



STEPHENS PARKER

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Members & Friends
First Presbyterian Church
Durango, CO

Dear Members & Friends:

Happy Autumn! It's that time of year again to start planning for next year and the years to come. Thank you all for your financial support in 2023. FPCD has been blessed with good normal support as well as some extraordinary support for some special reasons as we discussed on 10/29.

There is no doubt that our church was severely impacted by the challenges created by the Covid pandemic which began in 2020. That is almost 4 years ago, and we believe that we should continue to move forward and put that dark time for all well behind us. To this end, Geni and I are planning to increase our annual contributions for 2024 to support FPCD. I hope that you will feel moved to help with additional support.

Besides ongoing operational support by members for our church, WE have been able to help our missions such as the Newcomb Assembly of God in northwestern NM, the Sikonge Special Needs School and Orphanage in Tanzania, Campus Ministries, many local missional efforts, our Better Together activities and the recently completed Halloween support activity—Light up the Night—for Third Avenue. Over the next month, your Elders will be giving out details on all that we have accomplished in 2023 and what is on the agenda for 2024.

I want to mention that we have arrived at a point where we can offer several different ways to support FPC. For instance, Geni and I use our Required Minimum Distribution from our IRAs to support many charities as well as FPC. If you are over 72, please check with your tax advisors to see if you qualify. Additionally, please check to see if you have prepared a will. If you have not, please consider doing that and including FPC as a beneficiary down the road. Finally, while we have lost several dedicated members over the past year, we continue to acquire new members that will bless our church with energy, time and talent. Wasn't it great to welcome new members in October!

My term on the Session is up in December, but I remain willing and able to answer any questions anyone has. Please feel free to contact me or any member of your session. We all appreciate your help.

In his Service,

Steve Parker

Steve Parker & Your Faithful Church Elders