

## **Abraham's Circle – Giving for the Future (from the bountiful blessings we enjoy today)**

This is a pivotal point in time for First Presbyterian Church on Orange Street.

We stand on the edge of a promising new era of growth and excellence as a vibrant downtown church. We will soon have only the 22nd senior pastor in our 270-year history and only the fifth in the last 60 years. We are a unified, caring Christian community looking forward with keen anticipation.

Our church has consistently asked "What's next?" We have answered by meeting every challenge put before us – in the quality of our pastoral leadership, in the excellence of our staff and programs, in the support of our buildings and interiors - and in the call to put our faith into action.

Now we must step forward once more to ensure both our current financial health and our ability to serve God well into the future. Annual giving and endowment giving: they are both part of the same system of roots and branches. The annual giving campaign grows our "branches" of ministry, mission and facilities. Generous giving to endowment (Abraham's Circle) provides our church the solid financial foundation to send our roots deep and push more branches outward.

Our financial roots are not deep enough now. We are pressed to meet our current needs for staff and program – even though expenses have been well managed. We need to increase our endowment fund substantially, to provide another important source of income.

A substantial endowment fund will assure the sustainability of growth and excellence every year for decades to come. It is indeed a gift for the future, as much of what we enjoy now was given to us by those who came before. As families and businesses build a reserve to cover "down periods" and to draw upon for special opportunities, so must our church. It is the responsible thing to do.

God created giving for our sake, not for the church's sake. How it pleases Him ! How it pleases us when we give up what we have ! When we give, we create additional meaning to our lives. When we give, we express our deepest convictions.

Find the place where you want to be, where you ought to be. Then join Abraham's Circle. Choose one or more of these three kinds of plans:

Give now = immediate support

Commit now to give later = benefits your church upon death

Commit assets now and receive the income for life

Each of us has been blessed – at every level of personal and financial comfort. Have you considered what God has given you and what God expects of us all? Many will be the rewards over the years from the generosity of those who feed the roots of our thriving church.

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For more information and any other questions you may have about the endowment fund, contact Randy Riggs, Don Hackett or Allan Ziegler . All can be reached at the church at 394-6854. E-mail addresses are [randy@fpclanc.org](mailto:randy@fpclanc.org), [don@fpclanc.org](mailto:don@fpclanc.org) and [allan@fpclanc.org](mailto:allan@fpclanc.org).