



November 27, 2017

Dear Members and Friends of Sunlight,

As the senior pastor of Sunlight Community Church, I want to thank you so much for all that you are doing. Your ongoing commitment to use your time, gifts, and talents for the purposes of Christ's Kingdom is making a huge difference. Together, we are changing our community (and even the whole world) in profound ways. Your generous involvement makes it possible for our church to effectively **preach and teach God's Word, to help the poor, to feed the hungry, to counsel those in trouble, to teach children, youth, and adults about the faith, to reach people for Christ, and to engage in God's mission around the world**. Great things are happening here at Sunlight. So, at the close of this year I want to write to say, "Thank you!"

This past year has been a fantastic year of ministry at Sunlight. Let me detail only a few examples:

- Because of your ongoing efforts to invite and welcome newcomers, we have celebrated a substantial increase in our church membership. Did you know that this past year alone, we welcomed **93 new members** into the life of our church family across our three campuses? Each one of these new members has been impacted deeply by the message of the Gospel and is committed to joining us in shining the light of God's Word in our community.
- With your faithful support and generosity, we were able to expand Sunlight Christian Academy in significant ways. Not only did we **expand into second grade** this year, increasing our enrollment to **nearly 300 students**, but we also opened a **second Sunlight Christian Academy in Lake Worth** in August. We look forward to how this tremendous mission opportunity will impact the lives of children and their families in Lake Worth for years to come.



- Our Grace Packs ministry is also impacting our community for Christ. Each week this ministry **feeds 588 children in 23 different schools**. The gifts, talents, prayer, and organizational effort required to carry out this ministry astounds me every time I think about it.
- A particular item for celebration in 2017 was the Grand Opening of the **Fellowship Hall** at our central campus. This Fellowship Hall has already become the thriving hub of so many ministry efforts and opportunities. I am confident that this new space will have a **deep impact on our community** for years to come, as we find new opportunities for fellowship and service.



Of course, space in this letter doesn't permit me to write in detail about the whole variety of ministry successes we are experiencing—from our **overseas church planting activities**, to our **Community Groups** and Bible studies, to our numerous **benevolence ministries**, and the list goes on. Most importantly, individual lives are being transformed by Christ and mobilized to serve Him. Needless to say, words don't adequately express the important ways God is dispensing His grace throughout our entire church family!

As your pastor, I am so proud that you are living out your faith in ways that impact so many people. God is at work among us for sure. I encourage you to continue to let God's light shine in your lives in increasing ways.

Our church has had a great history of giving generously at each year's end. Please know that when you make a year-end Christmas gift to Sunlight, **you're making a major impact in countless lives**, from neighbors down the street to our friends around the world.

This year we request that you direct these special one-time financial gifts to support Sunlight's General Fund. This is the fund that animates and ignites everything we do. For each of our three congregations, this fund is currently experiencing a shortfall. For this reason, we count on

year-end generosity to help finish the year strong and launch us into the new year on a strong financial footing to continue our mission of seeing everyone transformed and mobilized by Jesus.

I am personally looking forward to 2018 and am excited to know that great things continue to be on the horizon for our ministry. On behalf of the Council of Sunlight Community Church, may God bless you in this season of the year!

In Christ,



Scott Vander Ploeg  
Pastor, Sunlight Community Church

