



The
Presbyterian
Church in
Canada
presents

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO JOYFUL GENEROSITY

Dr. Lori Guenther Reesor

May 18, 2022

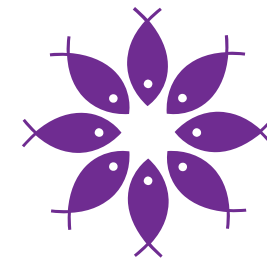


The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Stewardship Webinars

- **Today's Webinar:** *A Practical Guide to Joyful Generosity*

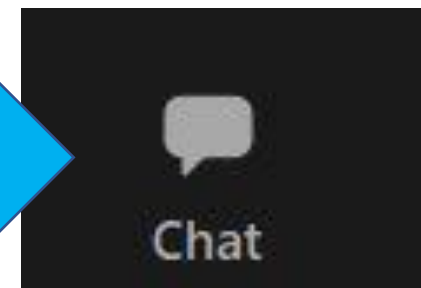
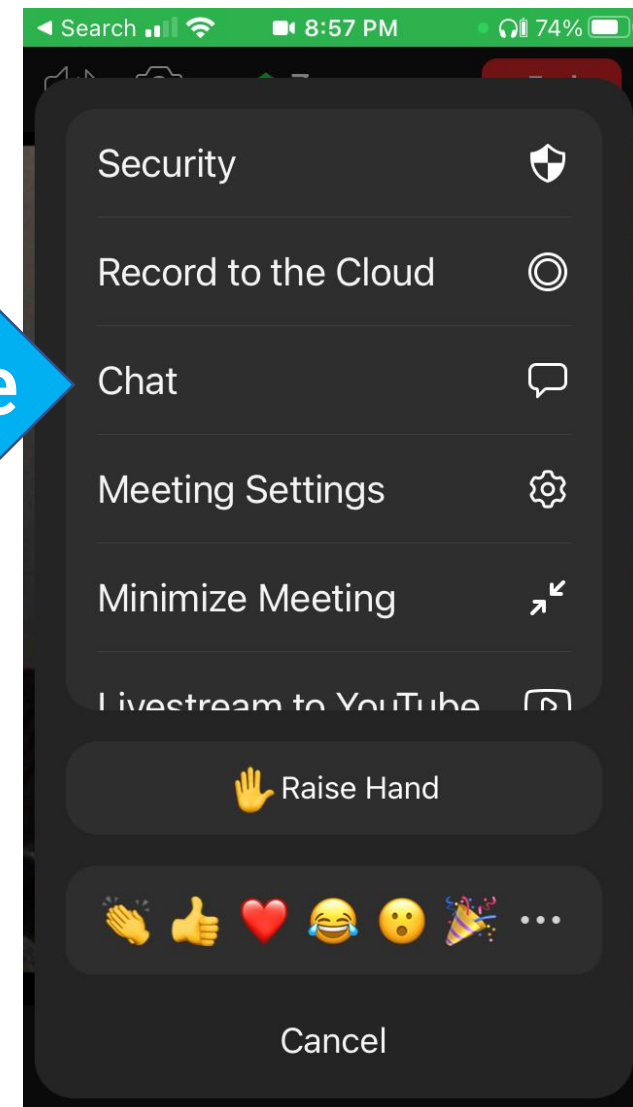
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Sharing**



- Stay muted and use chat to ask anything
- Chat will be monitored and questions asked as we go along or at the end
- There may be an opportunity to unmute at the end





The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Stewardship and Planned Giving Staff

416-441-1111 or 1-800-619-7301 www.presbyterian.ca

Karen Plater, **Associate Secretary**, ext. 272
kplater@presbyterian.ca

Maggie Leung, **Gifts and Database Administrator**, ext. 239
mleung@presbyterian.ca

Jim MacDonald, **Development Manager**, ext. 257
jmacdonald@presbyterian.ca

Heather Chappell, **Education Program Coordinator**, ext. 267
hchappell@presbyterian.ca



A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO JOYFUL GENEROSITY

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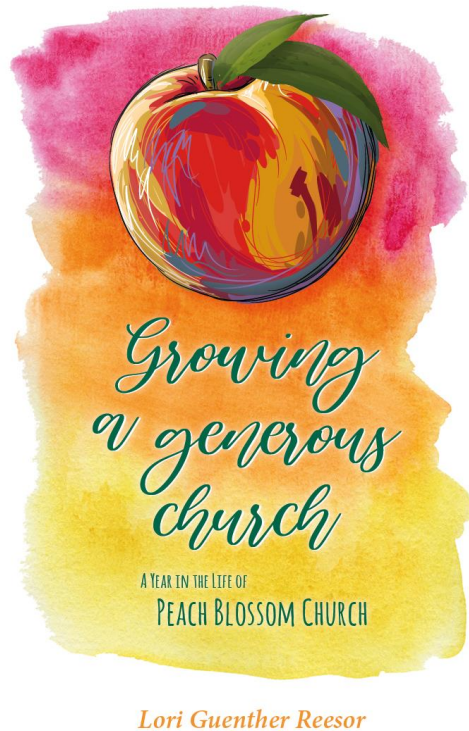
About Lori



- Author, speaker, stewardship coach
- B.Math, MTS, DMin
- Interruptible

*Mennonite
home canner
quilter*

Growing a Generous Church: a Year in the Life of Peach Blossom Church



- www.lgreesor.com
- Lori@lgreesor.com
- Also available through Commonword.ca

perfect for a
★ presbytery book
study!



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My back yard last week



Roadmap

Circle of Grace

Offering Prayer

Thank-you letters

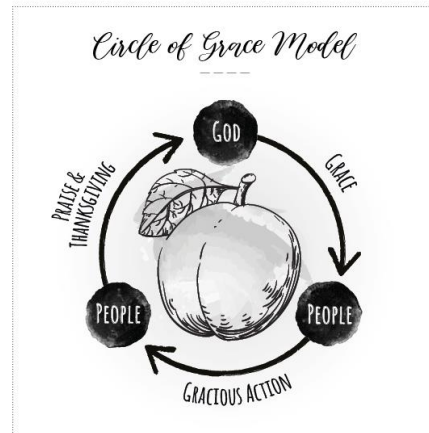
Three questions to ask your Church treasurer

“Through grace, everyone in the church is equally rich,” said Pastor Kim. “Not measured by money, but by grace, we are all equally rich.”

“I need to hear that,” said Keith.

“If we are all rich in grace, then we all have grace to share?” Lee asked.

“Exactly,” said Pastor Kim, adding the word PEOPLE twice to the diagram, and then arrows between God and people and people. “In God’s economy, we are all recipients of God’s grace. Gracious action from people to people is our response to God’s gifts to us. We respond to the gifts we receive from others with gratitude and praise. We’re both givers and receivers.”



“It’s like the hymn, ‘I owe the Lord a morning song of gratitude and praise,’” Eunice said.

“Eunice, that’s the perfect song!” said Pastor Kim. “Singing and sharing are both ways of expressing our gratitude to God.”

“Can I borrow a pen?” asked Lee. “I want to write this down. It’s a different definition of rich.”

“Generosity is a way of life,” said Pastor Kim. “What can we hold back and not share? The church is a gathering of disciples, helping each other to love God and love our neighbours with our whole selves.”

“When you talk about giving that way, it’s more inspiring,” said Eunice. “Maybe we can change our tune: Christians give because we’re grateful not because our church has an emergency.”

“Definitely,” said Lee. “Just meeting a budget is not inspiring at all.”

“Too often when Christians talk about money, we use only the bottom of the circle—people giving money to people. Or worse, people giving to the budget. But Christians give in response to a generous God,” Pastor Kim said.

“Start with what Jesus has done for you,” said Keith

“I don’t want to break the circle when I forget to be grateful,” said Eunice.

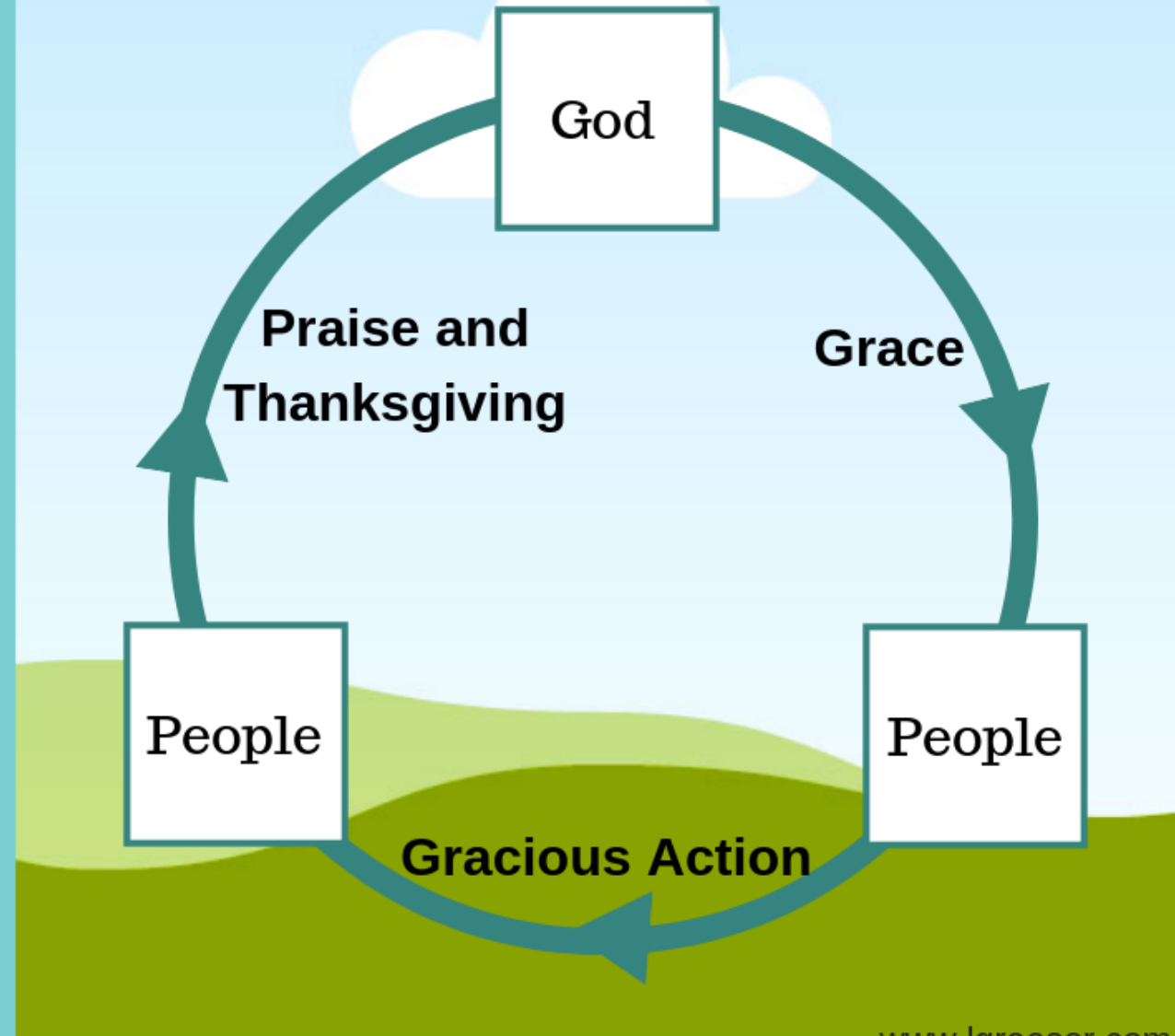
“I wouldn’t worry about that too much, Eunice,” said Lee.

“The idea that it’s all God’s stuff reminds me of Jesus being asked about paying taxes to Caesar,” said Pastor Kim.

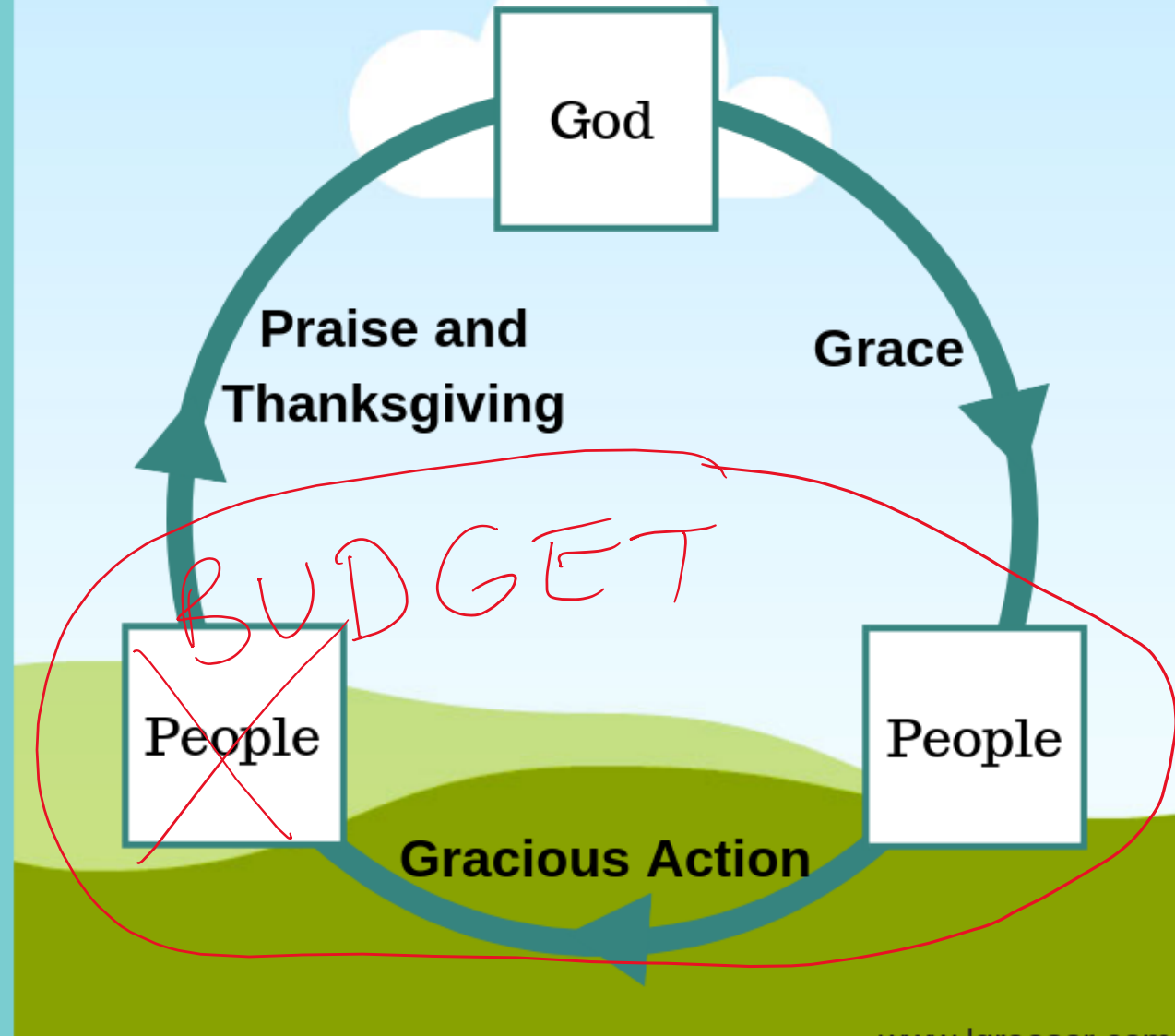
“That was one of those loaded questions the religious leaders used to try to trap Jesus,” Keith said. He put on his reading glasses and paged through a Bible that looked even more well-worn than his coffee mug. “In Matthew 22:17,

CIRCLE OF GRACE

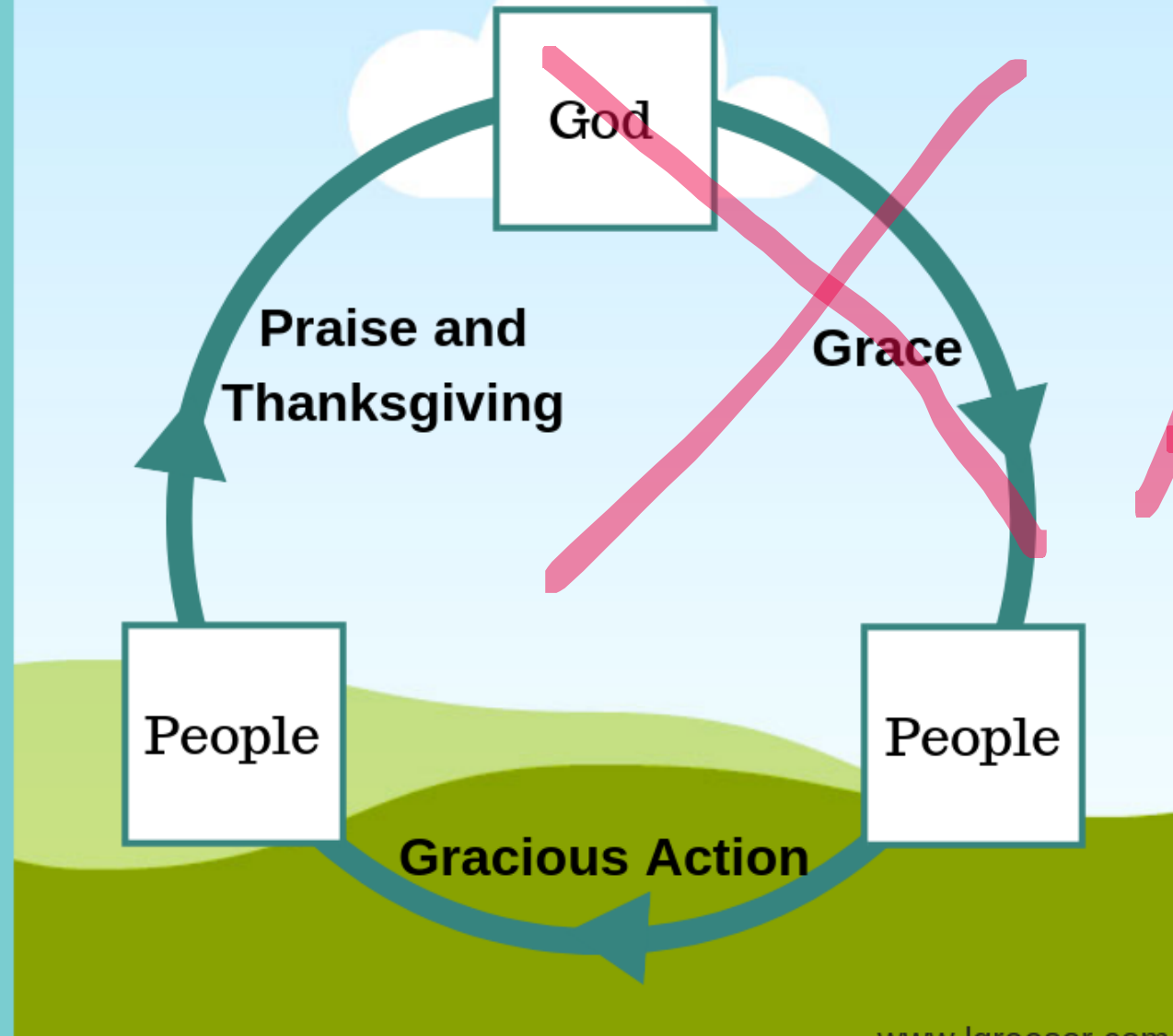
Circle of Grace giving model



Circle of Grace giving model

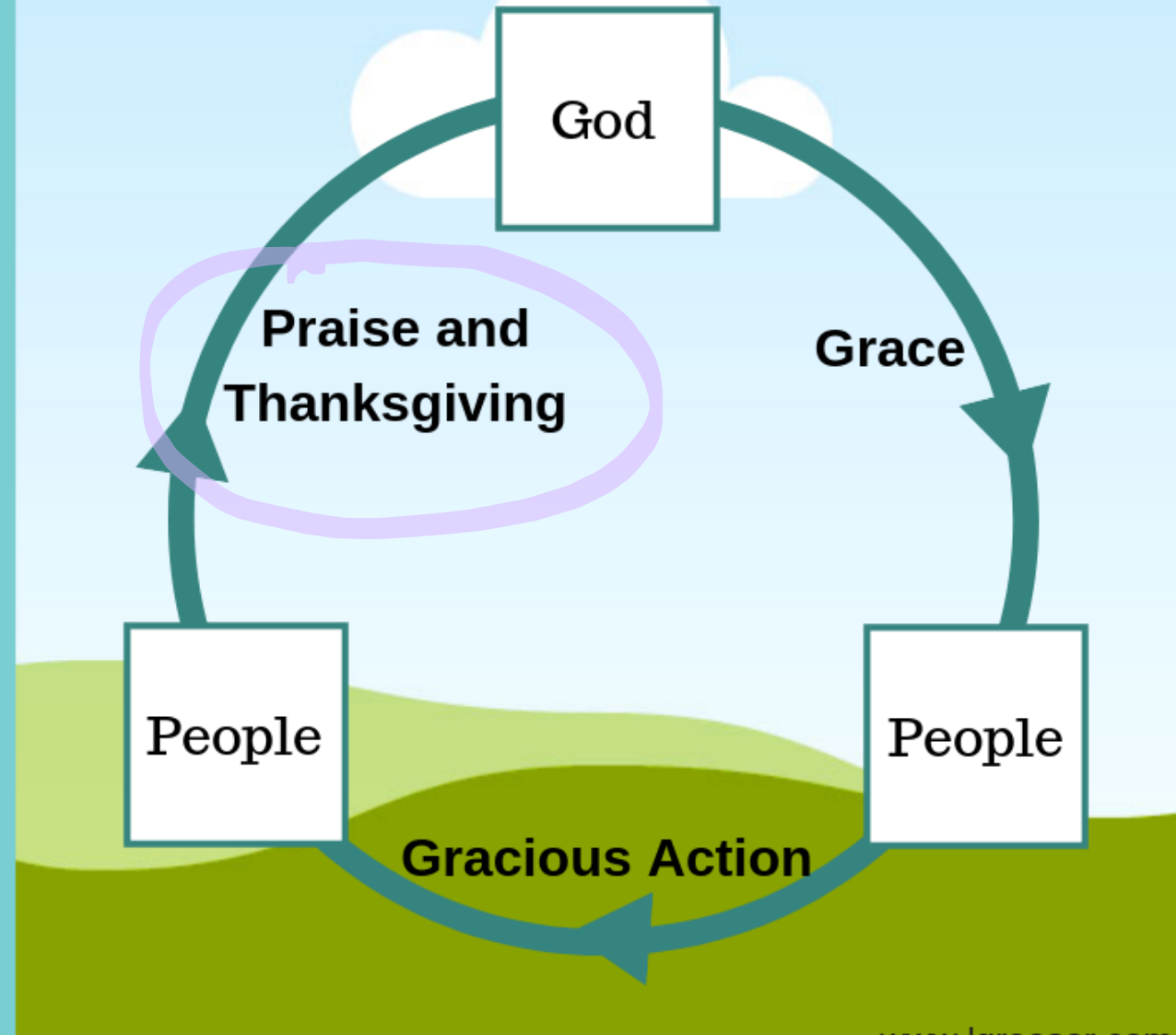


Circle of Grace giving model



ALL
ME!

Circle of Grace giving model



-
- **God.** God doesn't change. God is faithful today, next Tuesday, next week and next year.
 - **Worship.** Our congregation can gather to worship. Even online. Even without a building, strategies, programs or goals, we can worship.
 - **Hope.** We have hope. God is faithful, we can worship and we are not alone. We have hope.



OFFERING PRAYERS

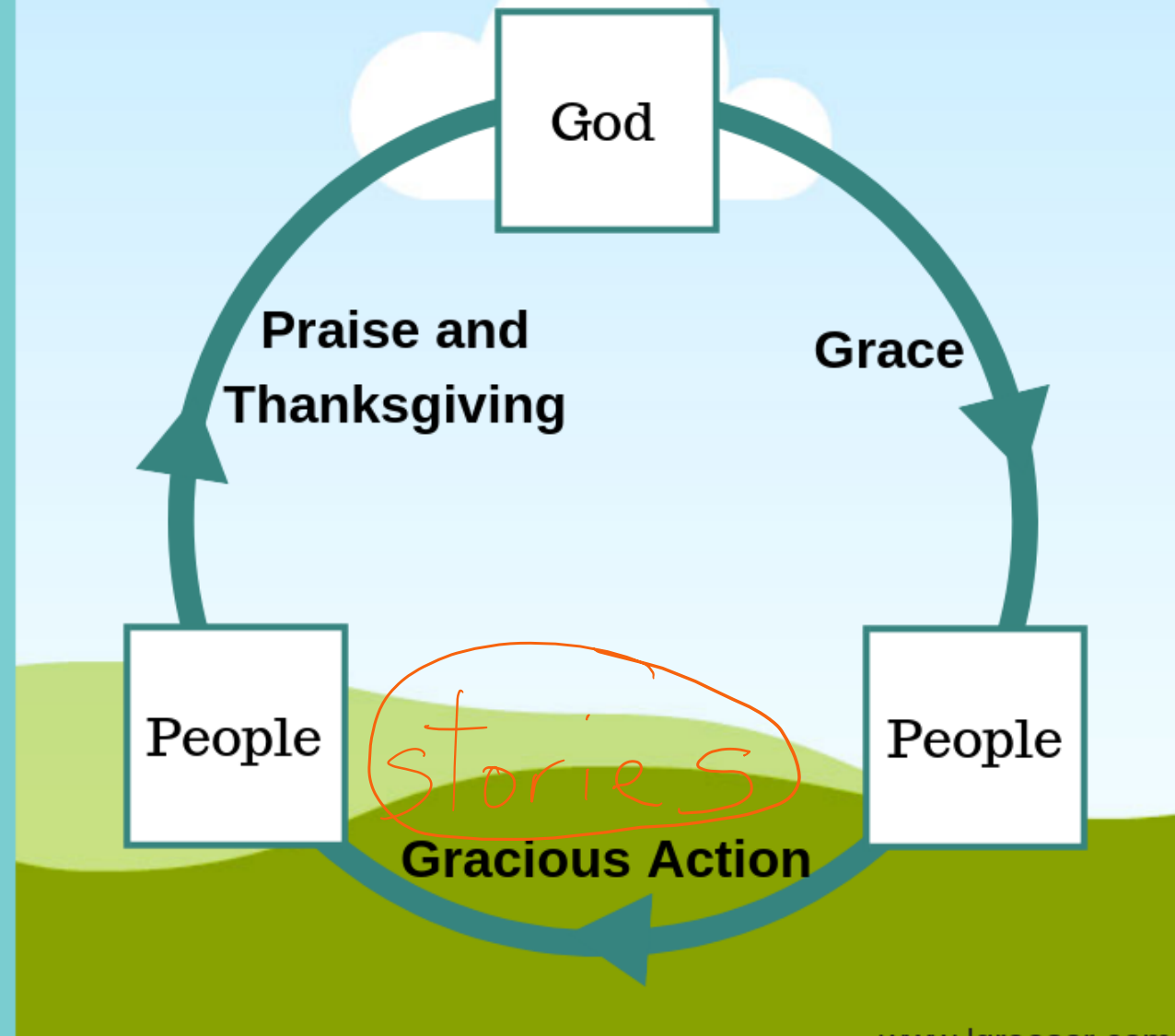
Healing and Reconciliation Sunday May 22

Holy Spirit,
stir in us dedication to the conviction that racism can be
eliminated,
and give us the will to work for the end of inequity and
injustice
that harms Indigenous children.

**Accept our gifts as a protest against injustice,
Use our offerings as seeds of hope and reconciliation.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace**

Amen.

Circle of Grace giving model

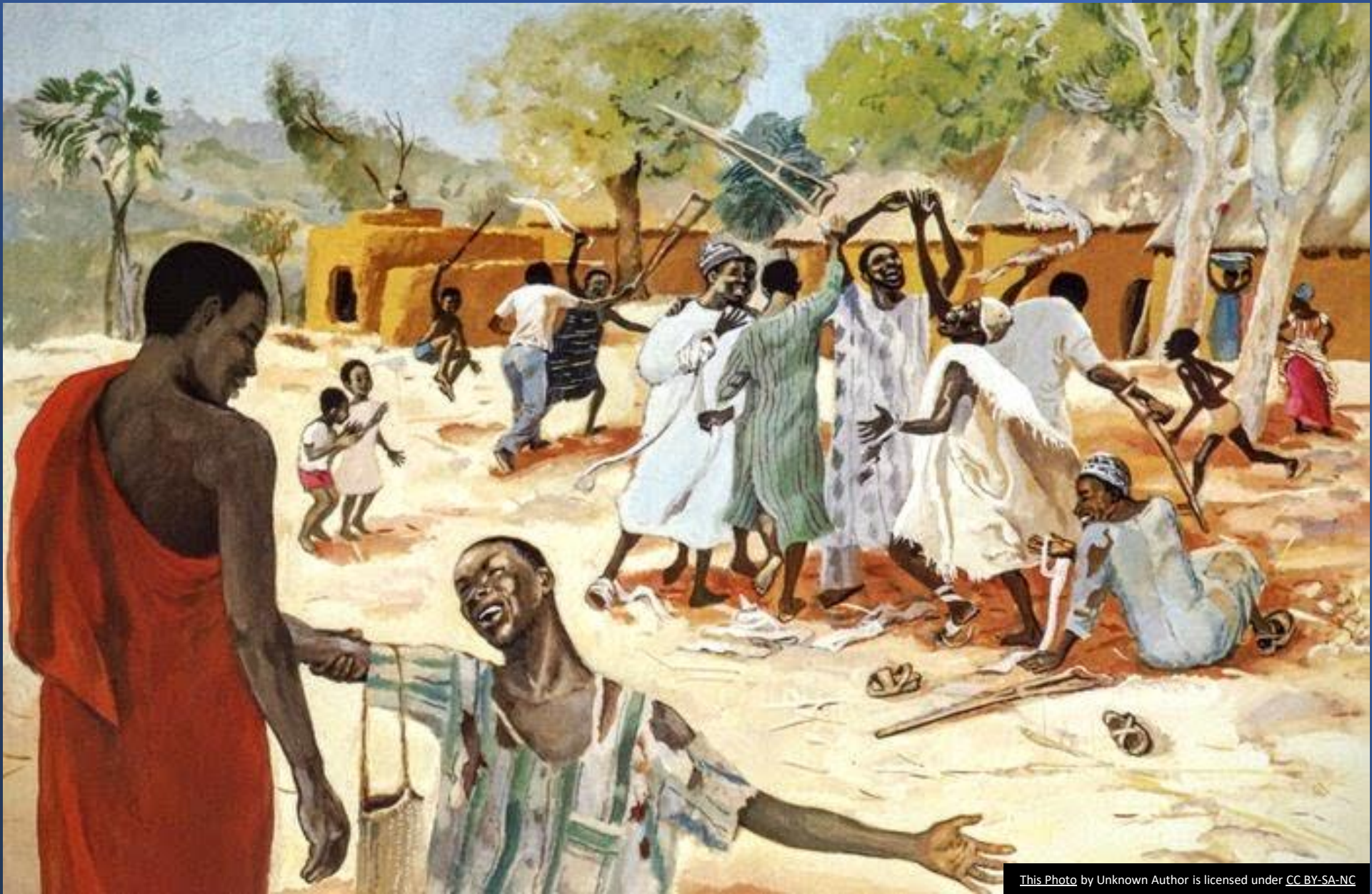




THANK-YOU LETTERS



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In Memory

Dear Nina,

We thank God for the many years your mother devoted to this congregation. We are grateful for her faithful presence among us and think of her often. Thank you for the generous gift in her memory.

May the God of all comfort surround you at this time. Praying that your fond memories of her might be a blessing to you and your family.


Thank you again for your generosity.

Blessings to you,



Thank you letter

Like an offering prayer, but with
a signature



Thank you letter essential elements

- Personal
- Grateful
- Signed by real person

Dear Mary,

As we celebrate 130 years of ministry at St. Andrew's, I am grateful for the people who have come before us and built this church. I am grateful for the people who prayed this community into existence and whose prayers surround us still.

I thank God for faithful donors like you whose contributions sustain our church as a place of worship and welcome.

We praise God for our continued worship together, whether online, outside or in the sanctuary.

We worship a generous God, a God who multiplies our efforts and our gifts. We find hope in a community that trusts our faithful God. Thanks be to God for gifts given and shared!

In Christian love,

Rev. K. Peller



**THANK YOU
LETTERS FOR
PEOPLE WHO
DIDN'T GIVE**

WWW.LGREESOR.COM



*Growing
a generous
church*

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF
PEACH BLOSSOM CHURCH

Lori Guenther Reesor

www.lgreesor.com

*I thank
God for
your
generosity*

**ABCs: Annual Blessing of
Charitable Receipts - Part 3,
Thank-you letter**

-
- I praise the Lord for the generous gifts people gave to St. Andrew's in 2021.
 - I thank God for the generous gifts given to Knox this past year.
 - I thank God for your gift to St. Andrew's church. It is a blessing and an encouragement to know that you care about this ministry.
 - Thank you for your prayerful support of...

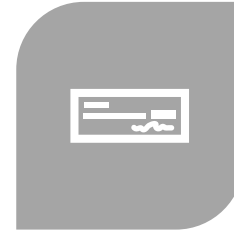
Thanks to Rebekah Basinger for these suggestions:

- Thanks to the generosity of God's people, Grace church was able to <insert list of ministry highlights here>
- Thank you for reflecting God's generosity by <giving, sharing talents, praying, volunteering...>

Three questions



How much did people give?



How did they give?



How many receipts?



Ask the same questions for multiple years

More questions

- Does (or did) your church rely on rental income, income from endowment funds or other investments?
- Is your church two or three funerals from disaster? i.e. how old are the biggest donors?

+

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Roadmap

Circle of Grace

Offering Prayer

Thank-you letters

Three questions to ask your Church treasurer



More about Lori

B.Math, MTS, DMin

- Speaker
- Stewardship coach
- Board meetings
- Sermons
- Book clubs
- Generosity Assessments

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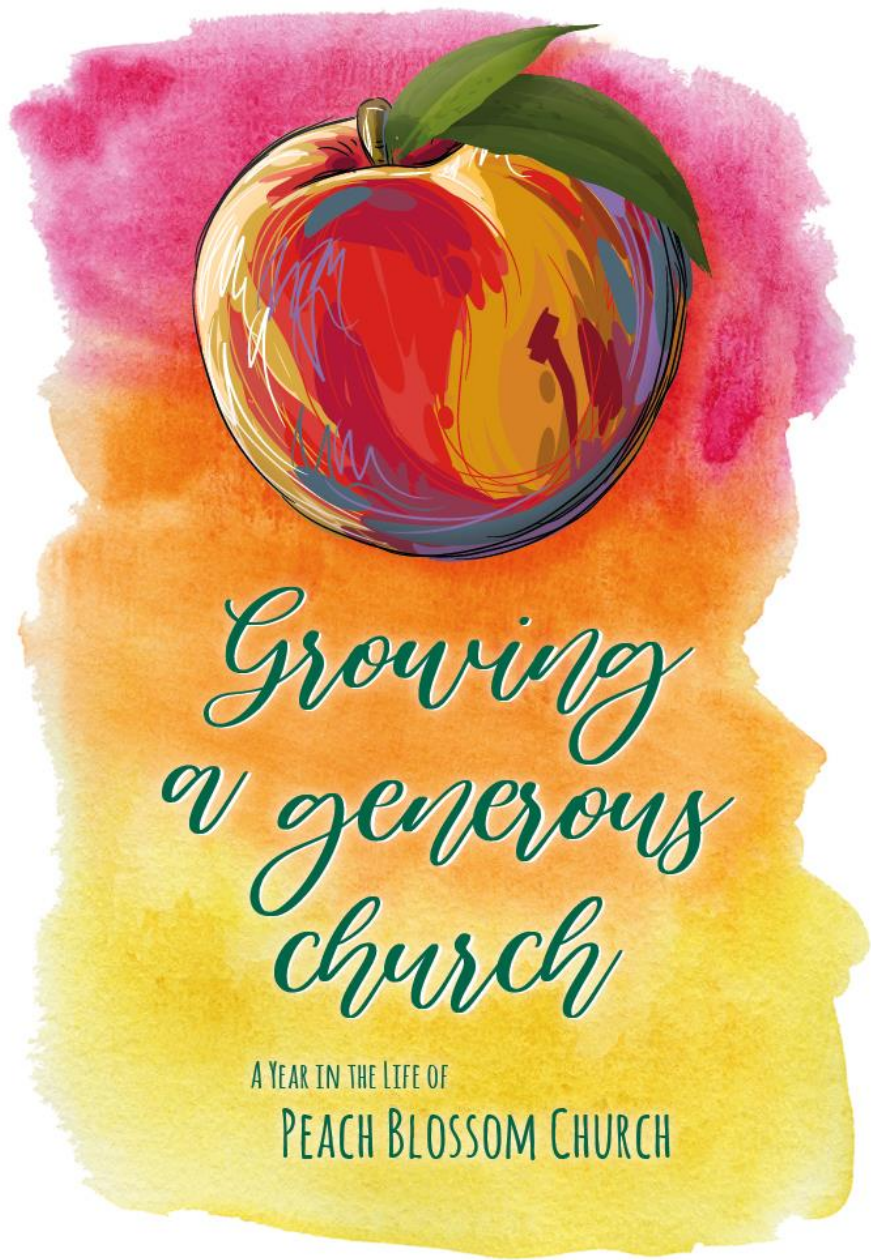


Sign up for my blog

Three emails a month:

- generosity
- the spirituality of giving
- Canadian giving trends
- receipting

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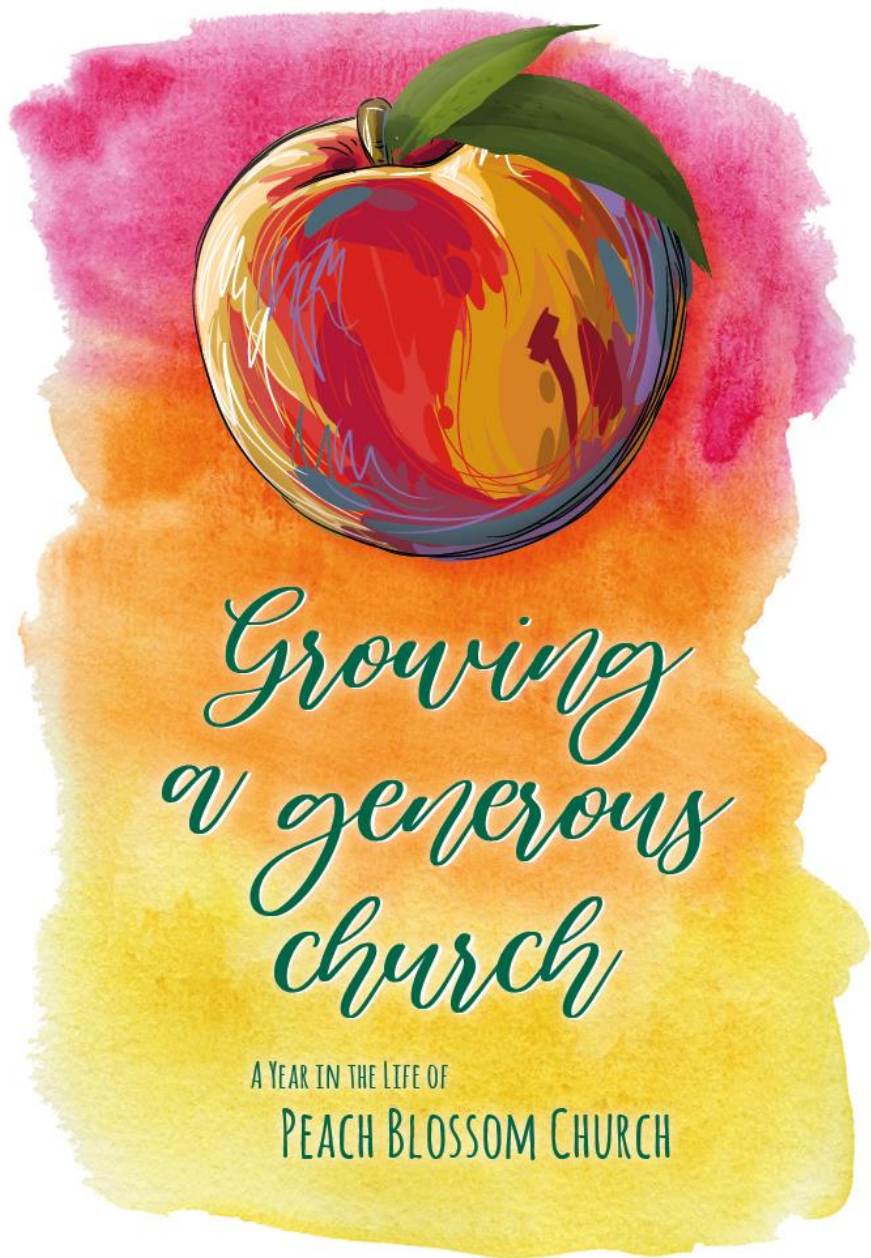
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Invite Lori to
your book clubs!



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THANK YOU!

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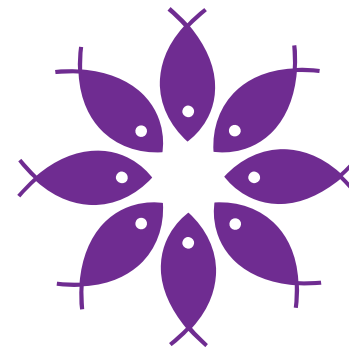
The Presbyterian Church in Canada

A Practical Guide to Joyful Generosity

A link to today's recording of Lori's presentation and slides will be emailed to all participants shortly. You may share it with members of your congregation and other PCC congregations.

Thank you!

*The Stewardship
& Planned Giving Team*



Presbyterians
Sharing