**A message from Kathy Colville and Josh Walters of the Stewardship Committee**

**Why do we give?**

Last year we pledged our time and treasure in response to the abundant gifts God has bestowed upon us. Our church family is "Rooted in Faith, Growing in Service, Living in Love". In many summer seasons our giving as a congregation slows down even though the needs remain. Most everyone catches up on their tithes and pledges, so we're here to give a little inspiration by reminding us why we give to the church in the first place. For most of us, that's a combination of the practical and the spiritual. We know that the work of the church – our pastors; our youth programs and trips; our missions and outreach, our beautiful, historic building – they all require resources, and it's our obligation and blessing to continue as stewards of the past, present and future of First Presbyterian Church.

That's the practical side. But for me (Kathy), giving has a deeper meaning. It's an expression of three things – my own values, and my sense of doing the right thing; second, my expression of what I want to see in the world. If I want to see youth repairing homes in Appalachia, and assistance for our neighbors without homes, and communion served to FPCers who can't make it to church, then I need to help make that happen. The third reason is connectedness – this sense that my gifts join with yours and others, and amplify each other. We're doing important things together here.

**How do we give?**

There are several ways to tithe in our church:

- We can participate during the worship service offering by placing your cash or check in the offering plate as it passes by. This is a tangible, traditional way to participate in the worship service.
- We can contribute via the church's website (https://firstpres-durham.org/giving/). Click on the donate button to make a one-time offering or to set up a recurring gift.
- You can set up automatic bill pay with your banking institution.
- With modern technology comes new innovations in tithing. You can now text your tithe!

These methods and others are highlighted on the church's website.

Please join us in living faithfully to God by supporting our church's mission of service through your tithes and offerings.