Central Congregational Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST An Open and Affirming Congregation

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"A Community of Faith, Hope, and Love, Growing through Worship and Service"

March 13, 2022

2022/2023 Stewardship Campaign

Dear Fellow Members and Friends of CCC,

While we have all been challenged in many ways over the past few years, we can all agree that better days are ahead. We are looking forward to reconnecting with CCC, our church family, and becoming reacquainted with old friends while making new ones, as we see friendly faces once again.

Your Stewardship Committee invites you to look ahead and reconnect as part of this year's Central Congregational Church Stewardship Campaign, and to pledge your financial support to continue and grow CCC's missions and service in the coming year.

"All Christians are but God's stewards. Everything we have is on loan from the Lord, entrusted to us for a while to use in serving Him." – Pastor John MacArthur

Over the last year, we have been truly thankful for everything the church has given us – continued worship services, including drive-in church (where we kept meeting while other churches had shut down), livestream church, and in-person Sunday School with back-to-nature themes. Movie nights, Bible studies, lunches with the Pastor, committee Zoom meetings and much more kept us connected!

Every pledge and donation made over the past year has been vital in enabling CCC to continue its mission and service. We now need to commit ourselves to looking ahead.

Looking ahead, all of us would like to reconnect with our CCC roots, generous benevolent giving, which has been slashed significantly in recent years. To balance our budget and allow for meaningful service we need each pledge to increase by \$5 per week. Ask yourself, what does \$5 per week mean to you? One less cup of coffee? Packing a lunch for school or work? \$5 per week means so much more to CCC – it means giving raises to our staff, funding benevolences and committees; it means CCC continues to grow as a church everyone truly cares for and can be proud of.

Please demonstrate your care for CCC by taking a few moments to respond to this pledge request. Enclosed is a pledge card that you may fill out and mail back to the church or drop in the collection plate. If you prefer, you may submit your pledge online on the church's website at <u>https://www.cccchelmsford.org/stewardship/</u>. Or, you may contact the church treasurer, Dick Papenfuss, at <u>dickandkarenp@verizon.net</u> or at 603-577-1497.

Your pledge commitment information must be received by Stewardship Sunday, which is April 3, 2022, so that there is adequate time to prepare the 2022/2023 budget ahead of the Annual Meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to a member of the Stewardship Committee.

"The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." - 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Please prayerfully consider your pledge while looking ahead and reconnecting with CCC!

Yours in Christ,

Your Stewardship Committee,

Sherm Horton, Cynthia Dorman, Becky Wisniewski, Elmer Lyons and Dick Papenfuss