November 2024



Dear UNITY members,

As we enter the season of gratitude and giving, we want to take time to reflect on the past year. We want to celebrate the many blessings and recognize the changes and challenges we have faced as a faith community. Most of all we want to look to the bright future we can make together, starting with our **2025 Pledge Drive.** 

During this pledge drive we will *Celebrate the Past and Commit to the Future*. We will gather the congregation's sweetest memories from 2024 and hopes and commitments for 2025.

First, we want to take time to reflect on 2024 and everything we've been able to accomplish this year **thanks to your pledges and giving.** We have faced quite a few changes, but our faith has remained strong and our commitment to each other and our community has not only grown deeper but expanded. All of this is possible because of your generosity.

As we look to the *future*, we see a lot of big things. We see a fuller UNITY staff to achieve our goals and adapt to changing congregational needs. We see our amazing staff having cost of living increases and earning market-based pay. We see UNITY completing deferred property items at both campuses to ensure the security, protection and beauty of our gathering spaces. We see continued growth and support for internal ministries and our servanthood partners. We see a widening of our personal faith and our larger community. These are exciting times and we are so glad you're here.

As we embark on our 2025 pledge drive, we invite you to reflect on the abundance in your own life and consider how you can contribute to the ongoing work of our church. **We are challenging ourselves with the goal of 300 pledges by December 8th because pledges are essential to our ability to budget and plan**. We know everyone's giving goals are different but we ask that you consider *committing to a 6% increase* in your giving for 2025 to help UNITY accomplish our goals. If you feel especially able, could you consider a 10% increase? If you want to do more but not that much, a 3% increase gets us half-way!

Your support empowers us to plan for the future and continue our mission of service, fellowship and renewal. We have big goals for 2025 and your pledges and increased giving make it achievable.

To submit your pledge online, click <u>here</u>. To submit your 2024 sweetest memory and 2025 hope, click <u>here</u>. Be sure to check out the photo boards and memory/hope postings at the church services between November 9th and December 8th.

A brief FAQ is available by clicking <u>here</u>. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out to any Stewardship team member. Thank you for everything you do to make UNITY such an amazing faith community.

Sincerely, Trisha Smith, chair, Steve Taipala, Brian Olsson, Kelsey Morrison Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck