



Dear friends,

Over the last two years, the airwaves have been filled with a whole lot of angry "I" language: "I didn't vote for her/him," "I don't like X," "I don't have to obey that rule/mandate," "I have the right to (fill in the blank)..."

None of that is surprising in a country steeped in individual liberties, and I'm not quibbling with that at all.

But in the midst of all those arguments, it's easy to lose sight of the collective "we." "We the people," "Fourscore and seven years ago, *our* forebears..." "We hold these truths to be self-evident..." "Forgive *us* our debts, as *we* forgive our debtors..."

That's how our stewardship theme sprang up this year. The stewardship committee, the administrative team and the session put their heads together and realized that's exactly what the Christian faith is about: it's "Bigger Than Me." Following Christ, at least as we Presbyterians understand it, is never just "me and Jesus." To the contrary, the greatest commandment—the heart of discipleship—is loving God AND neighbor. It's never a solo endeavor.

You have heard, and will hear more over the next couple of weeks, about how we as a congregation are seeking to do just that. You already support NPPC's ministries, and you know the difference every gift makes.

So I wonder, might you consider increasing your giving to NewProv in 2022? In a world of "I" and "me," this is an opportunity for New Providence to make a profound statement about the power of "we."

Please click the "Make a Pledge" link on the church website giving page to make your pledge.

In God's crazy arithmetic, the gifts we bring make good things happen. Thank you for being a part of it.

It is a joy to be the church with you!

Emily J. Anderson

Pastor

A note about Per Capita

Each year, every Presbyterian congregation pays a "per capita apportionment" for each of its members. This covers the administrative costs of the larger denomination at presbytery, synod, and General Assembly levels. This year, that per capita amount comes to approximately \$62 per person, or nearly \$73,000 for the entire NPPC membership. If you are able to pay your own per capita apportionment for the coming year, you may make an additional contribution (over and above your pledge) for that amount. By doing so, you free up budget dollars for outreach, operations, and programs. Please check the box on your commitment card if you intend to participate, so we can anticipate contributions and plan accordingly.