



STEWARDSHIP 2024

Dear Friends of John Knox,

A couple in Alta Veripaz, Guatemala watched four of their children battle ongoing sickness and weight loss due to contaminated water until a team from our church trained and supplied them with a clean water system.

A second grader found a connection through Kid's Hope, our new mentoring program, sending her mentor a hand-drawn picture anticipating when the two of them would be together again.

A friend of the church lost his job, could not pay rent, needed food and a few nights' lodging and the church came alongside him till he found a new job and could sustain himself.

A man found purpose and meaning again through the community of our grief support group after the death of a spouse.

The congregation generously stepped up to eliminate our \$600,000 debt, moving us from the burden of our mortgage to the possibilities of ministry.

We could fill pages with what is happening at John Knox, yet these are just a few examples of us being bold. We have always believed that faith calls us to be courageous, to take steps forward even when the path is unfamiliar. Just as Joshua ventured out of the desert and into new life-giving territory with courage (Deut. 31:7-8), we too are stepping out in faith, trusting that God will guide us and be with us.

Today, we invite you again to join our mission and boldly make a difference by pledging your contribution for the 2024 budget. As your courage is kindled for this coming year, know that John Knox does not exist without you, and we celebrate all the ways our bold beginnings are deepening faith and blessing the world that God loves.

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Our 2024 Congregational Ask Budget is \$938,000, a 5% increase over last year. This budget reflects the expansion of our mission and outreach budget, new projects to improve our church facilities, and after many years of working with a reduced staff, we will have a full staff to facilitate, guide, and empower our John Knox ministries.

With all of this in mind, we invite you to join us in giving thanks for all the resources — spiritual, theological, physical, and financial — that support this indispensable work of God through John Knox. And as we look ahead, enclosed you'll find a special prayer card. Pray this prayer over the coming weeks, reflecting on God's presence at John Knox and how we can take steps of faith together.

Join us on **Dedication Sunday, October 29**, for in-person or online worship and bring the enclosed pledge card. Together, let us continue to move forward and take steps of faith.

With gratitude,

Tom, Susanne, and the Stewardship Committee