



CHURCH, UCC - An Open and Affirming Church - Warmly Welcoming all of God's Children

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November 5, 2023

Dear Friends,

We want to begin by saying thank you. During constant change since 2019, a global pandemic, we have learned how to "be church" in a variety of ways that we might never have expected, you have responded to the invitation to bring your best before God. Your leadership in generosity contributes to the long-standing success of our community of faith. Because of your commitment to the ministry of the Scarsdale Congregational church, we are an ever-increasing effective witness to the inclusive welcome of Jesus Christ. This congregation is grateful for you, and for the example you set for each of us about what it means to respond to God's prompting to be a faithful steward.

We join you in celebrating the opportunity to now give to others with joy. Being a partner in movements that change the lives of individuals and enrich our community is so satisfying. That is a secret we wish more people could discover for themselves! Our financial gifts do remarkable things when they are transformed into ministry and mission, including:

- Increasing our Youth Action Committee (YAC) to nearly 20 kids the largest in years.
- Providing our children with the best Christian faith formation possible with an amazing curriculum and dedicated staff and volunteers.
- Hosting a successful grief book group.
- Continuing worship, prayer, and meditation to ground us in our faith.
- Enabling a new website to better communicate how our church changes lives.

Our God is a God of invitation: who invites us on a faithful path of transformation that changes us, and through us helps us to change the world. When pondering the question, why does the world need a church like SCC? Our answer is, "Our Church Changes Lives." In both large ways and small, we show up for the community. Did you know that we host 3 three weekly recovery groups for AA? Did you know that we provide an in-person community service opportunity each month? Did you know that we engage in activism around voting rights, women's rights, the issue of poverty and hunger as well as environmentalism?

In the coming weeks, you will hear stories about how we as a congregation are responding to God's invitation to bring our gifts. Each of us will be challenged to take even bolder steps to invest our whole life into becoming the church God is urging and encouraging us to become. We invite you to respond to this important invitation with an increase in the amount of our financial gift in the coming year. It is a time of great possibility for our congregation and the future of its mission, especially as we celebrate our 100^{th} year as an independent congregation and work towards our next 100 years.

Again, we thank you for your support. Giving in the manner that you do is the result of faith, trust, intentional choices, and a life of generosity.

Please plan to be with us for Stewardship Sunday on October 29, 2023 to hear the message of this year's campaign. And then submit our pledge to help support the good works of our church.

Faithfully, and generously yours,

Helf Hoph Ry

Rev. Dr. Kelly Hough Rogers, Senior Minister

Mark Woodward, Resources Chair, For the Resources Committee

Mark Woodward

Jon Ungar, John Werner and John Olivieri