



Dear Friends of Maple Grove,

“Those who have been blessed with riches have many opportunities to bless others through generosity. From each according to their ability, to each according to their need.”

Our 2023/2024 Stewardship campaign is upon us. As we progress through another church year, we are blessed once again to be able to attend church, to see our friends and neighbours, hear our wonderful music and practise our faith in our church without the challenges of a lingering pandemic!

Once again, it is so great to have you in our congregation. A big thank you to all those who have made a difference over the past year as we build our efforts to strengthen our church. We are grateful for such generous and consistent support for the ministry and mission of our congregation and the Mission & Service of The United Church of Canada during such a difficult time! We cannot say thank you enough.

As a compassionate faith community, we have responded to the call to be the church in the past year by:

- Providing worship that speaks to the hope of our faith amidst the needs and concerns of our world;
- Strengthening our outreach in the community through our connection with Kerr Street Mission and refugee sponsorship;
- Playing wonderful music to enhance our in-person and recorded worship;
- Providing opportunities to explore spirituality through prayer, meditation, and service
- Holding study groups and book studies in-person and online;
- Providing pastoral support in times of crisis and grief;
- Welcoming those who are seeking a new spiritual home;

This letter forms part of a Stewardship package which also includes a Narrative Budget and Commitment pledge sheets. The enclosed Narrative Budget will tell you more about the impact you made through your gifts this year to the church to support this community of faith. We also have plans for the coming year to expand our programming to meet the needs of our congregation and community, extend a warm welcome to those who are seeking, and fill our hearts and our worship with beautiful in-person music!

Today, to encourage you to continue the spiritual practice of generosity through consistently supporting God’s mission, we are inviting you to take some time to prayerfully consider how you will financially support Maple Grove United Church in the coming year.

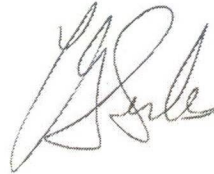
To assist you in deciding, we have included a Step Chart showing the number of donors at each giving level. After you identify your current level of giving on the Step Chart, we invite you to prayerfully consider if it is possible for you, in these challenging economic times, to step up one or more levels in your giving. Please know that any increase will make a difference, and will be deeply appreciated.

Perhaps this is also the time to choose to start giving monthly? Regular consistent giving is easy through the Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) program. **A PAR brochure can be found at various places around the church to help you sign up. We are also available to help with any questions you may have about PAR.**

Once you have decided how you will contribute to God's mission, please return the enclosed **Commitment pledge sheet** by the end of the Stewardship campaign, Sunday Nov. 26, 2023. By making your intention to be generous known to the leadership of the congregation, you are clearly demonstrating that you care about your Christian community and intend to generously follow the Way of Jesus. We know this is important to you! You can fill it out and email it back to the church as directed.

With heartfelt thanks for your generous support,

Rev. Jessica



Rev. Jessica McCrae

Called to Be the Church Giving Team

STEP Chart for 2019-2022

Of all households registered in the congregation:		Fiscal Year Ending:			
		2022	2021	2020	2019
# households gave over \$200/week or \$10400/year:		2	1	1	1
# households gave between \$150-\$200/week or up to \$10400/year:		0	0	2	0
# households gave between \$100-\$150/week or up to \$7800/year:		3	4	1	2
# households gave between \$50-\$100/week or up to \$5200/year:		18	24	23	22
# households gave between \$40-\$50/week or up to \$2600/year:		11	11	11	13
# households gave between \$30-\$40/week or up to \$2080/year:		14	17	16	15
# households gave between \$20-\$30/week or up to \$1560/year:		28	25	25	30
# households gave between \$10-\$20/week or up to \$1040/year:		37	34	46	51
# households gave between \$5-\$10/week or up to \$520/year:		18	23	17	32
# households gave up to \$5/week or \$260/year:		25	13	34	38
Totals		156	152	176	204
Total Local Givings		\$ 243,399	\$ 252,773	\$ 259,471	\$ 267,215
Total M & S Givings		\$39,792	\$40,103	\$ 43,372	\$ 46,672
Total Givings		\$ 283,191	\$ 292,876	\$ 302,843	\$ 313,887

Please note: Data from 2023 fiscal year was not available at time of writing.