



Dear Friends in Christ,

It would be an understatement to say that 2022 has been another year that required adjustments for our church family. But there is another important point we have also noticed - no matter what may happen within our congregation - through the structural concerns of our building, the changes in our worship service location or our need to hire a new senior pastor - the reason First Congregational United Church of Christ means so much to so many people is that it is home! It is an inspiring place to worship our most merciful and loving God. When we worship God together among our church family and friends we are blessed with a priceless gift.

Even amidst so much disruption in our common life these past few years, we can confidently move forward each day because we place our hope and our trust in the one God who will never change, who will never fail us or let us go. Despite all that has happened, we are truly blessed by God. We are healthy. We are moving forward in faith as part of the family of Christ. This is what endures. This is what changes us and gives meaning to our lives.

Together, we continue to celebrate generosity in all its forms - such as the giving of time and talent from our leadership team and our dedicated church staff. We are blessed with many volunteers who serve our church by providing worship help, through singing and ringing in our choirs and sharing musical talents, those who volunteer with Cafe' and missions and those who share many other talents. Our church congregation continues to be actively involved in our downtown community by providing loving comfort to those who experience hardships and a sense of spiritual teaching and guidance to all.

Thank you for sharing your treasure, for your ongoing financial support of First Congregational United Church of Christ. Your gifts do more than provide needed operating expenses, they sustain a pillar in our community, as a congregation helping those around us and as a significant historic structure which identifies Dubuque.

Enclosed please find the 2023 gift giving form. Your annual gift contribution supports ongoing costs such as salaries, youth and adult programs, support for our Cafe' ministry and other essential items needed for church operations. On the back side of this form, you will find a ministry interest form for you to complete if you are not able to join us for Rally Day next Sunday, September 11 in the church parking lot.

We gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the efforts made by so many of you to regularly submit your gifts! We also extend an invitation to those who have not yet given their financial gifts to step forward in faith and in thanksgiving for our many blessings. You are all vital and needed members of this church family.

Peace and Blessings, Your 2022 Annual Giving Team

George Davis, Treasurer
Tina Sio, Trustees
Kaitly Kemp, Associate Pastor

Merle Santjer, Trustees
Travis Nelson, Moderator
Nikki Ketchum, Church Business Manager

Carrie Keller, Trustee
Jeff Mozena, Vice Moderator