

Thanksgiving 2022

Dear Friends,

As I anticipate this next season of Advent and Christmas worship, I realize there is likely no living person who remembers First UMC's very first Christmas Concert in 1928. But, as we gather for our 95th Annual Christmas Concert this December 18th we will sit in the same worship space as our congregation from 95 years earlier. We will see the sun rays shining through the same stained-glass windows. We will hear the creak of the same floorboards under the red carpet. From the same walls we will hear the echoes of the Christmas hymns that have inspired generations. Most importantly, through word, song, and deed, we will proclaim the same message of hope and salvation in Jesus Christ.

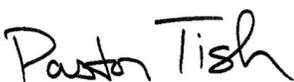
In my 5 ½ years as pastor of First UMC, I've become more keenly aware of history and the movement of time. Everything we do as a congregation is built upon those who came before us, the ones who founded this congregation, who constructed the buildings for worship, designed rooms for discipleship, built a strong reputation in our community, and gave of their time, talent, energy, and finances to ensure our existence today. I am truly grateful for their generosity toward us.

My gratitude brings me to a deeper sense of responsibility for where we stand today. We are the ones charged with making the most of the opportunity handed to us right now. We are the only ones who can strengthen our Church for those who will come after us.

It takes every aspect of who we are to do this holy work.

Today I ask you to consider a special Thanksgiving gift to our church's legacy. It is especially needed as we prepare for this season of mission and celebration. Give a gift that honors those who have gone before. Give a gift that undergirds our ministry today. Give a gift that ensures a place of worship for those who come after us.

First United,



Rev. Tish Green

We honor the past and embrace the future,
as we give, serve, and minister in the present.

PS I invite you to **use the enclosed envelope for your legacy gift**. Bring it to worship with you Sunday, November 13, at 10 am, for our One Service and Harvest Dinner or November 19/20 for our Thanksgiving Worship Services, Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 10 am. You may also give safely and securely online at www.festusumc.org/give or scan the provided QR code. Thank you.

Scan Here
for E-Giving

