



# RIVERCHASE

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

To pledge or not to pledge...

To pledge or not to pledge – that's the question? Right? I mean seriously who likes a Financial Campaign? Typically, I sure don't! Who wants everyone knowing how much I give? Who wants to make that kind of financial commitment in uncertain times of high inflation? Right?

I get it, been there and done that in my own life!

So, I want you to know my heart when it comes to giving to Riverchase... Scripture tells us a few things:

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 That means our first 10% is to go to Riverchase, then to other charitable organizations once our tithe has been met.

My hope is that this letter will motivate and inspire you to think differently, from this day forward, about financial giving to Riverchase. Ultimately for you to see the value in giving...

Riverchase works on a faith budget. We don't produce widgets that produce a profit. We can't work in economies of scale or raise prices to make budget in a way most of the world operates. We have faith that God will provide, and in turn He has faith that you'll give. Simple as that. Faith based.

So, as we move into the future, I hope we will begin to focus on what it means to be generous in our giving as God has been generous to us. I hope we will begin/continue to give in a way like we'd like to receive. God loves a cheerful giver.

My prayer is that we'll begin to see the value in investing in the Kingdom of God through Riverchase. For you to see there is value gained. We are doing incredible things for the Kingdom of God at Riverchase as you have been witnessing. People are being baptized. People are partnering with the church. Mission work is being done. Youth and kids are everywhere. We are having great guest flow. Lives are being transformed both inside and out at Riverchase.

All the above is only possible because of your generosity! But once again we work on a faith budget. There may be even more that can be accomplished to grow the Kingdom of God, if we just knew what we had to work with each year.

So here is where we need your input. Enclosed you will find an "Intent of Giving" card. This is simply a tool for Riverchase to have an idea of what we can budget in 2023. But it's only an intent. We know that something could happen where you were unable to meet your intent. Life happens and we get it.

Here's the bonus... your name is optional! If you like being held accountable, then sign your name. If you don't want anyone knowing what you give, just fill out the amount and leave the rest blank. While we hope that you are or will become a tither, no amount is too large or too small when creating a faith based budget. Everything is appreciated.

It's our prayer that everyone will participate in helping us determine an amount for our 2023 budget! Then we can determine how that budget can be used at Riverchase.

Then on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, we will all bring our cards (signed and unsigned) to the altar to be prayed over to show our faithfulness to God. However, feel free to email or send your "Intent of Giving" card before Jan 29<sup>th</sup> or at any point, if you'd like, especially if you're not going to be here on January 29<sup>th</sup>!

From this day forward we hope you'll become a cheerful giver!

  