

Good morning church family! I am Virginia (Ginny) Miller-Cavanagh. I am an Elder on our Session and co-moderator of the Team Finance.

Our Father God has blessed each of us individually. As Christians, we seek to respond in kind based on discerning His call on our hearts. Through prayerful communication with him and his knowing our resources of talents, time, and money, we express our gratitude for all he does for us in our lives by joining in the Father's work.

We are starting today and in the next two weeks to focus on stewardship. The purpose is for our session to share with you, our church family, what we together have accomplished this year in joining in the Father's work. We request your help, through pledging your giving for 2021, to enable us to craft a budget based on what resources we may plan for.

Today, I would like to tell you about our international and national outreach. Next Sunday, Chris Calwell will cover our regional and local outreach. The following Sunday, Pastor Beau will cover our membership, youth and children programs and services, including our church facilities and technology upgrades.

Internationally and nationally our church is an ongoing supporter of **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)**. We have dedicated \$1,500 to PDA. PDA enables congregations and individual mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to be a witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events. The pictures below show some of the international events PDA partnered in:

### **In Africa, Malawi Flooding and Food Crisis**



**In Asia, Indonesia Tsunami**



**In Latin America, multiple hurricanes**



**In the Middle East, Beirut Explosion**



*Some of the national events PDA partnered in:*

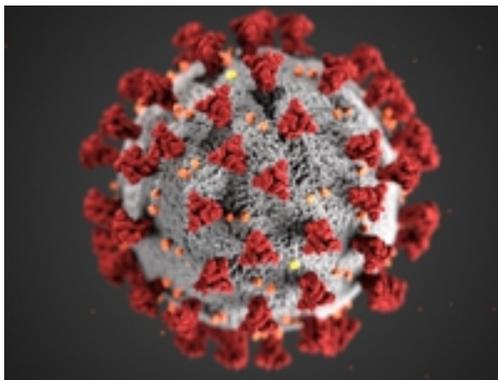
**Pacific Northwest Wildfires**



**Eastern tornadoes**



**Covid-19 globally**



We are funding \$1,500 to the **Theological Education Fund**. Here is a flyer describing the purpose of this fund. It assists church leaders looking to join the ministry. Some seminary students need financial help to attend. Through this fund we help them and seminaries in their mission.

[2020 Theological Ed. Fund flyer](#)

We also choose to support our members who, themselves, give time and talents to international charities. We are especially inspired by **Bill and Peggy Hoffman**. The Hoffman's have spent many years assisting **Sikonge Orphans Education in Tanzania**.

We will continue supporting them for their **Adopt a Village project and for Orphans Education**.



The project is a part of the Board of World Mission, Central Moravian church, First Presbyterian Church of Durango and the Moravian Church of Western Tanzania. Orphans have needed basic items. The government provided dormitories, but no mattresses on which to sleep. It built a cafeteria, but without tables and chairs. Our church has provided the mattresses, mosquito netting, tables, and chairs. We have also provided school uniforms, as nearly a third of the children are very poor. The additional outreach in recent years has been for special needs children. The school has close to 100 students and is gated and guarded for their protection. It includes visually impaired, deaf and what they call “slow learners”. In addition, there are albino children who are abused and rejected by the general population. Because of the lack of pigment in their eyes, they get pronounced visual problems, with the school teaching them braille. Our general approach has been to meet the needs requested by the people in the village and have committed \$2000 for this mission. This outreach by FPCD profiles our effort to serve in God’s greater world community.

The church succeeds in doing the Father’s work through your giving of time, talents and financial backing. It takes us all to accomplish God’s work.

Members and others who support First Presbyterian Church with their tithes and donations have received **a giving letter with a pledge card** that were mailed out on October 16. We ask that you prayerfully consider how God is calling you to respond. Please return your completed pledge cards by mail, inserting it in our office mailbox, or when you attend an in-person church service. We need all the cards by November 15.