



## *Simple Generosity*

Greetings, my Martin UMC Family,

Last fall, we began talking about 2023 as being the bridge year from the financial crisis of 2022 into the foundation of God's preferred future for Martin. **I am delighted to share with you that this bridge year has gone quite well with God's help and the faithfulness of you, God's people.**

We have managed expenses, seen increased giving, put a new roof on the sanctuary debt free, and are in the process of designing and constructing a new Beacon House resale shop on our property debt free, all while seeing growth in numbers and discipleship in our ministry.

We are on pace to see a growth in worship attendance of ~10%, after seeing a growth in worship attendance of ~30% in 2022. We have welcomed 73 new members since January 1, 2022—a testament to the warmth, hospitality and inclusivity of our congregation.

We also have adopted a strategic focus on Neighboring and Discipling.

As we give thanks for this year, and look forward to next, I invite you to consider your role in supporting the ongoing growth and ministry Martin by completing a commitment card. **This card gives you an opportunity to indicate your commitment to the ministries of Jesus Christ through your prayers, your presence, your financial gifts, your service and your witness.** When considering your financial gifts know that we encourage you to take the next step in your faithfulness.

- **If you haven't pledged before:** We warmly invite you to make a pledge for the first time in 2024. Your contribution, no matter the amount, is a vital part of our communal effort.
- **For those who have pledged:** We encourage you to consider giving a percentage of your income, taking a step toward a tithe. Your increased commitment helps sustain and expand the impact of our ministry.
- **For those faithfully tithing:** Prayerfully reflect on whether God is calling you to an offering of thanksgiving beyond the biblical expectation of the tithe. Your generosity enables us to do even more in God's name.

**Please bring your completed card with you to worship this Sunday. We will give these back to God as a part of our offering.**

God has BIG dreams for our church and community for 2024. I am excited to be a part of what we will do, with God's help, in the coming year!

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Daniel