



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
LOVELAND UCC

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Dearly Beloved,

In just a little over a month, we will enter into the Advent season, the time of year when we wait in joyful anticipation of the ultimate gift - the birth of our Savior. Now is the time of year when we prayerfully consider what gifts we will provide to our church.

Our church is more than just a congregation, it's a family. It's an extension of families who worship together, a family for those who live many miles away from their blood relatives, and a family for those who have no family. Our family passionately extends God's love to the larger community in which we live.

We are invited to the table to receive the good news of God's boundless blessings. We are called to share the good news with the community around us. How do we do that? Through our mission and outreach programs that help heal the people society has left behind. The homeless, the vulnerable, the abused and neglected youth around us – the least of our siblings. Through mission trips that deepen our youths' spiritual growth and our fabulous musical ministry that benefits the spiritual growth of everyone who attends worship. Your financial donations support these ministries.

We all have things we are passionate about, that we dream about, that make us feel good. This year, First Congregational Church Loveland UCC is dreaming bigger than ever - the sky is the limit. Yes, it takes a lot of time, talents, and hard work to fulfill those passions and help make those dreams come true. But most of all it takes money. What are you passionate about? Think about that when you fill out your pledge card. Our congregation has a rich history of passionately inviting the community to *our* table by hosting public dinners. Because our kitchen no longer meets health code, we can no longer hold those dinners. Our kitchen requires extensive renovations and upgrades for them to resume. How can we possibly fund the renovations without increased donations?

It's no secret that the church is running a deficit. Yes, there are bills to pay and only through your generosity will First Congregational Church Loveland, UCC continue to exist. And we know that we want to not only continue to exist but to thrive – to continue to offer a place where everyone can feel welcome and safe to grow in their faith. Think of your pledge to donate as an investment in the life of our church, our wider community and indeed in your own spiritual life. The stock market may be tanking, but a pledge to financially support First Congregational Church Loveland, UCC is an investment that always pays a huge return!

On Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> you are lovingly invited to the table to share in God's good news and a feast of bacon, eggs, hashbrowns, fruit, pastries, coffee, juices and other beverages. We will join together at 8:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall to break bread, while celebrating our commitment to bolstering First Congregational Church Loveland UCC's financial health through our 2023 pledges. Please RSVP by Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> to the church office, via phone or email so there is more than enough for everyone. There will also be paper invitations in the October 30<sup>th</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup> bulletins that you can drop in the collection plate.

The stewardship committee is grateful for your generous gifts. Please help to make 2023 Loveland UCC's best year ever and help the budgeting process by increasing your pledge amount, or perhaps pledging for the first time.

Thank you and may God bless you,

Your stewardship committee -

*Craig Bialy, Sara Gardner, Karen Jazowski, Frank Kauffman*