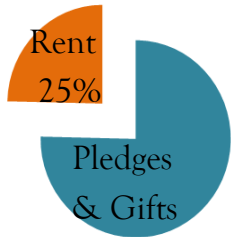


# Why Give?

## Our Congregation Needs Your Support

This church is self-supporting. Our staff salaries, program costs, building and grounds maintenance, and mission giving come from your financial gifts, supplemented by our buildings' rental income. We ask new participants to give, and returning givers to increase their pledge, because:



- **Our community of givers changes each year.** As dedicated older givers leave us, and others move away, it takes the effort of many to support our ministry.
- **The cost of labor increases each year.** We want to pay our excellent staff fairly.
- **We want to keep our wonderful programs.** Simply sustaining our wonderful programming takes creativity and dedication. Can you help?

## God Changes Lives Here

This church is a place of transformation. As God's spirit moves among us, we are comforted by one another's care, refreshed by shared worship, invited into deeper discipleship, inspired to try new things, and engaged in serving others.



## Giving is Good for Us

Sociologists tell us that people who give generously to others are happier and more fulfilled. We have another authority on the subject: Jesus. Jesus talks about money and possessions a lot. Our relationship with wealth, Jesus argues, has a dramatic impact on the health of our spirits:

- Faith can be choked by the cares and riches of life. *Mt 13:22*
- Sell your possessions, give to the poor, and seek a holy treasure that will never be destroyed. *Lk 12:33*
- Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. *Mt 6:21-4*

Our budgets reflect our values, and growing in giving is a powerful way to more deeply love God and our neighbor. Gifts to the church can be part of this growth.

