



October 2021

Greetings, Members and Friends of POVUCC!

What an extraordinary and unprecedented couple of years we have all experienced. Undoubtedly, they were the most challenging in memory for most of us and for our church as well. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you for being a significant part of our POV family and for your unwavering support over the past year and a half.

How has our church fared financially over these past couple of difficult years? The situation is surprisingly good. Of course, that is thanks to the increased support from all of you. As we reported at last year's Annual Meeting, we were solidly in positive territory for 2020. So far that trend is continuing in 2021 with income running ahead of expenses. That's incredibly good news, and we take it as evidence that God's spirit continues to unite and inspire us even in these challenging times.

As we look to the year ahead, our plea is **not to let up**. Statistics tell us the cost of living for the San Diego metro area is up more than 6%(!!) in the last year. Although we have been keeping a tight lid on our church expenses, we will likely feel the brunt of rising prices in 2022. To keep up, our income will need to increase accordingly. We understand that not everyone can afford to increase their giving. We are grateful to everyone who gives, and we trust your discernment as you consider your giving for 2022. For those who are able, please give prayerful consideration to increasing your pledge by **6% or more**. This should allow us to keep ahead of expenses. In case you are not sure how much you pledged for this year or where you stand in your giving, our Financial Secretary Judy Teshima will be happy to let you know (contact Judy at [jatesh@san.rr.com](mailto:jatesh@san.rr.com)). As you determine the amount you will pledge in 2022, please keep in mind the words of the Apostle Paul in his 2nd Letter to the Corinthians:

*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

For your convenience, we are enclosing a 2022 pledge card and a stamped envelope addressed to POVUCC. We are asking that you return your pledge cards before November 17. Pastor Mary Sue plans to consecrate our pledges during Worship service on Sunday, November 21.

Pioneer Ocean View United Church of Christ  
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There are other ways besides your donations that you can help our church – we sometimes refer to this as the giving of Time and Talent. The noted mathematician Alan Turing once summed it up well: “We can only see a short distance ahead, but we can see plenty there that needs to be done.” And so it is with the church – there is always something that needs doing. So please consider volunteering to serve on a Board or Committee, or even for a task. Contact any one of us and we will help find ways for you to serve.

As always, your financial information remains confidential and known only to our Financial Secretary.

May God bless you abundantly.

Your Stewardship Committee,

Doug Clark

Dan Collins

Julie Lin

Chuck Tesar

Judy Teshima

Pastor Mary Sue Brookshire