

# A PLACE



FOR

EVERYONE

## Our 2026 Stewardship Campaign



**“A Place for Everyone.”** What does that look like to you? We’ve been answering that question with our ministry together for almost 12 years. Now seems a good time for that to be the theme for our stewardship efforts for 2026. We are asking the question, “What does a place for everyone look like to you?”

A Face Time conversation with our oldest son, Durham and our grandson Leo helped me think how I would answer that question. We were talking while Leo was taking a bath (young parents do a lot of multi-tasking). Beth noticed that the tub that used to be full of toys was now not so full of toys. She asked about that. Durham answered by talking us through the changes around their house with different toys, with spaces cleared and now used for different things. Leo is growing up quickly. Things around him change as he changes, as he grows.

That, I have learned and continue to learn, is a key element of “A Place for Everyone.” It changes. It adapts. It grows and learns and explores like the world of and around a growing child. Yes, there are

things that don’t change much – the tried and true like the teddy bear that is a companion that will still be there years later. But there are and always be things changing. We know that from experience and we benefit from that wisdom, the wisdom of learning by trial and error, as we learn to be open to that change. We try new things. We welcome new friends. We walk new roads ... maybe tear down a wall like we’re on an HGTV show, maybe be bold enough, brave enough to build a bridge over a divide.

That is how I think of and describe this “Place for Everyone” – open to change, bold enough and brave enough to walk straight into a new day and a new year with eyes and ears, hearts and minds open. Open.

This is a stewardship letter, so let me get to the ‘ask’ The ‘ask’ I would make for the upcoming year is that you (read y’all) keep on being who you are, keep doing what you do, keep growing like the children of God you are. You are a people who are open to change and eager to learn. I am excited about the opportunities that await us on the road ahead and so very thankful to be walking that road with you.

Grace, gratitude and peace,  
Dave

## STEWARDSHIP—Where does the money comes from? *It comes from cheerful givers.*

Every year the church has a stewardship drive to request support for the mission of the church. This is our opportunity to think about our commitment to GOD and our support to our local ministry. Your support keeps the doors open, the staff paid, and continuation of the church programs. Think of it like a home insurance payment for keeping a roof over your head.

For several years I have been on the Building and Grounds committee and experienced the acts of cheerful giving. Between 2019 and 2022 we had a Capital Campaign drive that raised over \$450,000 to renovate our building. A new entrance, exterior siding, interior flooring, paint and many other improvements were completed, many with volunteer labor. And we didn’t have to borrow any money to complete the renovations.

This year we needed a new roof and funds were requested in a new Capital Campaign fund drive. Once again cheerful givers have come forward to contribute to this need with over \$40,000 donated as of September.

Funds also have been contributed by the saints that came before us. Through our Endowment fund each year 4% of the fund, over \$25,000 is added to the Operating Budget. You too can contribute to this fund by remembering the church in your will.

Additional funds come from the two adjoining properties that the church owns. The rent from these properties provides a modest income that varies from year to year.

In conclusion, we each must consider our giving as a cheerful gift since all that we have is a gift from GOD. May we be blessed by returning a portion to our church mission.

**Nate Northey, lifelong member of Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church ... A cheerful giver**



## “A PLACE FOR EVERYONE”

Our theme for the 2026 Stewardship Campaign is a familiar one: **CHCPC: A Place For Everyone.** Do you remember when the lovely silk banner bearing that inscription first hung on the wall in our sanctuary nearly a quarter century ago? Or when we gathered as Kate Hall led us in screen-printing tea towels with the graphics she designed bearing those words encircling our logo?

A Stewardship Campaign is conducted to raise funds to support the ministers and ministries of the Church. Specifically, the funds needed to pay CHCPC’s talented staff: our Pastors, Dr. Dave Kivett and Rev. Johnny Janssen; our Office Administrator, Kim Latch; our Music Director, Jordyn Beranek and Accompanist, Hugh Brown, as well as the rest of the music staff; Janelle Darst, Director of Children’s Ministries, Randy Darst, Communications Coordinator; Kim Loy, Accounting; Tim Klatt, Custodian; and Tricia Caster and Marie Darst, Nursery Attendants.

If people are the lifeblood of the Church, we also have a building to maintain and activities to support our youth and adults. Programs like WN@CH, Sunday School, and church camps like Montreat and Great Escape for our youth. Music contributed by our sanctuary choir, worship band, ensembles, and soloists. Book clubs and discussion groups. Outreach to people beyond our Church walls. Special events like World Communion Sunday, Christmas and Easter Services, grill-outs and meals together in Fellowship Hall.

Our Church Treasurer, Bob Cooper, has developed a budget after consultation with staff and the committees of the Church. Again, this year, the big increases are for expenditures over which we have little control: insurance and utilities. You can see the comparative particulars set forth on page 2 of this brochure, but in general, Bob advises that we need to increase our pledge offerings by 3% in 2026 to cover projected expenses and the decrease in non-pledge income. A word about pledges. At Cedar Heights, these are not intended to be legally enforceable contracts. Rather, they are estimates of giving for planning purposes. No more and no less. It follows, therefore, that if something unexpected comes up during the year, the giving unit should not hesitate to modify the pledge.

Recently, there’s been a lot of talk bashing diversity. Politics aside, we need only to Remember the Beatitudes: blessed are the meek and the merciful. Recall the parable of Good Samaritan and the outreach of the stranger. Be reminded of how Jesus’ family was once persecuted as refugees. Above all Remember

the commandment of our Lord and Savior: “Love one another as I have loved you. By this will everyone know that you are my disciples.” John 13:34-35.

This is why, as followers of Jesus Christ, it is incumbent on us to be Jesus’ hands and feet in the World, making A Place for Everyone at our table. Please give as generously as you can. All Glory and Praise Be to God!

**With Gratitude,**  
**The Stewardship and Finance Committee Chair: Bob Cooper, Chad Abbas, Dela Agbagba, Judy Benson, Gail Carter, Willard Jenkins**

We have calculated a 1.2% increase in annual budgeted expenses for 2026 over 2025. The breakdown of the budget for next year, by department, is as follows:

	2025	2026
Administration .....	\$26,416	\$27,950
Building and Grounds.....	\$61,336	\$63,146
Christian Ed .....	\$9,750	\$13,800
Membership & Growth .....	\$1,500	\$1,500
Outreach .....	\$46,000	\$47,000
Personnel .....	\$378,288	\$375,443
Worship.....	\$9,850	\$10,850
<b>Total Budgeted Expense .....</b>	<b>\$533,140</b>	<b>\$539,689</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Income.....</b>	<b>\$533,140</b>	<b>\$539,689</b>

In addition to the small increased expense budget, we anticipate non-pledge income to decrease by approximately \$5,500 in 2026. This is primarily due to the one-time rebate received on the rain garden in 2025 of \$4,600 that won’t be received in the future. The slight increase in the expense budget, combined with the slight decrease in non-pledge income, is how we arrive at the need for a 3% increase in pledges for 2026.

We thank you for your prayerful consideration in helping us maintain a balanced budget for 2026!



Cedar Heights Community  
 Presbyterian Church

**A place for everyone.**



### CONSECRATION SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 9

Worship Service | 10:00 a.m.  
 Pancakes & Pastries Brunch | 11:15 a.m.  
 Everyone’s Invited | Bring Your Pledge Card

For more information or to pledge online go to [www.cedarheightspre.org](http://www.cedarheightspre.org)