

May 23, 2022

Dear Chapel Hill Friends:



Through the seasons of Lent and Easter we have been doing a lot of talking and visualizing the wonders of growth. COVID launched us into "wild winds" of uncertainty, tossed about and not always quite sure if, when, or where we would land. Even as the pandemic reality loomed, our life in worship, small groups, and personal devotion has called us to consider the soil, the air, the sun, the water, and the seeds required for growth. In the lobby of the Chapel Hill church building, there is a steel cut-out of the Tree of Life, as well as an artistic oil rendering of the Tree of Life on the far wall. It seems to be in the very DNA of this faith community to think about growth from the metaphor of the tree. And so, we join with you in considering anew "Seeds to Branches," going from that little cup of dirt and seed to a mighty tree where we are all part of the growth.

*Stewardship* is this very churchy word that has to do with taking care of all that God provides for us in this life and world. Sunday, June 5 is the day for all of us who work to deepen the roots of faith and stretch branches of our collective ministry into the world, to consider and commit to our own plan for living out our faith. Because the Chapel Hill year for leadership and budget begins July 1, we are looking to take a few weeks to consider how we, in the new year, plan to use all God has given us. We are talking about all the stuff we talk about as pieces of what it takes to be a follower of Jesus: prayers, presence, gifts, service, and our life stories. You will hear messages from us, your pastors, and from leaders in the church to help you discern God's calling for desired growth in your life.

Because the use of money is often one of the most difficult things to wrap our minds around, we are including a card that portrays the distribution of giving at Chapel Hill in the form of that Tree of Life. This may be a helpful guide to you as you consider a commitment to growth for yourself.

You will be receiving more information next week that will help you consider all the ways you can give and grow your life in Christ through Chapel Hill Church. That letter will include a sample of the commitment card that will be distributed and offered during worship on June 5, Pentecost Sunday, on which we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit in the establishment of the Church.

In ministry together,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jess Davenport".

Pastor Jess Davenport

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry Petrucci".

Pastor Barry Petrucci

Find your household on the leaves.  
Is God calling you to grow to a new leaf?



*Average monthly giving by household*