Our Unfolding Journey | a Season of GRATITUDE

Greetings,

You are part of a long line of faithful people willing to set out on a journey of faith; sometimes the path has been known, sometimes unknown, but it's always hopeful. We are preparing for a new journey as we move in January to our temporary home at Christ UCC. We are asking you to mark this momentous step with your pledge for 2027.

Our church ancestors have repeatedly made financial commitments during our 151-year history. Their gifts, combined with your giving, have allowed our faith community to serve in and beyond the Greater Lehigh Valley. This year, we've been particularly focused on hunger relief efforts with an ongoing collection of items most needed by local food pantries and nonprofit partners, and the congregation has really stepped up to meet our 1,510 Acts of Service challenge, honoring this first year in a new decade of mission and ministry!

In the spring, your responses encouraged our Mission Study team to dream big. Their report clearly focuses on three themes: to be more relational, more mission-active, and more community-integrated. While we 'nest' at Christ UCC, our leaders will be laser-focused on imagining affordable housing in our area and thoughtfully gathering ideas on how our new church home will be integrated into a portion of our Center Street campus.

Your Stewardship team unanimously embraced this year's theme: *Our Unfolding Journey: A Season of Gratitude*. We have set a pledge goal of $600,000, which will go far in living our Mission Study themes. Just as a small group of people did in 1875, we are looking at an unknown future with faith, vision, and gratitude for what has been and what will be. Just as they did, we are beginning a new part of our journey, and we need your support.

If the way be clear, please prayerfully consider increasing your 2026 pledge by 3%.

In 1875, a small group of Bethlehem Presbyterians took the first step toward becoming a community. We honor their spirit while we continue to listen for God's voice as God guides us into a new year of Spirit-led activity. We encourage you to bring a pledge card on Commitment Sunday, November 15.

Sincerely,
Kari Keyock
Phil Fair