Dear Friends,

I'm writing to share the impact of Mission Presbytery's support on FPC Del Rio. As someone who has experienced this journey first as a candidate and now as an ordained pastor, two years in, I can attest that we truly are Better Together!

When FPC Del Rio initially reached out to the presbytery, we sought guidance, not financial aid, to help us organize and make decisions regarding our property and church status. The support we received from Rev. Dr. Sallie Watson and the presbytery's commission was a testament to Spirit-led pastoral care—like the kind of care preached about in Sunday sermons, embodying a message of resurrection.

Towards the end of his term as moderator of the Administrative Commission to FPC Del Rio, Rev. Rob Mueller delivered a sermon that encapsulated our journey: "This is a story about life overcoming death, and this is your story. Four years ago, we came here to a church that was dying, hopelessly exhausted by conflict and dissension. After meeting for over a year, we called a congregational meeting to vote to close (die) and distribute the assets. We sold the manse; we began to look at what to do with the church building. Then something happened; the breath of God breathed a new flicker of hope… Can these bones live? One last chance. Could there be a person willing to come and serve? Maria had been waiting for ten years, perhaps unsure if her calling was still valid. Could there be a place for her in ministry as a pastor? THEN A MIRACLE…you found each other. The Spirit of God brought you together. New life was given. You have risen! You are a miracle!"

Reflecting on our blessings, we felt compelled to extend our generosity beyond our required per capita contributions. We know our additional gifts can make a difference, allowing the presbytery to expand its ministries, support those in need, and breathe new life into our faith community. We invite all congregations to consider increasing their support to Mission Presbytery. Your contributions can lead to significant and meaningful transformations across our faith community.

Blessings,

Rev. Maria Vargas
First Presbyterian Church of Del Rio