



October 8, 2020

Dear First Lutheran,

One morning back in late March, after we had closed the building and moved to online worship, I sat in my office wondering how we would make it through these days. However, over these last seven months I have been reminded of God's faithfulness and encouraged by our congregation's commitment many times over.



Who would have expected, in the midst of a pandemic that our giving would actually increase over last year by 9%? Who could have imagined that through online worship we would expand the number of people we reach, continue to welcome new members and celebrate baptisms nearly every Sunday.

The energy of children back in preschool and the innovative approach our staff has taken these during this time are all signs of life and health here at

First Lutheran. We are a church that is grounded in hope. Our stewardship verse this fall is Jeremiah 29:11.

"For surely I know the plans I have for you" says the Lord, "plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope". Jeremiah 29:11

While many churches are putting ministry on hold, we continue to reach out and connect with members and with our community through:

- ***Worship that is an anchor for many***
- ***Learning opportunities that engage our faith***
- ***Serving in practical and meaningful ways***

We cannot accomplish any of this without the support of members like yourself. I hope that you would prayerfully consider making a plan for giving for the coming year in support of our continued mission. You can do so by returning the enclosed plan for giving card in one of the following ways October 18th through 25th.



- **Mail the card to church at 1655 18th Ave East Alexandria**
- **Fill out the plan for giving form on our website
firstlutheranalexandria.com**
- **Drop off your card at the church during office hours
Monday – Thursday 8:00am to 4:00pm
Friday – 8:00am to 1:00pm**

We fully understand that some may need to reduce their giving this year because of current circumstances. At the same time there may be others who are able to do more. If these last months have shown us anything, it is that we are in this together and we will always find a way to be the church.

Thank you for believing together!

In Christ,

Pastor Greg

Pastor Greg Billberg

First Lutheran
CHURCH
Where faith and life meet





Stewardship 2021 Believing Together

Enclosed in this “Stewardship at Home” kit are the following items to assist you in making a plan for the coming year.

- A congregational letter from Pastor Greg kicking off our Fall Stewardship Campaign.
- Plan for Giving card to be returned to church.
- Your personal quarterly giving report for contributions made so far in 2020.
- A recipe card for “Chicken Soup for the Soul”. This is a delicious soup for you to enjoy or share with someone who you think could use a little encouragement these days.
- Scripture card with our theme verse Jeremiah 29:11. We encourage you to carry this promise of hope with you. Extra cards can be picked up at the church office.