

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

Greetings in Christ. This has been one strange year, but through it all the truths of our Savior and his never-ending love remain the same. As this congregation begins its 180th year of being the body of Christ here in the Columbia Community, we would invite you to prayerfully fill out your "Intention of Giving form" and mail or bring it back to the church sometime in the month of November. If you are bringing it by the church place it in the "intention for giving 2021" box in the church entryway.

It has been said "That God doesn't need our money, but we need to give." It is an act of faith to say that our God will continue to provide all that we need to support us especially when a percentage of our income is sent his way. It is also a privilege and honor that God allows us to be part of his mission through the gifts of our tithe's and offerings.

In the past year St. Paul's was able to pay off the church debt, and we receive funds from the Schneider estate and from the parsonage sale. While some of these funds are earmarked for the general fund, the vast majority are to be used for special projects, programs, and possibly an additional part- or full-time church worker. A committee has been formed to work on ways these funds could be best used so that we can better carry out God's mission for this congregation.

While a final budget has not yet been approved for 2021 expenditures, the 2020 budget was around 362,000. Most of those funds are received through the general offering. With that in mind fill out the below intention form. We realize that changing circumstances may cause you to decrease or maybe even increase your planned giving in 2021. Please do not allow the potential of these changing circumstances keep you from filling out this "intention form". This is a tool for planning and not a binding contract between you and God. Our hope is that this process will assist you in the joyful practice of regular and intentional giving.

Yours in Christ,

The Stewardship committee

(Cut on the dotted line)

Name _____

(Fill out whichever one best fits your situation)

General Fund: Weekly Intention _____ Monthly Intention _____ Yearly Intention _____
Building/Building Repair Fund: Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Yearly _____

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

But since you excel in everything--in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you --see that you also excel in this grace of giving. 2 Corinthians 8:7