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Adam Conrad Music Director & Composer-In-Residence October 28, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of First Christian Church:

Yes, it is that time of year again. Our stewardship campaign for the 2020 calendar year has begun, and the theme of this year's campaign is "It's a Wonder-Full Life." During this year's campaign, we have been exploring how our relationship with money affects our lives and how it affects our relationships with others. Several members of our congregation will be describing their personal stories and experiences with financial stewardship and commitment. What is your relationship with your money? How does it affect your life experiences?

Now that we have completed our "FCC Renewal Journey," and Pastor Laurie has returned from her sabbatical, we are rejuvenated and ready to continue identifying the vision we see for FCC's impact on the world. How can we best use our personal and congregational resources? The most obvious function of FCC is our gathering on Sunday morning for child and adult education, and weekly worship service. But we also are commissioned to reach out beyond our church building. The "Mission at Your Doorstep," and group mission trip have become annual FCC traditions, providing opportunities for personal fellowship, faith growth, and our ability to spread the news of God's love. Other ongoing activities like packing food in children's backpacks at the Whittier school, or preparing a meal for men at St Stephens's shelter only take an hour or two of one's time.

In doing these ministry activities, we are transforming lives and being transformed by the love of God at the same time. All of these things are planned and prepared by staff and volunteers who are deeply committed to our becoming who it is God is calling us to be. But realize that the church needs the funds to compensate the staff and to provide for these tangible goods. The ministry and mission of our church take place because of the spiritual and financial gifts our members and friends choose to offer.

The nominating committee will soon be inviting members to fill various positions within the functions of the church. If you are not contacted by the committee and have an interest in being more involved in any particular function, please contact me or one of the FCC staff. Our SpringHouse Ministry Center continues to be active in the community and can only do so with the involvement and commitment of the members of the individual congregations.

I ask each of you to prayerfully consider your own relationship with the financial and other resources that you have been blessed with. How should we use those gifts? God calls us to consider what it means for us to live based upon gratitude for all He has done and will do for us.

Our Commitment Sunday is November 10. During the service on that Sunday, we will be invited to present our individual pledge cards as well as the "Time and Talent" sheet that is enclosed in this letter. If you cannot be in worship on November 10 please mail your Commitment Cards and Time & Talent sheets to the church office.

It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as your board chair. God's blessings be with each of you. Thank you.

Dean Creighton

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FCC Board Chair

