

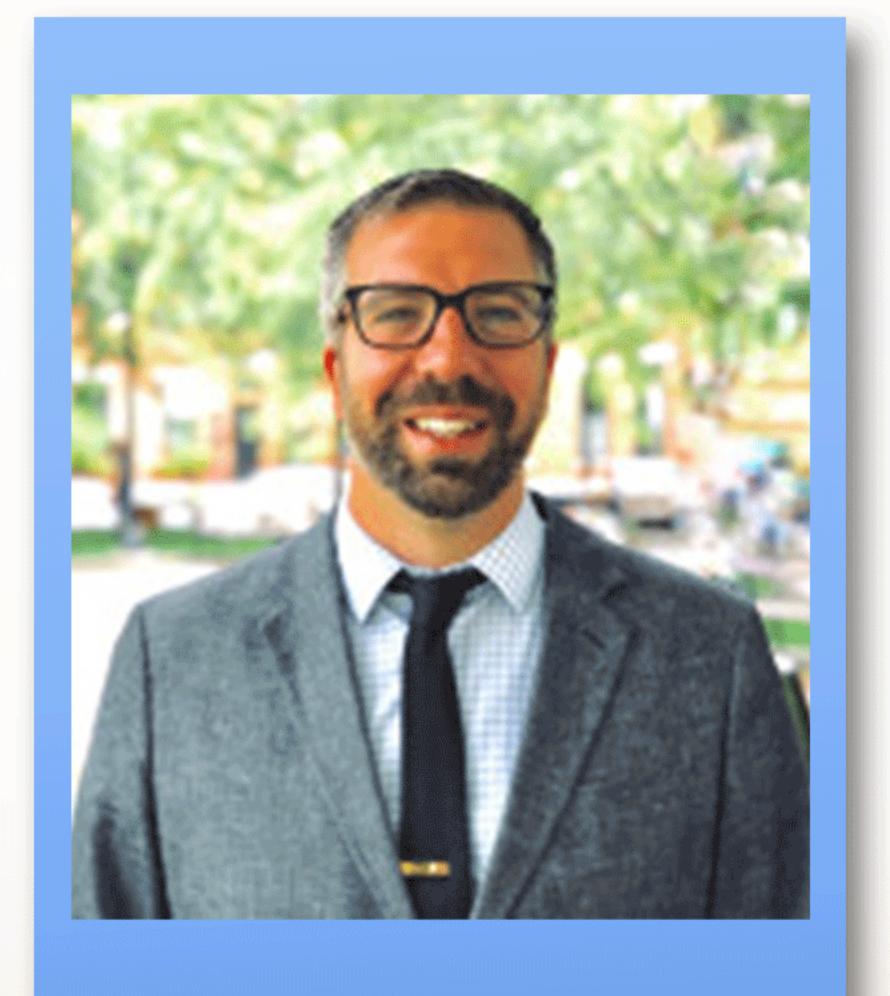
#### A WORD FROM REVEREND JARED AYERS

Contagious. That's a word we've become uncomfortably familiar with over the last year and a half. We've received an unpleasant education in how a virus is transmitted, how infection spreads, how sickness can make contact and spread from one person to another.

Given our main associations with the word "contagious" are an ongoing pandemic, it may surprise you to learn that, in the Scriptures, the concept of something being "contagious" is actually used in a positive way on a number of occasions. C.S. Lewis, in a thought-provoking essay entitled "The Good Infection," describes this dynamic: "Good things as well as bad, you know, are caught by a kind of infection. If you want to get warm you must stand near the fire: if you want to be wet, you must get into the water. If you want joy, power, peace, eternal life, you must get close to, or even into, the thing that has them."

This dynamic turns up all over the New Testament. Paul, in writing to the church in Philippi, says that their growth and transformation into the likeness of Christ will "make my joy complete" (Phil. 2.2)- will have contagious effects in his own life. In 2 Corinthians 8, he writes of a church's joy in financial generosity, despite their limited means, in hoping that the church he writes to will "catch" something of what they have.

In the same way, I want to invite you to "catch" what God's doing around FPC. Even as we continue to traverse a stubborn pandemic and do our best to keep our community safe and healthy, we're steadily welcoming growing numbers of new guests and expressing the hospitality and welcome of Jesus to friends and neighbors in new ways. Our kids' and student ministries are growing. There's a a palpable sense of joy and participation in worship. New small groups are starting, scattered through neighborhoods all across Palm Beach. There's a growing and contagious sense of God doing a fresh work in this community.



I want to invite you to invest generously, as you are able, in the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church this year. Not just so that we can meet our financial goals and pay our bills, but so you can, through the practice of giving, catch the contagious joy of lives changed by Christ and His Gospel!

In Christ,

# STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

This campaign is designed to fulfill First Presbyterian Church's mission to equip people to pursue and share gospel driven lives. We are seeking pledges to our four primary funds: General Fund, Global Missions Fund, Local Church Planting/Growth Fund, and the Capital Improvement Fund. Each fund and its corresponding budget are described on the pages that follow. Note that the General Fund has the largest budget and this should be taken into account if you allocate your total pledge among the funds.

You may make a pledge in the following ways:



Complete the attached pledge card. Place it in the offering plate on Sundays, mail it, or drop it off at the church office.

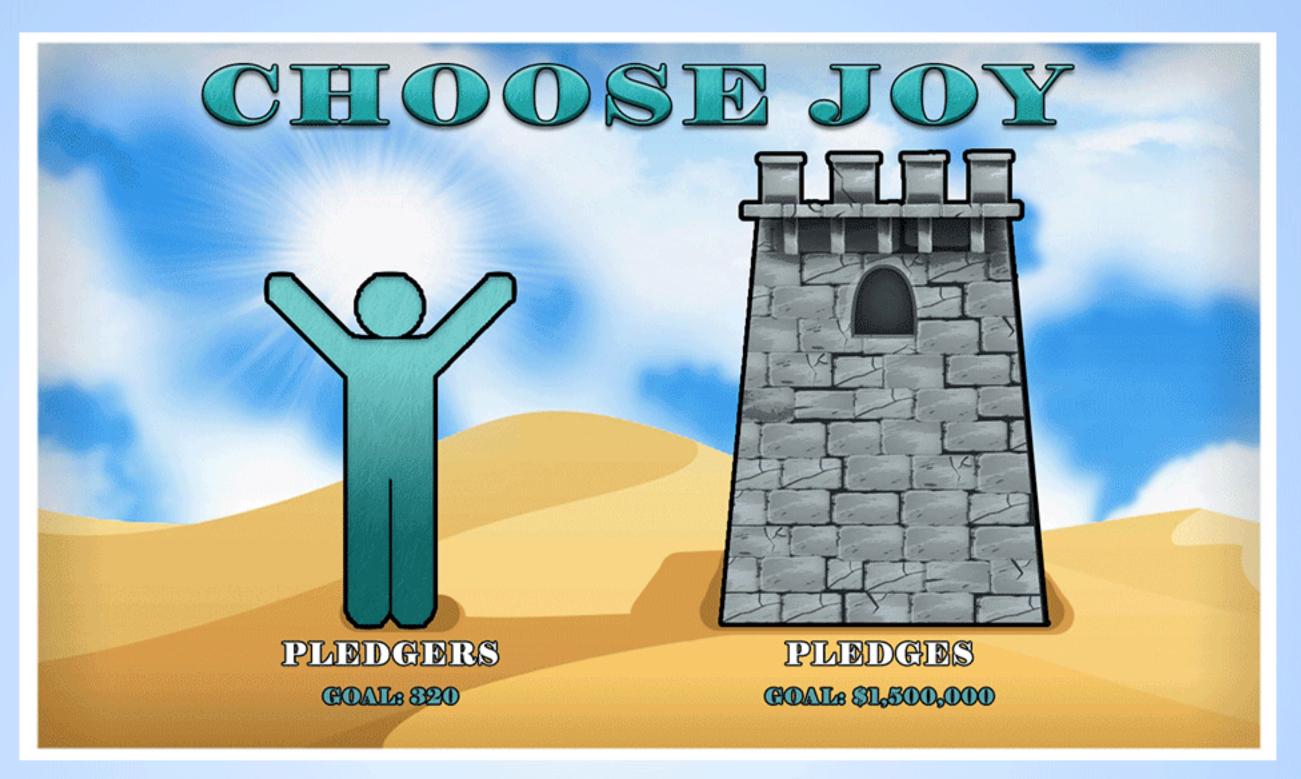


Pledge online on our website, www.firstpresnpb.org. Go to Giving - Pledge card



On our Church app, click on EVENTS and then 2022 Pledge.

We will provide graphic updates of our progress in reaching our General Fund goals. The graphic which depicts our CHOOSE JOY theme is based on the book of Nehemiah, where God leads him to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and encourage the people to renew their covenant with Him. The wall represents the total pledge dollars received; the person represents the total number of pledgers. When they are completely shaded in, we have reached our goals.



#### 

2022 BUDGET - \$2,200,000 PLEDGE GOAL - \$1,500,000

One of the statistics that the Finance Committee tracks is the percentage of general fund offerings received comes from pledges. We utilize that percentage to set our goal for the year ahead. We also set a goal on the number of pledgers. Last year we received 293 pledges. Our goal is to increase that by 10%, so the 2022 goals are \$1,500,000 from 320 individuals/families.

#### GENERAL FUND BUDGET BREAKDOWN



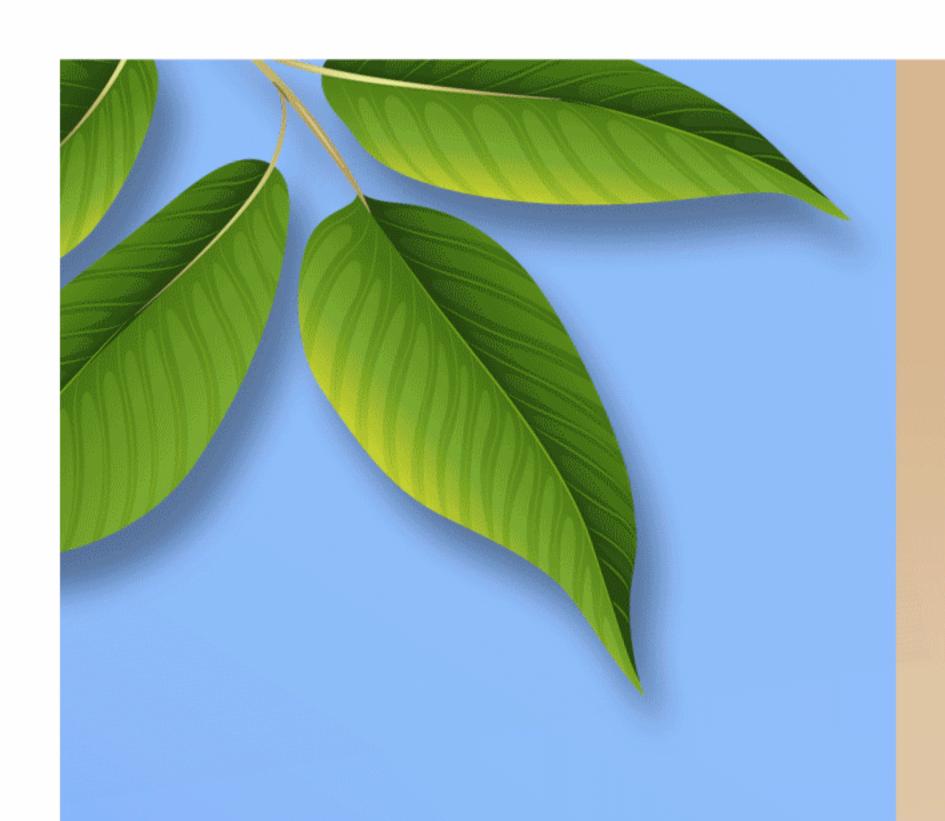


First Pres is following the command of Jesus found in Matthew 28:19 to "go and make disciples of all nations" by being in partnership with 16 global missionaries /mission agencies and 5 global church plants. See the map below which shows the locations of our mission partners. Donations made to the Global Missions Fund, along with prayers offered to the Lord on behalf of our mission partners and the friendships cemented between members of First Pres and the missionaries, is equipping them to reach people with the love of Christ spanning five continents.

Our mission partners can be categorized in four areas:

- Support of missionaries working in the 10/40 Window and justice ministries
- Support of national leaders
- Missions involving evangelism, discipleship and care for the poor
- Supporting church planters who are establishing new churches in key global cities.





# LOCAL CHURCH PLANTING/ GROWTH FUND

2022 BUDGET \$100,000 Being missionally focused is a core value of our Church. We want to see people understanding for the first time how their stories fit into God's Story. A great place to see this happen is in new groups and communities where people can build trust with Christians and explore the faith for themselves. While our Church leadership has



adopted a "hub and spoke" strategy
with a focus on community groups, the Local Church Planting
Committee is dedicated to seeing the same approach to concentrate
groups strategically in neighborhoods as seed churches. As
micro-expressions of church multiply within a geographic
area, they can be woven together to form a formal church plant.

Our Local Church Planting Committee
has been involved with plants in West
Palm Beach, Palm City and Riviera
Beach. Training lay persons for vital
roles in this process is critically important.



(Pictured: Rev. David Hancock and The Grove Church)

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND



Here are the items identified that we want to purchase or begin saving for:

#### 2022 BUDGET - \$150,000

Our church campus is a beautiful place where we, as the body of Christ, meet to worship, pray, serve, be discipled, study and have fellowship together, and experience Jesus' peace and grace. With seven buildings spread over 7 acres of land, money is needed to replace aging equipment, make major repairs, and keep up with ever changing technology. In order to be proactive, we set aside capital improvement donations received in anticipation of funding these major expenditures when we actually need to fund them. There were several items identified for this year's capital expenditures that have not been made yet, such as painting the chapel and CY buildings and replacing the flooring in the Admin building, but by preparing as we do, we have the money to do them when time allows.

#### Sanctuary roof replacement

Non-diesel vehicle to replace the diesel bus we sold

Replace obsolete wireless mics in Fellowship Hall and chapel and other AV upgrades

Portable professional video camera

**Computer replacements** 



#### Consider your TIME

Make it a priority to pray, to study the Bible, to get involved in one of our small groups, and to participate in our worship services.



#### Consider your TALENTS

What skills and abilities has God given you that can be used to serve Him and others? Some opportunities to serve at Church are to teach or volunteer to work with children or students; get involved in the music ministry; beautify our grounds; assist with bereavement receptions; volunteer in the office and participate in gleaning and other local mission projects.



#### Consider your TREASURES

(financial and material resources)
Do you give generously or
your leftovers or perhaps not
at all? Do you tithe? Do you
have a plan for increasing
your giving each year in order
to become a tither or give
extravagantly? Have you
remembered the Church in
your will? Do you donate
items you no longer use to
help others in need? Do you
complete a pledge card which
helps the Church immensely
in budgeting for the future?

## THE COMMITMENT CHALLENGE

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)

God has created each one of us as unique individuals with talents and abilities that He specifically chose for us so that we could do our part to advance His Kingdom here on earth and to glorify Him every day of our lives. In doing so, we will reap eternal rewards.

During this season when our Church emphasizes stewardship, we challenge you to commit all your ways to the Lord because He is worthy and trustworthy. What does that look like?

Ask the Lord to show you how to better use your time, talents and treasures for His glory, and make a plan on how you will do it. In your prayers, ask Him what He wants you to give to further His Kingdom through the ministries here at First Pres and complete the pledge card. This is a tangible way to show your commitment to Him and your trust in Him who holds your future.