

## **His Vision, Our Mission Intent of Giving 2024**

WOW! A lot of water has passed under the bridge since you received a similar letter last year! Some distractions have come and gone and we're looking forward to a new beginning together.

It's a time of year in which we're reminded of God's Vision to grow His Kingdom. In Acts 1:8 the disciples are told the Vision – Become witnesses to the world, but only after the Holy Spirit has come. The vision? To grow the Kingdom of God by becoming witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. The Holy Spirit comes in chapter 2 and the mission begins. The disciples had listened. Now they act. Now they are on mission to grow God's Kingdom! Their commitment to live out what they had been taught by Jesus is astounding! The result? The church sees explosive growth! His Vision, Our Mission.

His Vision, Our Mission hasn't changed since the birth of the church the day of Pentecost. The church is still charged with growing God's Kingdom here on earth.

So it is that we write this letter to motivate and inspire you to let us know what our budget will be in 2024. That budget will help grow the Kingdom of God in our own Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

Here's what scripture tells us when it comes to giving to the church:

1. That God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Cor 9:6-7
2. That we are to bring the first 10% to the storehouse (Church). If we don't, scripture says that we are robbing God. Mal 3:8-10

No one wants to be known as an unhappy robber of God! ☺ So, we're asking you once again to partner with us by filling out an "Intent of Giving" card so that we might create a healthy budget that helps grow the Kingdom of God. His Vision, Our Mission.

Healthy things grow. Your financial gift will be the catalyst for that growth in 2024.

Now let's address the elephant in the room. Many are wondering how we're doing after the disaffiliation vote. Yes, we lost some folks and finances, due to the vote, but we are holding our own. Honestly, way better than I thought we'd be at this point. Yes, we do have some ground to make up. But now we all need to do our fair share to remain vibrant into the future. In God's eyes that's 10%. While we realize that many have the resources to tithe, if they choose – and I'm thankful many do, at the same time others just can't for various reasons. We get it....

That's why it's an "Intent of Giving" card. It's what you "intend" to give, this is your hope. While we hope you can give what you intend, if a hardship arises, we realize you may need to adjust your amount. No problem! This merely allows us a starting point for our 2024 Budget so we can move forward with growing the Kingdom. His Vision, Our Mission. You even have the option of

remaining anonymous – some don't want others to know how much they give. No problem! Fill it out and don't sign it. For others, they like the accountability, so they sign the card. For this reason, our desire is 100% participation. No amount is too small or too large. All this allows everyone to participate.

We will begin on September 17<sup>th</sup> and conclude on October 8<sup>th</sup> with a dedication day where we bring our cards to the altar, and we dedicate them to God and the growing of the Kingdom. His Vision, Our Mission. You're welcome to turn them in earlier than that and just use a blank on that day to bring to the altar if you'd prefer to give us a head start...

We had good success with this idea last year and praying it will be even better this year with both participation and amount.

Know that Julie and I are tithers and will be participating in His Vision, Our Mission, and are excited to partner alongside you to see what's about to happen at Riverchase!

His Vision, Our Mission.

Tony