



November 6, 2018

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**Rev. Peter K. Perry**  
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First United Methodist Church of Olympia welcomes people of all ages, all abilities, all sexual orientations and gender identities, all nationalities and ethnicities, the poor and the rich, single people and the many forms of family.

**First Olympia is a Reconciling Congregation.**

Dear

I write to you looking out my office window having just returned from a week with my grandson. The sun is shining, though the air is chill and the leaves are almost all on the ground. The church just celebrated All Saints Sunday and all around are signs of thanksgiving. When I left on my vacation, we had just received the collected pledges of support for the new year after three weeks of conversation about Sacred Choices. Pledge Sunday was a glorious celebration of the support of church members and friends for the work we are called to do together in this place.

While I was away, more pledge cards were received at the church office and today **the total amount pledged from 155 families has grown to \$492,796**. When we add in another \$228,241 in projected giving, and the few sources of projected income from interest, building use, and unexpected sources, we are within about \$25,000 of fully funding our church budget of \$765,000. That is very good news so early in the process. It is a cause for celebration.

We have not yet received a pledge card from you, and so your giving is in the projected giving category currently. However, I would like to encourage you to complete a pledge card and return it to the office as soon as possible. Projected giving is far less accurate and therefore less useful to the church than a pledge card, and the more families pledge, the more confident the church can be in planning and funding ministry in the coming year.

I know that some of our families, for a variety of reasons, choose not to make a pledge. Of course, we respect that choice, but we make this final invitation in order to do our best to provide effective fiscal oversight to the work of the church, and to give you the opportunity to practice the spiritual discipline of stewardship in a time-proven way. In any case, please know that your support of the church is always appreciated not only by the staff, but by the recipients of the grace God shares through our life together. I give you thanks for you this day, and for all the ways that God is at work through you.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Rev. Peter K. Perry  
Lead Pastor