



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN**
celebrating & inspiring

SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANCE

in worship, in education, with outreach, and through our resources



2025

COVENANT GIVING

*Celebrating God's grace.
Inspiring the next generation for Christ.*

A note of encouragement from Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson, Senior Pastor

"GIVE!" It is not a suggestion but a command. "GIVE!" Just like God commands us to "LOVE! SING! GO!" Just like Micah used the imperatives to answer what it is that God requires of us, "but to "DO" justice, "LOVE" kindness, "WALK" humbly with God!" As God's child, God commands me to "GIVE!"

And do you know what I have found out when I am obedient to this command? Hope is shared. Love is spread. Kindness is embodied. Glory is proclaimed. Life is made whole. And not once, have I been left without. I have never been in a position to GIVE large sums of money, but I have been fortunate enough to GIVE what I have been able. I have never been in a position to GIVE all my time or have every talent, but I have been blessed by God to be in several situations in which the GIVING of the time and talents I do have, are able to be apart of building up and strengthening others. Making myself open and available to what God places in front of me to GIVE to is what I have learned to be the key.

From there, I trust in the good news Paul shares in *II Corinthians 9:8*, "God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." Also, aren't I only as good as those, including God, family, church, friends, that have given to me so graciously and abundantly throughout my life. To God be all the praise and glory and thanks- GIVING!

Sharing God's abundance leads directly to our FPC commitment to Covenant Giving: 1. Giving our Time, Talents & Skills, 2. Offering presence, prayer & participation in worship, 3. Giving financially. I thank you and encourage your gifts of time, talent and treasure.

I invite you to join me and all our church by sharing God's abundance and by making a financial and personal commitment for the calendar year 2025 to FPC.



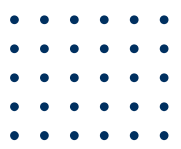
SHARE IN WORSHIP



God calls us to share in **worship** together, praying, praising, singing, hearing God's word, and being renewed and inspired for the week ahead.



"For me, FPC worship is about being an active part of a loving, uplifting and supportive family. Being in community is foundational to living a joyful, fulfilled life in Christ. We all crave and need to serve, and to be heard, valued and unconditionally loved. FPCLY is the place for me." —BILL PERKINS



SHARE IN EDUCATION



*“Christian education is not merely about the dissemination of knowledge; **it is the cultivation of character, the shaping of values, and the formation of a life dedicated to the service of others and the glory of God.**” – KINKADE GARLAND*

God calls us to learn and walk in faithful discipleship and inspire the next generation for Christ. We offer teaching, learning, and sharing for all ages.



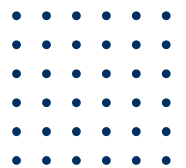
SHARE WITH OTHERS – OUTREACH & SERVICE



God calls us to give from our abundance to help those in need. This includes community outreach, congregational outreach, and local, national, and world mission outreach.



*“For us, Service and Outreach enables us to reach out to fellow congregants, neighbors, community members and others in the world. **Whether it’s a basket for a family with a newborn, a hot meal at a time of need or a few hours volunteering with a community partner, it’s our way to share with our neighbor.** After all, we are all God’s children and we are only as fulfilled as those around us.”* –**JUDY AND DICKIE STOWERS**





God calls us to support our personnel committee and staff who administer and implement church programs, to support our finance committee and FPC trustees who plan and steward our financial resources, and our facilities committee that plans wisely to maintain our beautiful building and grounds.



"Our staff are the heartbeat of the church. It is such a pleasure each year to support them in their accomplishments. With your financial support we honor their contributions to our church and the community." **-MARY ANN TATE**



Congregational Development Committee



SHARING OUR RESOURCES

HOW FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SHARES GOD'S ABUNDANCE - OUR 2025 BUDGET PLAN

2025 will be a transitional year for FPC. Since 2022, FPC has consciously invested in our church's programs and ministries and today our ministries have matured and are showing positive results. This investment has been underwritten by our endowment. This year our Session has approved a Financial Vision for FPC that requires balanced budgets starting in 2025. Consequently, no endowment monies are to be used to offset operational expense. This marks a return to stable yearly operating budgets, reserving our endowment resources for building a sustainable future and for unanticipated emergencies.

Our task in 2025 will be to balance our budget while continuing our vigorous ministries. Both expense reductions and increased congregational giving must be part of the plan. This work is underway and will continue until a balanced 2025 budget is approved by Session.

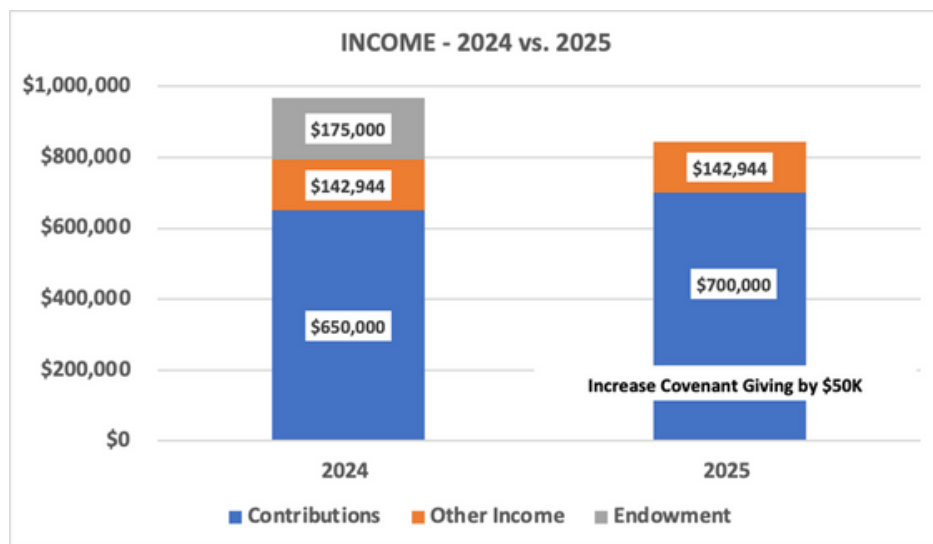
Necessarily, we will:

- **Increase** our goal for contributions to **\$700,000** and
- **Reduce** expenses by some **\$125,000**.

When achieved, our 2025 Income Projection will equal our Expense Projection of \$842,944.

This is a considerable effort requiring the discernment and commitment of all of the church staff, the church's Committees and Initiatives, the Session and, most importantly, the congregation. **Your participation is urgently needed.**

FPC has several sources of income, but the majority of our income comes from congregants' annual pledges to the church. **Our annual goal for congregants' pledges and gifts is \$700,000.**



MAKE YOUR 2025 COMMITMENT TODAY!



MAKE AN ANNUAL COVENANT COMMITMENT.

Please complete the commitment card enclosed and return to the church office. Your annual commitment helps us balance the budget and ensure a steady stream of income throughout the year. Your gifts can be given weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually.



WAYS YOU CAN FULFILL YOUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

- Set up an electronic bank draft from your bank account.
- Place your gift of cash or check in the offering plate.
- Mail your gift of cash or check to the church.
- Set up recurring credit card gifts via fpcly.org.
- Arrange stock or bond gifts.



NEED HELP OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact Susan Hall, FPC Finance Manager, if you need any assistance or if you have any questions:

- (434) 384-6231
- finance@fpcly.org
- 1215 V.E.S. Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503

To access the Covenant Giving information on our website or an additional commitment card, scan the QR code to the right with your phone or head to fpcly.org/giving/covenantgiving.



THANK YOU FOR GIVING EVEN MORE ABUNDANTLY THIS YEAR!