



3808 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208
Oct. 2021

Dear Friends:

Staying true to our course has never been more important than at this moment. Faith and discipline are cornerstones of the Wesleyan tradition, and the people of North Church use them to be a light to our world, our neighbors, and the world.

On Sunday, Oct. 31 we will celebrate stewardship with “True North: Staying the Course,” and ask you to dedicate your 2022 financial pledge to continue Christ’s ministry at North Church. Our stewardship campaign is an invitation to deepen your faith and practice the spiritual discipline of pledging. As one, we follow the path of hope, being faithful in the face of fear and uncertainty.

At North Church we ask everyone to pledge, knowing that it is a spiritual discipline that complements praying, volunteering, and sharing our unique talents. Pledging connects you to our True North: fulfilling our mission and ministries, creating disciples, and supporting people on their faith journey. From a practical standpoint pledges also help the church be good stewards of our financial resources. When you pledge, North Church’s Board and its Finance Committee know how much they can budget for programs and staff to serve in these turbulent times.

In 2021 our budget was \$1.03 million. Those who pledged have been very generous and are on track to fully meet their commitments. Unfortunately, unpledged donations are significantly lower, primarily due to restrictions of the continued pandemic. While we have reinstated in-person worship and now have an offering box, we expect the gap between our budget and donations will be \$150,000 this year and we may need to trim ministry budgets.

Will you promise to support North Church by pledging for 2022? Every pledge, no matter the size, makes a difference. Changing your approach and making a pledge for 2022 will go a long way to greater stability next year; as you saw above, pledging helps people stay on track and lets the Board avoid budget cuts and staff reductions. While in the past you may have felt most comfortable contributing via weekly offerings, your pledge significantly increases the likelihood North Church will be able to come out of the pandemic stronger than we entered it.

If you would like to discuss how to pledge for 2022, please call me or email me at dcushwood@northchurchindy.com. For additional information on pledging contact John Drake, finance director, jdrake@northchurchindy.com.

This year we will celebrate Stewardship Sunday in person and through livestreaming (to join virtually, go to www.northchurchindy.com). May the Spirit of God provide witness of God's hope.

Yours in Christ,

Darren Cushman Wood
Senior Pastor