



The Chatham United Methodist Church

October 2022

THE MINISTRY TEAM

Ministers
All Baptized Members

Senior Pastor
Rev. Jeff Markay

Associate Pastor
Children's Ministries
Rev. Sharon Yarger

Music Director
Peter Hill

Organist
Mike Maguire

Communications Coordinator
Eileen Ruggiero

Church Office
Administrative Assistant
Meghan Muccilli

Finance Manager
Zrinka Cvetkovic

Church Maintenance Manager
and Custodian
Donald Underhill

Simpson Seminarian
David Gaitán

He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; ² he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. ³ He said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; ⁴ for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.'
Luke 21:1-4

Dear Friends,

There are times in our news cycle where it seems like all around us is in chaos. I have recently read some thoughts about chaos theory. One small component of a very complex (much of which is beyond my mental capacity) is that when a butterfly flaps its wings, the result can be a tornado in another part of the world. This has been the focus of study by MIT mathematician and meteorologist Edward Norton Lorenz. In part, the insignificant flap of the wings brings about the initial conditions of an interconnected complex web, resulting in conditions that bring about large, life changing storms. What little I understand is that one small gesture can have a cumulative effect that changes the world.

Jesus seemed to like small gestures that changed the world: a widow's mite, a grain of wheat, a pinch of salt, a bit of yeast, a gesture of inclusion, all of which bring about a larger blessing. It is similar to the financial gifts that we put in these envelopes and send back to the Chatham UMC. Gifts both small and large, when pooled together, have an impact throughout the world. In many ways, the small ripples we make when we give to God's work, become larger waves of compassion, justice and joy felt throughout the world.

**Enclosed in this mailing is a pledge card for you to fill out and send back to the church. Please pray about how much you can give to that Chatham UMC so that God's love can be made tangible. Our collective giving makes spiritual food available for the hungry soul, as well as puts food on the table for thousands of hungry people in our community and in the world. You, and your gifts bring God's love into the chaos. Thanks for your part in changing the world for the better.*

With love, with gratitude, and with trust,
Jeff

**The pledge card was not included in October's mailings but will be in November's.*