



October 28, 2022

Dear Church Family and Friends:

Yes, this is the time of year we remind you that your church needs your financial help. Many of us receive requests from charitable organizations continually—month after month all year long. Many of these—perhaps worthy of support, but it is annoying to receive almost constant requests, sometimes every month from the same group, even after having already donated!

First Presbyterian Church, on the other hand, seeks your support only once a year—at the time when we are putting together a budget for the next year. Other organizations—American Red Cross, American Cancer society, American Heart Association, and so on—are surely worthy of your support and we encourage you to do so, but in the midst of all those requests, we ask that you not forget your church.

We often ask that you consider increasing your gift to match inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index. However, we recognize this year has been a very difficult one for many. A recent report shows that inflation is up for many areas: food 11.4%, energy 28.8%, and all items in general 8.3% as of the end of August. We hear the cost of gasoline is down in the eastern part of the country, but no in California, where it is up again. This impacts all of us.

We often mention giving a “Biblical Tithes”, meaning 10% of your income to charity, but many are unable to do that. We then suggest pledging 5 % to the church. But in these difficult days, we would be pleased if you could just maintain what you have been giving, or even a small increase. Whatever you decide, remember what our now departed friend, Kaye Norris, has told us: all we have belongs to God; anything we give is just returning what is His anyway!

There are several ways you can give. We do ask that you complete a Pledge Card for that purpose. If you are receiving this by regular mail, a pledge card is enclosed. If you come in person to the church, there are cards in the narthex or in the office. If you want to do it online, go to www.burbankpres.org, click on “Give” and find a pledge card there. Please be sure we have your name, the amount you are pledging, and the frequency you wish to give—weekly, monthly, etc.

Your financial support for the work of Christ through First Presbyterian Church is greatly appreciated. May our Lord bless and prosper you in the year ahead!

David Lessley
For the Stewardship Committee