



## Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church

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[www.mvpchurch.org](http://www.mvpchurch.org)

October 19, 2020

Dear Mount Vernon Family,

Last year we began this letter with these words: Thank You. This year let us begin this letter with these words: THANK YOU. As you read this and you see the date stamped above, we know that time, events, and opportunities have been rearranged at best and in many cases lost. Through it all, you have been the body of Christ. You have lived into the words of Paul declared with your voice and by your actions that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ Jesus. You have been faithful behind the mask, you have been close even though we have been distant, and you have been generous as so many have been impacted by this virus and its rippling effects.

As we begin to ponder what 2021 will bring, we know that the stresses of this year will not magically disappear. Like you, we continue to pray for a vaccine and to flip the page to the “new normal.” In the meantime, we continue to take what we believe is a safe, pragmatic approach that allows us the opportunity to continue our ministries in as normal a fashion as possible while adhering to the guidance of the health and scientific community.

We know because of the uncertainty this season has caused us all that envisioning what 2021 may look like for you and your family might be hazy at best. Hence that is why our Stewardship Campaign this year is rooted in the wisdom of Proverbs 3: 5-6, “**Trust in the Lord** with all your heart, lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge God and God will make your paths straight.” Since March, the calling to **Trust in the Lord** has been paramount. Your communal trust has allowed us to hire our new Associate Pastor, Isaac Toney-Schmitt, to give more than \$50k to various mission partners via the Covid-19 Fund, and to reimagine how we can congregate through online worship, Zoom Small Groups and Sunday School, phone devotionals, Mount Vernon Moments, and all the phone calls and letters we sent to one another.

We **Trust in the Lord** because even though we have been apart physically, the bond we share in Jesus Christ feels stronger than it did this time last year. We hope you will join us for **Dedication Sunday at our Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, November 15 at 11:00 a.m.** as together we commit to serve God by giving back a portion of our treasure. Of course, if you do not feel comfortable to meet in person, we understand. Because of that we have several options:

- **Fill out our virtual pledge card** on our website at [mvpchurch.org](http://mvpchurch.org).
- Simply **mail your pledge** to the church office.
- Or (and in the case of bad weather) **drive by the church from Noon-2:00 p.m. on November 15 with your pledge card as we celebrate a “tithe-thru.”**

Please reach out to either one of us, or contact the church office should you have any questions. Once again, THANK YOU, and may you abide in the **Trust** we have in God who will continue to mold and use us so we can share our time, our talent, and our treasure for the ones we call neighbor and the ones we have yet to meet.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barrett".

Rev. Barrett Abernethy  
Pastor/Head of Staff

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wit Truitt".

Elder Wit Truitt  
Stewardship Chair