Stewardship 2027

Sharing Stories and Bringing Gifts

Grace-Trinity Community Church

Stewardship 2027

Nov. 1st - Nov. 15th

Dear GT family,

Three years ago, about fifty-five of us gathered on a typical Sunday. This year, we averaged around ninety. Through Gathering & Growing, we raised $1.8 million toward a $1.5 million goal. We hired a new community engagement coordinator, re-landscaped the front yard of our building, and installed air conditioning in our sanctuary. And throughout this year, we've continued to see what our community can make possible together.

We supported local artists through the Technicolor Truth and were blessed by some truly incredible music in worship. We connected with each other through small groups and retreats, packed approximately 3,000 lbs of food and other supplies to support our neighbors during Metro Surge, and gave over 100 hrs of volunteer time to Cristo Rey to help students feel safe getting to school in the winter. Behind each of those numbers is a story, and behind each story is a person.

One of the most profound and often unseen parts of being a pastor is that I get the incredible privilege of hearing these stories all the time. You trust me with your vulnerability, your joy, and so much in between. It is as moving as it is edifying.

That is why this year's stewardship season is going to be about stories. If you're willing to share, we'd love to hear about a meaningful moment you had in worship, a conversation that changed your perspective, a person who helped you feel connected, or something that encouraged your spiritual growth. These stories help us recognize the many ways Grace-Trinity shapes our lives and our community, often in ways we might not otherwise see. Keep reading to learn more about how we can share our stories and bring our gifts together throughout this stewardship season.

The Invitation

Our council is diligently preparing the 2027 budget, and your pledges help us plan responsibly for the year ahead. We are grateful for every gift and for the many ways our community contributes to the life of Grace-Trinity. As you consider your pledge for 2027, ***we invite you to prayerfully consider increasing your current commitment by 3.5%***, if you are able. This helps us respond to rising costs, support our staff and musicians, and sustain the ministries and community relationships that make Grace-Trinity what it is. Here are the things that your giving makes possible for 2027:

- ***Serving Our Neighbors:*** Deepening relationships with community partners and creating more opportunities to respond to neighborhood needs, supported by our new community engagement coordinator.
- ***Deepening Connection:*** Supporting small groups, retreats, art shows, and other opportunities for connection, creativity, and belonging.
- ***Sustaining Our Ministries:*** Caring for our building so it remains a shared resource for the neighborhood, while supporting our staff and musicians through cost-of-living adjustments.

If you are also giving to Gathering & Growing, thank you! Your campaign gifts are helping us fulfill the commitments made through that effort, including debt reduction, sustainability and expanded capacity for community engagement. Your annual stewardship pledge supports the ongoing costs of sustaining Grace-Trinity year after year, including our staff, building, ministries, and community partnerships. You'll find a Gathering & Growing update on the last page, along with some other resources to help you consider your annual pledge.

Enclosed you will find a pledge card, along with a QR code to share a story about your experience at Grace-Trinity. You can bring your completed card to church by November 15th, mail it to the office, or submit your pledge commitment and share a story online at gracetrinitychurch.org/stewardship2027.

If you have any questions, please email us at office@gracetrinitychurch.org.

I firmly believe that sharing stories is the antidote to the toxicity of our world. When we are willing to listen to one another and hear what comes back, we can be transformed. I hope you'll join me this season as we share our stories and bring our gifts together.



Gratefully,

Pastor Zac

Gathering & Growing

One Year Later

- 1.5mil goal, 1.8mil pledged, and 1.2mil received as of October
- Pledge fullfilment at 95% through Q3 2026
- Loan balance at 211k, with expected pay off by the end of Q2 2027.
- Hired community engagement position
- Mission partner giving expected in first half of 2027



Loan Paydown — $1,000,000: Becoming debt-free so more resources can flow to ministry and community outreach.

Increased Community Engagement — $250,000: A three-year pilot staff role to cultivate partnerships with local nonprofits and neighbors, helping us live fully into our identity as a community hub for Uptown.

Mission Partner Giving — 10% of goal: Strengthening support for partners PERIS Foundation and Joyce Uptown Food Shelf, amplifying housing stability and food security work.

Building Upgrades — $120,000: Enhancing accessibility, hospitality, and shared community use of our building so it remains a welcoming space for worship, recovery groups, and neighborhood gatherings.

More Details

Stewardship 2027 will sustain our day-to-day ministry; caring for our building, supporting staff, and nurturing worship, community, and service. Stewardship happens every year to support our annual operating budget.

Gathering and Growing is a time-limited campaign with a three-year pledge commitment through 2029, focused on our long-term future: retiring debt and expanding community engagement.

Giving Table

Below is a giving table that will help you estimate your annual pledge as you consider what gift is meaningful to you.

Pledge Amount	***3.5% Increase***	***5% Increase***	***10% Increase***
$500	$518	$525	$550
$1,000	$1,035	$1,050	$1,100
$5,000	$5,175	$5,250	$5,500
$10,000	$10,350	$10,500	$11,000
$15,000	$15,525	$15,750	$16,500
$20,000	$20,700	$21,000	$22,000
$30,000	$31,050	$31,500	$33,000
$50,000	$51,750	$52,500	$55,000