



LET LOVE OVERFLOW ♥ AMOR REBOSANTE

STEWARDSHIP 2022 MAYORDOMIA

10 November 2021

I pray that your love will overflow more and more,
and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding
... for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

Paul's Letter to the Philippians 1:9-11
(New Living Translation)

Dear Ones,

Can you imagine the Apostle Paul praying these words to his beloved Philippian Christians? Paul held this community in his heart even as he was locked in prison. His letters carried his love forth even when he could not be together with the faithful for a prolonged season.

Now, can you imagine the Apostle Paul praying these words to you – across time and distance? The love that Paul hoped for the early Christians resonates through the ages and calls forth that overflowing abundance of love in us as well.

We may not have been locked-up in prison as Paul was, but many of us have been “locked out” of what we have known as “normal” or “familiar” for an extended season. And even as we have been separated and even as we have begun reuniting, my prayer for us is that we have experienced the enduring love for which Paul was praying – flowing around us and through us and filling us to overflowing.

When you think of St. Bede's, I hope that you imagine a community that lives God's love fully in and for the world. How have you experienced overflowing love here? Is it through growing in understanding about how to love **all** who are created in the Image of God more fully? Is it through the lovingly offered artistry of musicians, or floral arrangers, or knitters, or quilters, or weavers, or woodworkers, or painters, or sculptors? Is it through sharing that overflowing love by serving God and others through community engagement or pastoral care? Is it love made manifest in holy and loving fellowship with gentle pilgrims who have joined you on your spiritual journey here?

This next year is going to be so important for our community as we live and love ourselves out beyond this prolonged pandemic season. Much of our common life has returned or is returning and there is much more mission and program that we wish to re-engage in the months ahead. At the same time, we can give thanks that our time in the desert of the pandemic has also trained us to be



nimble and able to imagine opportunities for being “Church” in new ways. I pray that you would be willing to join the other faithful folks of St. Bede’s in loving us fully into the next season of what God is dreaming for this community.

Thank you so much for your faithful commitment to St. Bede’s. I hope in the days ahead you will consider faithfully growing your response to all that God has shared with you by making a pledge of financial support to St. Bede’s for 2022.

Our pledge goal for 2022 is \$450,000. This is around 5% more than we received in pledges this year. We hope that we can stretch to achieving that goal so that we can continue and renew the ministries and opportunities that have blessed us for so long and grow and imagine new ways of serving God and others.

Once again, we are asking that you contemplate this pledge in terms of a weekly amount you would offer back to God thus allowing you to put this pledge in context with other weekly financial patterns in your life. Although the pledge is made in the form of a weekly amount, you may pay on any schedule (weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually, or through a transfer of stocks or securities).

We hope to receive all of our pledge commitments by **Sunday, December 5** and rejoice gratefully for the amazing gifts that all of God’s people will share to provide for the Gospel work to which we have been called together. You may return the enclosed pledge card on any Sunday between now and then. You may also return your card to St. Bede’s by mail or drop it off in our secured mailbox at the Midvale entrance. **There is also and easy to use online pledge form that may be found through the stewardship link at www.stbedes.org.**

Your pledge of financial support will ensure that St. Bede’s can live-out its next season of mission and ministry as strong or stronger than ever before.

One of the best sounds that I have heard recently is the return of the ever-flowing and overflowing waters of our beautiful baptismal font. This sound not only reminds me of my baptism, it also reminds me of the love of God of which the Apostle Paul speaks. I join Paul in praying for you that *your love will overflow more and more – and that that this love – overflowing from you – will bring much glory and praise to God.* Amen!

Peace,

Chad