

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. - 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Dear OPPC,

The Season of Renewal for Overlake Park Presbyterian Church is under way and we're learning daily as the Spirit continues to pour blessings upon our church and community. We've learned through recent events that our neighbors are eager to gather, connect, and build community. Thank you for your prayerful support, participation, and encouragement in this ministry. The staff and leadership of OPPC are encouraged by the momentum Christ is building on this corner and are eager to see what 2023 will bring.

As a part of our Season of Renewal, we invite you to renew your commitment to giving as a way of considering how the stewardship of your resources impacts your faith in God. Scripture reminds us that God loves a cheerful giver. Despite living in a world that often highlights scarcity and fear, we rejoice knowing that God provides us with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, we may share abundantly in every good work. It isn't that we must cultivate cheerfulness to be faithful – but that faithfulness naturally cultivates cheerfulness.

As we celebrate 63 years of ministry at OPPC this December, my prayer is that we honor and celebrate 63 years of cheerfully and faithfully living in the abundance of God's provision. We move into our future holding onto all we have learned and eager to learn new things that keep us faithful to God's work in our neighborhood and in our world.

We gather each week in joyful community and worship because of our cheerful giving. We visit those who are sick because of our cheerful giving. We provide shelter for men, women, and families because of our cheerful giving. We learn, grow, and walk alongside our children and youth, teaching them what love looks like because of our cheerful giving. We live in community with one another learning to share Christ's light with the world because of our cheerful giving. We reach out to the community and help our neighbors while sharing Christ's love because of our cheerful giving. Your cheerful giving makes God's vision possible in these ways and so many more. Together, we lean into faithful stewardship because our communal cheerful giving provides joy, hope, and love in tangible ways.

Please pray about how you will cheerfully and faithfully support our vision and mission in 2023. Enclosed is a commitment card which expresses the spiritual practice of committing to give faithfully. You are invited to provide your commitment in worship, with our offering, on or before November 30th. You may also visit www.oppc.org/give to fill out a commitment card online or simply call the church office.

May we be prayerfully authentic and intentional with our giving as part of our spiritual practice, and may we give together with joy. We give thanks to God for blessing our shared ministry as we faithfully seek to grow in Christ's love.

Grace and peace,

Rev. HT lee Transitional Senior Pastor