Stewardship Statement
from CCUU Board President duRee Bryant
from Feb 23, 2020 Worship Service

As you are aware, the last several weeks we have been conducting our annual stewardship campaign and I wanted to give you an update on our progress thus far. First of all, let me express our gratitude to the leadership of this campaign, and to Mike Calwas, Lisa Gilley, and Steve Black, who the past three Sundays shared with us their thoughts on giving and their passion for our church. Factually, I can report for the most part both a quick and positive response to the stewardship call. To date, we have received pledges from 60% of our households. In response to the challenge of increasing pledges by 5% or more in order to provide our staff with fair compensation and benefits and to care for our church home, 73 households thus far have chosen to increase their pledge with a net increase of nearly $22,000 at this point. But there is something I would like to emphasize more than these numbers. For those of you who have returned your pledge form, we have noticed this year the intentionality with which many of you decided on your pledge amount. It is obvious that a lot of thought went into your consideration - - thought about what the church means to you and the place it has in the life of you and your family. We have even had some folks come back after their initial pledge and say they have decided they could increase it - - for anyone else who feels moved to do this, just contact the church office and Laurie can help you make the change.

We are grateful to all who have responded thus far: to those who increased their pledge, to those who maintained their pledge and to those who needed to decrease their pledge. We acknowledge and appreciate the financial challenges that many face today. For the remaining households who have not yet returned a pledge form and plan to pledge, it would be greatly appreciated if you return your information as quickly as possible to reduce the number of people we need to pursue. If you have uncertain circumstances, pledge what you are comfortable with and revise the amount when you have more certain information. If you need to request a waiver, please don't hesitate to make that request on the pledge form or by speaking confidentially with Rev. Hilary. Your Board of Trustees is grateful for the response of those who have pledged and for those who will do so soon, and we will keep you posted on our ongoing progress.