



The Presbyterian Church in Canada  
*presents*

# Connecting Donors to Your Church's Mission

Rev. Bruce A. Barkhauer

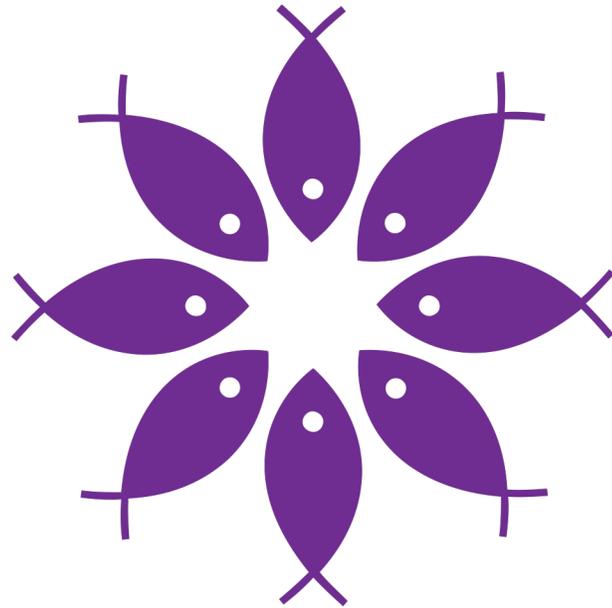
June 14, 2023





# The Presbyterian Church in Canada

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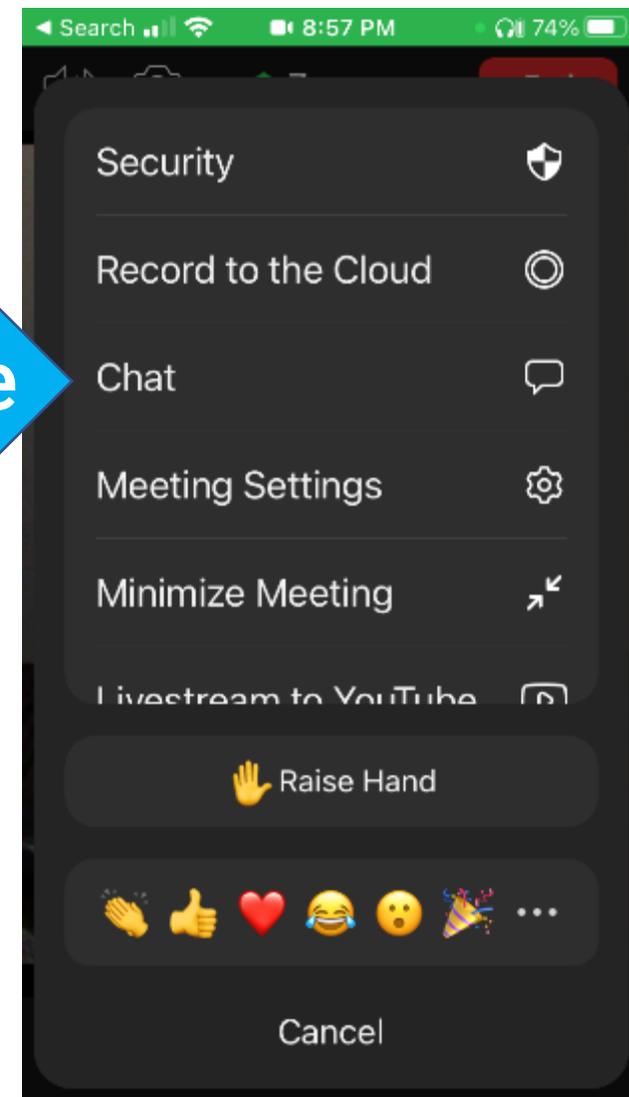


Presbyterians  
**Sharing**

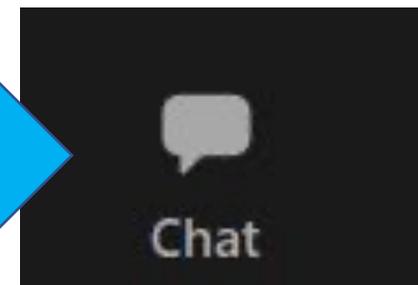


- Stay muted and use chat to ask anything
- Chat will be monitored and questions asked as we go along or at the end
- You can unmute at the end

Mobile



PC





**Recording will be posted at**

**[presbyterian.ca/leadership-webinars/](https://presbyterian.ca/leadership-webinars/)**

# Rev. Bruce A. Barkhauer

- Minister for Faith and Giving for Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Teaches Stewardship at Lexington Theological Seminary
- For 25-years, led congregations
  - in Ohio and Indiana
  - high levels of financial support
  - local and global missions.



# Stewardship Seminary Course

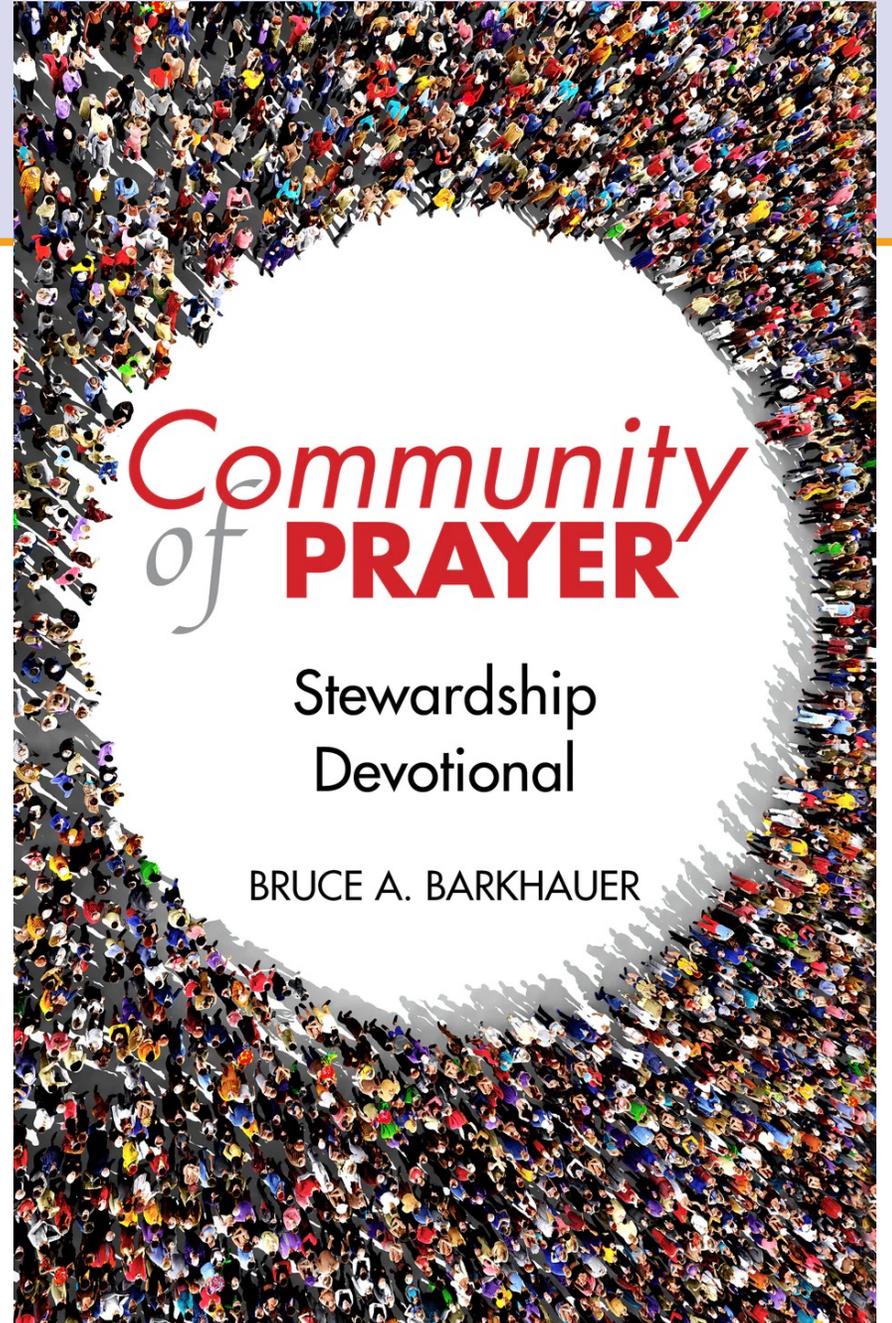
- Biblical Reflection/Critical Thinking
- Theology of Stewardship: tithing today?
- Planned Giving (Who has a will?)
- Capital Campaigns
- Narrative Budgets & Story Telling
- Personal Budgets
- Accounting principles, methods and styles
- Daily devotions with *Community of Prayer*



# Book: 29 Devotionals

Daily devotionals over 4 weeks

- Weekly emphasis
- Individual or group study
- Stewardship as spiritual discipline
- *Going Deeper* section for each week



# *Annual Invitation to Stewardship*

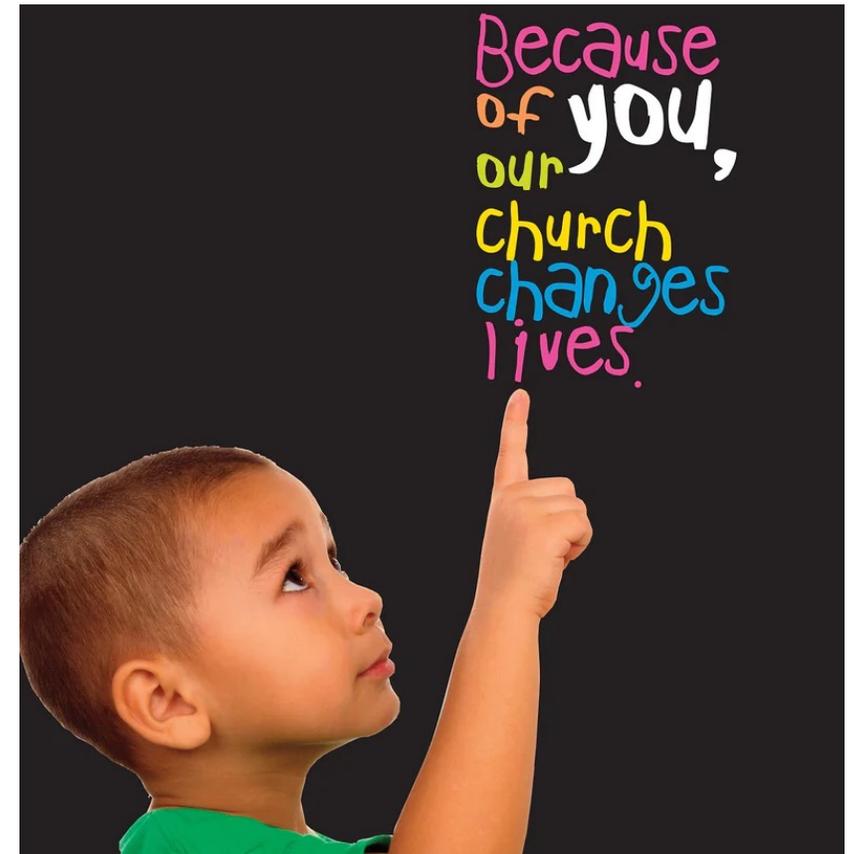
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- Campaign or Season
- Carefully prayed about
- Helps individuals reflect on and make decision about giving
  - Why? Rather than how much
  - How will it affect my church/community
  - Not about budget but the difference we can make
  - Gathering resources to do ministry

# Growing Financial Support

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- Year-long vs. seasonal
- Resource: *Because of You Our Church Changes Lives*
- **Year-round** education and discussion
  - Generosity as a spiritual practice  
(Not a crisis around paying bills)
  - Stronger disciples
- Adaptable to a shorter seasonal campaign
- Remember: Jesus spoke about money



# Cycle of Donor Engagement

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Connected to mission & ministry



*Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives*

# Stewardship materials

- Can be implemented by lay people
- Constantly evolving material based on experience
- Connects donor's generosity with your ministry and mission
- Resources for worship, sermons, and faith formation for children, youth, and adults.
- Practical tools
- Year-round or seasonal
- Adjusts to your context and size

# Writers



Rev. Dr. Katie Hays (Galileo Church)



Lee Hull Moses (Disciples of Christ)



Dr. Frank A. Thomas (Christian Seminary)



Rev. Dr. Deborah Krause (Eden Seminary)

...and many more.

# Resource Includes

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- 8 sermon reflections and companion worship resources
- Children, youth, and adult educational materials
- Equipping volunteers to ask and thank



## A Theology of Sufficiency

by Rev. John Dorhauer

Rich Biblical traditions shaped Jesus' vision, including Micah 4: 3-4:

*"God shall judge between many peoples and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."*

It is my personal belief that this concept, one that I call a theology of sufficiency, provides a strategic pathway to the just peace we seek. It is the unjust distribution of wealth that keeps the wheels of war turning.

Micah rightly discerns in the heart of God that the beating of swords in plowshares can only be possible when the conditions envisioned by God and described in that final verse come into play. When all on Earth have their own vine and their own fig, just enough to sustain themselves

# Sample Sermon and Worship Resources



## Worship Resources

By Rev. Stacy Emerson

### Call to Worship

Bring praise to our Creator  
who kissed life into our mortal bodies.

**We bring praise to our Creator  
who trusts us to preserve God's most precious things.**

Bring praise to our Creator  
who invites us into sacred partnership  
to tend to each other and all of creation.

**We bring praise to our Creator  
seeing the beauty around us  
and sensing our sacred responsibility.**

### Gathering Prayer

Creator God, we gather here billions of years from the beginning continually unfolding creation. Stars and centipedes and still more inspire our gratitude to you for this life, abundant and rich. Make connections begun in creation but broken now. And having been likeness, equip us with the desire to serve, and the willingness to heal until creation's wholeness is restored. Amen.

### Prayer of Transformation

Creator God, even while we give thanks for life and breath and beauty of the earth, we are aware of the ways we have betrayed your gift



## Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7 (Season of Lent)

### Sermon Exegesis

#### Stewardship for a Thriving Planet: Recovering the Full Meaning of the Human Vocation in Biblical Perspective

By Dr. Carol Frances Johnston

Connecting stewardship to more than fundraising can be tricky for churches, yet vitality in congregations is greatly enhanced when it is done effectively. Recovering and energizing stewardship can be aided by the meaning of stewardship that we find in Genesis. Here we can see that exercising stewardship in a distinctive way, and in the context of God's abundant creation, is entrusted by God to human beings from the outset as their vocation. It is a kind of partnership with God in seeing and enabling the potential in all creatures to be developed and also, in and with other creatures, contributing to the thriving of all life. In other words, stewardship is about the long-term cultivation of "right relationships" between God, human beings, and the rest of creation, for the sake of a thriving world. The healthier each aspect of

Because  
of you,  
our  
church  
changes  
lives.



# Posters



BECAUSE OF **YOU** OUR CHURCH CHANGES LIVES.

# Bulletin Inserts



## A Theology of Sufficiency

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## Deciding What to Give

While there are many ways to support the congregation, our annual campaign provides a chance to think in a particular and prayerful way about the choices we make with our money in support of the church.

Without your gifts, we would not be able to engage in the programs, projects, ministry, and worship experiences that define our community life.

Deciding how much of our income to donate to charitable organizations can be difficult. We encourage our community to think of giving as a percentage of annual income.

The average gift to charitable causes in our country is 2% of annual income [per household]. It is hard to imagine what our world would look like without these generous gifts that do so much good. Fortunately, we are not being asked to consider what the world would be without these gifts! Instead, we are being asked to imagine what just 1% or more might make happen! How many more lives can be changed because you and



## Stewardship for a Thriving Planet

by Dr. Carol Frances Johnston

At each stage of creating in Genesis 1, God "saw that it was good." When human beings were created last, "God saw that everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good." There are two crucial aspects of this to notice here: First, not only was everything created "good", but also that it is the whole together that is good. Second, it is crucial to consider the importance of stewardship. One of my students once asked about this during our class unpacked it. We soon realized that God "seeing" (and knowing) God's creatures, and how the whole is greater than the sum of the parts ("very good") is a crucial element of stewardship. One needs to be seen and understood by others and learning to "see" and understands them as individuals and how they are related to everything else can be transformative.

Years ago, I interviewed about 75 faithful, creative, and generous people and community leaders across the U.S. Gradually I noticed a common experience that comes before gratitude, generosity,



## What Jonah Learned about Abundance

by Lee Hull Moses

At first glance, Jonah seems an odd choice for a reflection on stewardship. There is no offering of gifts here, no passing the plate, no mention of money at all. Missing is the imagery of the overflowing baskets of first fruits in Deuteronomy 26, or the quiet generosity of the widow in Luke 21. Jonah, as we'll see, isn't even a particularly generous person; quite the opposite, in fact. And yet, this little story of a reluctant prophet has much to offer as we discover the joy of sharing God's abundant grace.

Jonah learns over the course of his story that God's justice is not a zero-sum game; more for other people doesn't mean less for me. There is plenty of God's grace to go around, enough for all the Ninevites and Jonah too. "Should I not be concerned about Nineveh?" God asks [4:11], as Jonah sulks, but the obvious truth is that God has been concerned about Jonah all along. Even when Jonah is running away from God, God provides what he needs: safety in the storm, a rescue from the depths of



## Stewardship for Liberation

By Rev. Dr. Dietra Wise Baker

There is a new Pharaoh running the empire, one that does not know Joseph [Exodus 1]. The exodus story begins by reciting the names of descendants of Joseph in Egypt. Joseph and all his brothers died, but their children and grandchildren have grown in number and strength. The growth has not led to any economic security; instead, it made the Israelites vulnerable to oppression, extraction, and exploitation.

In this biblical context that God calls a pair of midwives into a place where oppression is rampant, God calls them via their vocation as midwives. God calls us first to be stewards of who we are, not just what we have. Midwives teach us that faithful stewardship has a nature: we offer what we have in ways that resist oppression and build community. Stewardship is an act of resistance, to resist a narrative that says we are not enough, that we don't have enough. Stewardship which centers people who appear to have little or no power to change things. In witnessing to our midwives, they give us renewed energy to remember our call: when



**Letterhead and Envelope graphics**

# Pledge/Commitment Cards

## Credit Card / Debit Card Information

By completing this form, I authorize the Church to charge the amount indicated below.

Name (as it appears on the card) \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

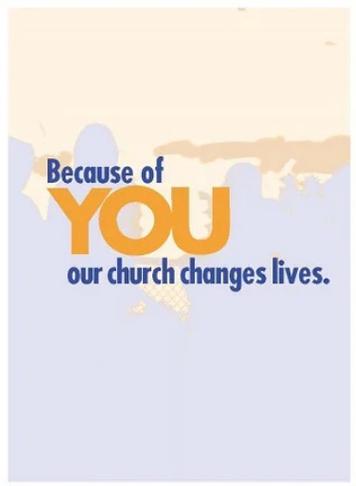
Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVC # \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Card:  Master Card  Discover Card  Visa  AMEX  Bank Card (debit)

Amount to be charged \$ \_\_\_\_\_  One time  Monthly  Other (specify)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Remember that the church may not receive the entire amount specified, as we may pay a fee to the credit card company. If you are interested in adjusting the amount to insure the church receives the entire gift intended, please check with the church office for the exact fee for your card.



For **CHURCH RECORDS** Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_  
(for office use)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ each  week  month beginning \_\_\_\_\_

for an annual total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(date and year)

I understand that this commitment can be changed at any time by giving notice to the church officer.

I would like to talk with someone about including the church or church-related institution in my will.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Because of **YOU** our church changes lives.

For **YOUR RECORDS**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

With others in my congregation, I commit myself to give in proportion to what I have for the ministries of the church and the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ.

I plan to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ beginning \_\_\_\_\_  
(date and year)

Each  week  month

Annual Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For **CHURCH RECORDS** Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_  
(for office use)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to give beginning \_\_\_\_\_ each  week  month  
(date and year) Annual Total

For our congregation's ministries \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

and For our congregation's wider mission \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that this commitment can be changed at any time by giving notice to the appropriate church officer.

I would like to talk with someone about including the church or church-related institution in my will.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Because of **YOU** our church changes lives.

For **YOUR RECORDS**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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I plan to give beginning \_\_\_\_\_  
(date and year)

Each  week  month

Annual Total  
For our congregation's \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ministries and

For our congregation's \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
wider mission

Pledge card with Presbyterians Sharing or other "wider mission" designation.

# Worship Folder

## Because of **You** our church changes lives.

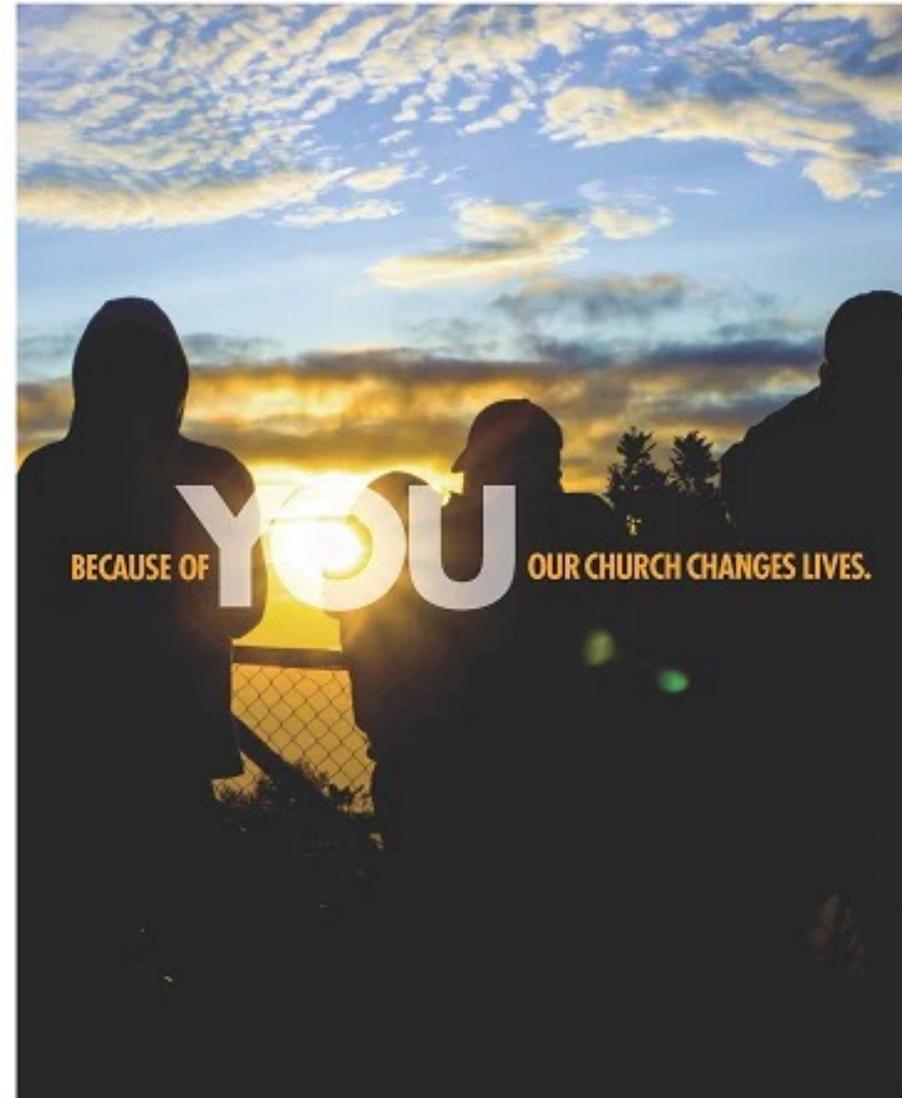
**I**t is a statement that is both bold and simple. It boldly expresses the truth about the ultimate nature and the purpose of the church; to engage in acts of transformation. It boldly asserts that we see our mission as one that gives assurance to every individual that their life matters, not because we say so, but because the gospel says so.

It boldly challenges us to engage in the work of breaking down barriers and dismantling systems which deny the fundamental truth that God loves the world. This radically inclusive belief leaves no living thing out of the Divine embrace or allows anyone to be separated from the hope of that promise.

We can be bold because we know it is true. Our own life stories bear witness that being a part of the beloved community in some way has either made us different; or causes us to fervently believe that it will. It gives us hope, reminds us of our value, calls us to discover and claim our purpose, clarifies the moral Right and Wrong, motivates us to be a part of something larger than ourselves all for the sake of change! Change that can more closely align us and our world with the values of the Realm of God. Our church matters because of **you**.

Our theme **Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives** is also simple. It recognizes that each of us, by our gifts and the decisions we make to employ them, power this sacred work. Our resources make ministry happen. The arithmetic is not complex. Our choice to grow in our generosity enables the church to increase the impact of the difference it makes.

By choosing to give, even a little bit more, we will expand our shared quest to change lives – even our own. Be bold! Take a step forward in your generosity. It's simple! The choice is **yours**.



# Digital Download

**Value: \$US 49.99**

- Cost for digital download for Presbyterian Church in Canada churches = **\$0**

(Pre-printed materials available directly from [uccresources.com/generosity](http://uccresources.com/generosity) at additional cost)

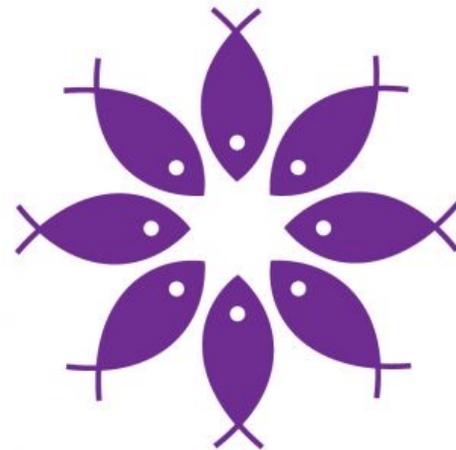


**DISCUSS!**



The  
**Presbyterian**  
**Church**  
in Canada

THANK YOU!



Presbyterians  
**Sharing**