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October 21, 2023

To My Holy Apostles Family and Friends,

For me, the arrival of Fall brings the widest range and largest number of emotions to the surface. There are so many events that are meaningful to me that all come up in these few weeks, one of which is my anniversary of joining CHA. As I reflect my 4 years being part of this amazing church family, I must tell you...I have never been more excited and filled with hope about us than I am right now.

I have the honor of ushering in this year's Stewardship drive and, yes, it is an honor indeed. I am proud of the work we have done, and the ways in which we can love and serve our neighbors in the future.

When we talk about the gifts we return unto the Lord, we often talk about them in terms of time, talent, and treasure. While the recent messages about stewardship and our capital campaign are focused on the treasure part of that equation, I wouldn't be doing things right if I did not acknowledge how important our gifts of time and talent are in all the things we do.

Why do we ask for a commitment now for something that will take a whole year to complete? Or, in the case of the Capital Campaign, over the next 4 years? Because 50% of our annual income comes from congregational giving, 40% from rental income (Little Friends Daycare, PBRC, Apartment), and 10% as income from the endowment. Proposed projects in each ministry area are prioritized not only by the value they produce but also by whether we have the pledges available to cover the expense. So, we ask for your pledges to both the annual operating fund and the capital campaign now so we can establish budgets and make wise financial decisions that fuel our ministries and mission for months and years to come.

I love being on this journey with you all and look forward to whatever the Lord has in store for us next!

Sincerely,

Jean Gentile Sr. Warden