



Beloved,

As I think about the ministry God has entrusted to us here at Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church, I find myself returning to these words of scripture, *"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."* –John 10:10

What would it mean for us to be a congregation through which people experience the transformative power of abundant life that Christ promises? What would it mean for that to be the experience, not only those who worship within our walls, but for our neighbors throughout Central Montgomery County?

I believe that is precisely the kind of congregation God is empowering us to be: a congregation whose generosity transforms lives.

We see glimpses of that transformation all around us. It happens when a child discovers that church is a place where they are known and loved; when someone carrying grief finds a community willing to walk alongside them; when strangers find welcome on our campus; and when the resources entrusted to us extend beyond our walls to meet real needs in our community and world.

None of this is the result of individual effort. It is a result of our collective decision to choose generosity as a community of faith.

We give our time, showing up for one another and our neighbors. We offer our talents, trusting that the gifts God has placed within us can strengthen the entire community. And we share our financial resources, making possible the worship, formation, care, mission, staffing, facilities, and partnerships through which our shared ministry comes alive.

That is the invitation of this year's stewardship campaign, **Transforming Lives Through Generosity**. Stewardship is not simply about building a budget or sustaining an institution. It is about discerning what kind of community God is calling us to become—and offering ourselves so that, together, we can become it.

In the coming weeks, I invite you to pray about what generosity might look like in your life this next year. Consider not only what you will give financially, but how you will offer your time, gifts, presence, and prayers. Ask God where your generosity might become the means through which transformation happens.

Because when each of us brings what we have, God has a remarkable way of transforming our individual offerings into something none of us could accomplish alone.

Together, may we continue building a beloved community that glorifies God, shares Christ's abundant life, and transforms lives—within our congregation, throughout our community, and across the world.

Grace + Peace,

Rev. Joshua Henry Narcisse
Senior Pastor & Head of Staff