First Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Eliza C. Jaremko, Pastor

October 20, 2026

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday in church I took you down memory lane, reminding you of my first stewardship launch featuring the Beatles, later followed by Flight FPC 2024 with Captain Rick and the "boarding passes" aka pledge cards, Phyllis Bozek and Rick hosting the game show theme, and balloons and angels in between. These have all been enjoyable to me and, I hope, to you.

Now I want to take you down a different memory lane because a LOT has happened in the past 15 years and you all have helped make it happen. The biggest event was getting Pastor Eliza here! And over those 15 years we gained Chris the music director, Mike the organist, Mary the office superstar, Kam and Abby and Maria with the little ones, Erin and Cory live-streaming us, and Duncan who helps our musicians set up and take down. We have truly been blessed with an amazing staff, who you have supported with your pledges, your love and your care.

Our building has gone through major changes in the last 15 years, too. We fully air conditioned the sanctuary, had a complete redo of the parlor, and installed new windows for the Sunday School building. Who can forget the termite damage that had to be remediated!? We had new concrete work and lights installed outside and replaced the boiler and water heater. Do you remember the catastrophic leak in the SS building roof and all the replacements and repairs that took? Or the flood in the social hall that forced us to rip everything out and completely redo the hall and kitchen? More recently, both first floor bathrooms were gutted and renovated, and a bathroom was finally added to the second floor. Air conditioning was replaced in the parlor and added – at long last! – to the social hall. A beautiful memorial garden was installed outside. The chancel roof was replaced, and the interior walls and ceiling were torn out and redone. And all of this was on top of the general maintenance needed to keep the building in good shape.

Don't forget the manse! There have been many projects over there as well, such as a new kitchen, refinished floors, central AC installed, bathroom renovation, fence installed, attic repairs, and much more.

Scheduled for next year are a new garage roof and water fountains.

None of this would have been possible without the pledges and contributions of all of you, both members and friends. We've had estate bequests, memorial gifts, and insurance coverage that helped a lot, but the main source of our ability to keep this great staff and facility has been because of you and your financial support.

Included in this email is a copy of the Session-approved budget for 2027 along with ways you can pledge. There will be an online link and a paper pledge form that can be returned to the church. (Our bulletins will include a QR code to access the online form.) We are also happy to receive your pledge via email or verbally to me.

There's a reason this church is celebrating 125 years in good financial and spiritual health, and that reason is you. Please pledge generously as you are able.

Blessings,

Leslie Clark, *Stewardship Chair*
Committee: Tony Masi, *Trustees President*
Al Andrews, *Session Personnel Chair*
Andrew Fegley, *At Large*
Mark Zimmerman, *At Large*



where a warm welcome awaits you

First Presbyterian Church of Haddon Heights