



The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County

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October 1, 2009

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to Autumn at First Presbyterian Church!

The church lawn soon will be covered with pumpkins, like Charlie Brown and Snoopy's great pumpkin patch – colorful reminders of God's bounty, of fellowship and family fun, of giving to a good cause. That's the spirit of Fall...a time of harvest, gathering, and sharing. Here at First Presbyterian, folks are busy, excited and enthused with learning, fellowship, and helping others.

Fall is also a time to remember that we reap what we sow in life, good or bad, generous or selfish, meager or plentiful. In that spirit of remembering, this year's Annual Response Program is focused on "the Spirit of the Gift." Our attitude in giving is critical; giving has to be an intentional, heartfelt, joyful response to God's goodness to us. "Let each of you give as you purpose in your heart, not grudgingly or of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver." *2 Corinthians 9:7*

Our 2009 Response Program invites you to take part in activities focusing on that goal:

- ▶ Kick-off Sunday, October 18th
at each service pick up your info packet...and free gift.
- ▶ Time & Talent Coffee House, Saturday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m.
a combination of American Idol and America's Got Talent –
with stars you know!
- ▶ Response Sunday, November 8th
an opportunity at each service to present to God your estimate of giving
in response to God's goodness.
- ▶ Thank & Tell Sunday, November 15th at 12:15 p.m.
join us in a lite lunch and a preliminary report on our budget outlook
for 2010.

What are we asking you to do now? Come, participate, remember, pray, give with a grateful heart. We ask only that you respond in a way that is satisfying to you and pleasing to God, remembering that "give and it shall be given to you in the same measure, pressed down and overflowing." *Luke 6:38*

Yours in Christ,

Brett Sivo
*Chair, Year Round Stewardship
For the Session*

Morton Harris
Co-Pastor

Sue Lowcock Harris
Co-Pastor