

October 20, 2024



People of Hope,

May God's grace and peace be with you. As Fall brings the promise of cooler weather, and we are able to enjoy more of God's wonderful creation, we are all invited to recognize the wonder of what God has and continues to do among us. We see in God's enduring creation that God is indeed faithful to us and provides for us all that we need.

It is the faithfulness of God that we celebrate today. In the face of uncertainty and change, the people of Esperanza responded to the challenge given by congregation leadership with confidence and hope. As we have responded to our baptismal calling to live lives of generosity, we have continued to find that our own cup overflows with blessings. As we look to move forward together as a community of faith, we also recognize the faithfulness of God in how God has continued to bless and watch over Esperanza and the whole people of God. For that reason, this year we sing, "Great is Thy Faithfulness!"

In the weeks ahead, we will be hearing more about the joys of our current ministries and how we hope to continue to grow in ministry for 2025. Each week will feature a new focus based on our faithful response to God's faithfulness. We will engage in these prayerful conversations on how we best use the gifts God gives us through handouts (a new one each week!), focusing on the generosity of our community through the use of our Jacob tree, and also intentionally in our worship service.

Though there are many ways to serve God, one of the ways to help Esperanza live more fully into the congregation's mission is through regular financial giving. As we encounter God's faithfulness again during this intentional season of Stewardship, we pray that the Holy Spirit prompts you to prayerfully consider growing your financial gifts to Esperanza to increase the impact of Esperanza in service to our entire world.

As we celebrate God's faithfulness, we will engage in conversation on how the goodness of God helps us to **Deepen Our Wells of Faith, Build Bridges into Our Community**, and challenges us to **Invest in Our Future**. Considering these conversations, we invite you to join with us in celebrating God's continued faithfulness to us by returning your financial intent cards in worship on Sunday, November 17.

This year, join us in singing, "Great is Thy Faithfulness!" to the God who is indeed faithful. Thank you for your faithful response to the goodness of God, and for all the ways you bless Esperanza and the community we serve together.

Peace in Christ,
The Esperanza Stewardship Team
Pastor Christopher Heller, Chuck Yount,
Linda Dickson, Tami Hass, and Barb Yurka