October 18, 2024

Dear Epworth Family,

As the leaves begin to change, we are reminded of the continuous cycle of growth and generosity that nourishes our spirits. In the words of scripture, 1 Corinthians 9:10-11 paints a vivid picture:

"The One who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God."

With our hearts wide open, we look forward to the upcoming consecration sermon series, from Sunday, October 20 to Sunday, November 24, 2024. During this time, we will explore the transformative power of generosity to open the door to:

- Unexpected relationships through Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 18:1-8)
- Abundance and provision through the Macedonian Church (2 Corinthians 8:2-5)
- Meaning and Impact through Joseph of Arimathea (Matthew 27:57-60 & Dorcas in Acts 9)
- Joy and Freedom through Zacheus (Luke 19:1-10)
- Faithfulness and Trust through the Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:7-16)
- Gratitude and Gratefulness (2 Corinthians 9:10–15)

As we examine these stories of selflessness and impact, please consider making a meaningful financial commitment to Epworth United Methodist Church. Your pledge signifies more than a plan to donate; it is an active expression of your faith and a testament to our collective mission to emulate the love and kindness of Christ. By tithing, giving 10% of each of our yearly income for the collective work of the local church, you are honoring the privilege to serve as a disciple of Christ.

Enclosed, you will find a promise card that we will bless collectively in a special worship service on Sunday, November 17 at 10:00 AM. You may also submit your promise card online

at <u>https://www.epworthunited.org/promise-cards</u>. You can always give through our secure online platforms, Vanco or GiveButter, at <u>www.epworthunited.org</u>. However, you choose to pledge and give to Epworth, your generosity is a cornerstone of our shared journey of faith and serves our church and community year-round. Thank you.

As we reflect on our fall blessings, our hearts are filled with gratitude. Your generosity has opened the door to over 300 students learning language and computer skills at Epworth's Ana A. Brito Foundation. It has opened the door to abundance, distributing food to more than 130 families biweekly. It has opened the door to gratefulness as Easter Egg Hunt, VBS, Soccer Clinic, Greater Gaithersburg Youth Ministry Friday nights and summer fun events, Back to School, and Pumpkin Fest teemed with families who found community at Epworth. And it has opened the door to joy with the energy of our 100 preschool learners. All of this, and more, is possible because of your unwavering support.

In the spirit of faith and fellowship, Pastor Jen and Pastor Tammi and your Executive Leadership Team

