



First Presbyterian Church

28 Seventh Avenue • Haddon Heights, NJ 08035 • (856) 547-6139
www.fpchaddonheights.org info.fpchh@gmail.com

Rev. Eliza C. Jaremko, Pastor

October 8, 2023

Dear Friends,

As sure as falling leaves and falling temperatures, stewardship season has come around again.

This year we had to do some hard number crunching but, as you know, costs went up everywhere. In 2022 we asked for no budget or pledge increases, in 2023 we asked for modest ones.

Accompanying this letter is the proposed 2024 budget. It reflects an increase of slightly under 9%. The reasons for this include:

- Soaring insurance costs – up dramatically over last year.
- Increased inspection fees, including an expensive new one imposed by the state.
- Increased costs for electric, gas, water & sewer and office supplies.
- Staff salary increases.

Regarding the staff raises, you may recall that last year no cost-of-living raises were given despite the high inflation rate, and only a couple of small merit raises were awarded. This year we need to recognize and reward our staff for the excellent jobs they do. We are blessed with what is perhaps the best – can we say All Star?! – staff this church has seen in a very long time. Each of them treats their role in our church as a personal spiritual mission and it shows. We need to honor that commitment in a tangible way.

For 2024 we ask you to prayerfully remember all this church does for you, for us, for our neighbors in the community and the world. First Presbyterian is a special place of grace and sanctuary for all of us and we treasure it. May our pledges reflect that.

In God's love,

Your Stewardship Committee

Leslie Clark, Chair

Al Andrews

Phyllis Bozek

Margaret Westfield

Mark Zimmerman



where a warm
welcome
awaits you

First Presbyterian
Church
of Haddon Heights