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**Capital Campaign
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Dear Church Family and Friends,

As we near the culmination of the planned phase of our *Joy of Generosity*/Funding Our Vision (FoV) campaign, many of us have felt significantly challenged by the invitation to give “the greatest gift of our life.” And we should, especially in this season of Lent when we reflect on Jesus’ own sacrifice: it’s an opportunity to demonstrate our faith in compelling ways.

You may have heard me share in a recent sermon (<https://hollischurch.org/sermon/i-have-decided-17-march-2019/>) how Reverend VanderWyden, our capital campaign advisor, discussed with me his “rule of thumb” for pastors to contribute 1% of the total campaign goal. For Joel and me, that felt like a daunting reach. We don’t have a big savings account. We are full-on in the kids-in-college stage of life. We have a mortgage and taxes and a house that needs as much repair and maintenance as anyone else’s. We’re healthy now, but none of us knows what the future holds. A \$20,000 commitment to this campaign is a big deal to us.

But being called to minister in many places over the years has blessed us with the opportunity to practice trusting, in concrete ways, that God will provide everything we need. Over the years, we have sacrificed resources that might have helped us feel more financially secure because, as best we could tell, it was what we were called to do. Each time, it has further strengthened our recognition that, when we respond with faith, we see God’s unstinting faithfulness to us more plainly. That provides a peace that’s not easily described. It’s what’s helped us ultimately commit \$20,000 to this campaign.

One of the pleasures of participating in the *Joy of Generosity* campaign has been the inspiring generosity of others who are contributing in exemplary ways. All of us are asked to give whatever we can financially – after all, it will take significant capital to accomplish the work we need to do. But many of you have also given countless hours of time and talent. And in a world where “time is money”, that gift is just as real. Reverend VanderWyden calls this the “faith-raising” aspect of the campaign, and indeed it is. I hope you’ve experienced it, too!

On the afternoon of April 14th, please warmly welcome the Caring Callers – fellow members who will come to your home. They represent our ongoing commitment to do this as a community so that we will always remember participating in God’s new work through us, together. The Caring Callers will want to answer any lingering questions you have, and will provide a Letter of Intent (LOI). This letter will not be handed to you with any pressure or compulsion, only an embracing invitation to join us: join in the growing circle of those who have glimpsed God’s vision for our life and future, and who choose to support it with whatever mite or measure we can.

Yours with faith, hope, love, and gratitude,

Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen