



OPEN HEART | VALUING ALL | SPIRITUAL GROWTH | COMMUNITY

November 1, 2023

Dear CHPC Friends,

We come to the end of an eventful 2023 with great satisfaction and with a rising anticipation of what blessings come next. Our congregation is growing in ways we can scarcely imagine. The CHPC Dreams and Visions Task Force has challenged us to expand our vision of the church – who we are as people of faith and who we hope to be in the future. This new vision encourages us to be *Growing in the Spirit*.

We are growing! Attendance is up nearly 25% over last year, and we added 14 new members and had 2 baptisms. Pastor Rachel has brought energy and optimism to all that we do as a church. We have benefitted from a Theology Potluck and inspiring, prayerful worship services. Our dedicated work with Good Neighbors Capitol Hill and the migrant programs changes lives. The Spring Fling raised money and raised the roof thanks to Music Director Caitriona and the choir. Our retreat and service trip helped change our perspectives. Baseball, burritos, and the blessing of the animals remain a part of our busy schedule. So, too are Town Halls and new education opportunities for the congregation at all levels. Most importantly, we welcomed new members and greeted new visitors.

We felt like Chicken Little in March when plaster tumbled to the floor. You were flexible and generous as the Session navigated difficult but necessary work and costs to restore the sanctuary ceiling. Sanctuary restoration isn't the only visible change at CHPC. In 2023, we welcomed our new Facilities Manager, Maurice Lane. Maurice has already made important changes and will lead the chapel's restoration to improve its utility. These restorations remind us that dreams and visions will bring tangible results as we grow spiritually as individuals and as a congregation.

Annual pledges are the bedrock of CHPC's financial support, allowing us to allocate resources and plan for our core ministries, including Worship, Education, Hospitality, and Service. Last year's record pledges enabled this great work. We are asking you to prayerfully consider making a specific financial commitment to CHPC for 2024. Because we are growing in these different ways, we invite you to consider growing your previous commitment by 4, 7, or even 10%. If you haven't pledged before, we invite you to do so today as you can. This will help the Session to plan the 2024 budget, knowing that the church can rely upon your gift over the next year.

Our Stewardship campaign is now through November 19. While you can pledge any time, we encourage you to make your 2024 pledge by that date.

There are several ways to pledge online through Realm or by pledge card. In Realm, you can securely enter a pledge amount and choose whether to make a one-time or recurring donation. Detailed instructions to make an annual pledge are found on the CHPC website at capitolhillpreschurch.org/giving. One is enclosed with this letter if you prefer a paper pledge card.

Thank you for your generosity as you join the CHPC community that is *Growing in the Spirit*.

“I was glad when they said unto me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

Psalm 122:1

Yours in Christ,



Elder Darren Hultman, Stewardship Committee Chair



Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes, Pastor

Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church

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