

October 27, 2013

Dear Friends,

Simple Generosity

Jim shared with us this past Sunday that God's beautiful generosity is expressed from the very first word of the Bible to the very last. God's creation itself is an act of total generosity. In making each of us in His image, He has hard-wired us for a life of sharing this love. It really doesn't get any simpler than that.

On Sunday, October 27 we will take part in a powerful, simple act of generosity as we bring our 2014 commitment cards forward in worship. When all of these commitments are tallied, we will discover what God has made available to us for ministry and outreach in the year ahead.

I ask that you pray about how you might be simply generous. Whether you are at the biblical tithe or seeking to move toward it with a percentage increase this year, I'm convinced that the call to simple generosity is not an obligation as much as a privilege. While our budget needs to grow 10% to cover additional expenses for current ministries and outreach, we are confident that our faith family will respond in even greater proportion. As you pray through it all, I hope you will consider at least a 10% increase.

As you seek your place and response, I want to assure you that we take our responsibility seriously in providing transparency and accountability in our congregation's finances; these are God's resources and we use them well. You'll find our 2013 budget online at www.fpcnorfolk.org/giving. With joy I can also report that as of the end of September, you have been faithful in your giving and our contributions and expenses remain in balance. Of course, I am pleased to answer any other questions or provide more detail.

After you have completed your pledge (not a legal obligation but an amount you believe that Christ is setting you free to give), place it the envelope and bring it with you to worship on October 27. That morning we will watch His generosity increase before our very eyes as we all come forward to place our pledge cards on the Communion table at each service.

I thank you in advance. Again, if you have any question please contact me at cereasor@gmail.com or (757) 376-8765.

Blessings,

Cline Reasor

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Treasurer

PS: Did you know that it takes \$125,000 a year just to pay our electric and gas bills? From worship, children and youth ministry, soup kitchen, AA and Al Anon meetings, support groups, Cub Scouts... the list goes on and on...we truly are a people of simple generosity.