

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

~Matthew 28:19-20 (NRSV)

April 16, 2024

Greetings to you and Happy Easter! It is hard to believe that we have reached April. Before you know it, end of semester papers and exams will be here or summer jobs will begin.

Each year I send you as a college student or young adult this letter because I want you to know that Unity Presbyterian Church cares about you and your faith. Just because you graduated from high school does not mean that we have forgotten you! We hope and pray that the foundation you received here at Unity will continue to grow and bear fruit in your life after high school.

That is why Stewardship is important. As a college student or young adult, you have entered a new phase of your life and your faith. You are taking more responsibility for your own life, how you spend your time, and how you use your money. In the same way that your parents no longer tell you what to eat or what time to go to bed or how to spend your weekends, they also are not monitoring your commitment to Christ and the church. It is up to you to continue the practices of faith like worship, bible study, service, and stewardship that you learned here at Unity Presbyterian Church. Stewardship Season is the perfect time for you, and for all of us, to do a check-up on our faith.

Our theme this year is, "Sharing the Good News." In an era so often marked by negativity and bad news, as Christians we have good news to share. Jesus Christ died on the cross for you. Jesus is raised from the dead to give you new life. There is nothing you can do to make God love you less or love you more. This is more than good news, it's the best news. We each have an opportunity to share this good news with a world that desperately needs to hear it. The world really needs you!

I invite you to pray about and consider particular and practical ways that you will seek to share the good news as a part of your discipleship in the coming year. Included with this letter, you will find a Young Adult 2024-2025 Stewardship Commitment Form. It's designed to highlight ways you might give, grow, and serve whether you are here in Fort Mill or away at college. Note that the first thing we ask you to do is pray. **Even if you can't check any other box, I know you can commit to pray!** You'll find descriptions of the other discipleship and service opportunities on our church website <u>www.UnityFortMill.org</u> under Give/Serve.

After you prayerfully consider where God is calling you, mark the commitments that you will make this year. Return the pledge card by mail to the church or take a picture of it and email it to me at <u>mrich@unityfortmill.org</u> before <u>Commitment Sunday, which is Sunday, April 28.</u>

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me know. I look forward to seeing you in person and to being in touch as together we share the good news of God's amazing love!

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