

September 26, 2024

Dear Members and Friends,

Our gratitude to God is part of the story of our faith.

Since the earliest of times, people of faith have heard and repeated the stories of God at work in all of life. We witness to the stories of God at work in our lives and in the lives of others whom we know and love. In the blink of an eye, we can each recall some of the many times when we have been blessed by the presence, joy, abundance, and compassion God provides.

It is God who creates, sustains, and calls us to serve in every way we are gifted to serve. In response to God's call, we rejoice, tend and keep the earth, and we work to use with imagination and love all that God gives to us.

One major part of God's many gifts to us is the life and worship we celebrate in the Orchard Lake Community Church, Presbyterian. And we are thankful.

Gifts and offerings are expressions of thanksgiving. Disciplines of stewardship are patterns of lifestyle and vocation. As we read God's word and study God's ways, we understand that who we are and what we have are gifts from God. We are to value these gifts, share them, and use them with joy, so that many others will have the blessed opportunity to respond to God's call upon their lives in faith.

Echoing Paul's words, we dare to pray this prayer with the belief that this is God's hope for each of us, personally, and for the work of the Orchard Lake Community Church:

"We pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and the length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to

him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever." (Ephesians 3:18-20)

As your pastor, I thank you for your strong and faithful support for the mission and ministries of OLCCP.

As a congregation, we are blessed. We share a strong faith with each other. We celebrate the joyful events in each other's lives and comfort each other in times of trial and sorrow. We welcome anyone and everyone to join us, and we offer hope to those in our community during their times of need.

Enclosed, you will find a pledge card to show your financial commitment to the church next year. Consecration Sunday is October 13th. If you are unable to worship with us that morning, please mail in your pledge for 2025 prior to that date.

As you consider how you will financially support the church, please reflect on the many blessings we know as a church family. I humbly ask that you give gratefully, generously, and joyfully in support of our ministries in 2025.

Thank you,