

October 26, 2009

Dear Member/Friend of Honeoye United Church of Christ:

This year's Stewardship theme is taken from John 1:16: "*From Jesus' fullness, we have received, grace upon grace*".

Rev. Ozzie Smith, Jr., Covenant UCC, South Holland, Illinois writes "We all have been to more than a few board meetings lately where the economy dominates conversation--each meeting seems to want to send the hungry away from its called mission. There seems to be much *kneejerk* reaction to the economy, but little *kneebent* response to the economy."

The last few years we have been fortunate to present a budget with a very small or no increase in expense. While each board has been very diligent in reducing projected expenses where possible, we do expect some increase this year. The budget we adopt supports the ministry of Honeoye UCC by serving the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of members and friends, as well as the local, national and global community.

Stewardship Sunday is November 15. Enclosed you will find a pledge sheet. The top half is for your financial commitment, while the bottom portion is where you may indicate non-monetary gifts you would like to use to support the work of our congregation.

As always your financial commitment will remain confidential, but your time commitment will be shared with the appropriate person or board. Please bring the completed pledge sheet to be placed in the offering plate on Stewardship Sunday, November 15.

To help us prepare for Stewardship Sunday, you have heard personal faith stories of members during "Joys and Concerns". Honeoye UCC ministers differently to our diverse needs and whether it be the knitting ministry, visitation, food pantry, Sunday School, Salem soup kitchen, bible study, Neighbors in Need, church dinners, Sunday worship, bereavement counseling, or Saturday night movies (just to name a few) all of these ministries take time, talent and financial commitment. Your *kneebent and prayerful* response to this request will impact the ministries of our congregation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of us on the Board of Christian Stewardship.

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