



November 11, 2021

Dear Friends,

Without question, life for all of us changed drastically in the last 22 months. More importantly, the lives of our families, our schools, our churches, and our workplaces were affected in various ways from the trials and the tribulations of the Covid-19 outbreak. Normal activities that we had grown accustomed to being a permanent fixture in our lives, were suddenly gone or drastically changed. We went from trying to coordinate our fashion wear to trying to choose the proper facemask to wear – if and when we even dared to venture to go out in public.

Despite it all, we have strived to live our lives in this new normal. Elections were still held, sporting games welcomed back fans, school halls began filling with students, and postponed ceremonies were finally rescheduled. Amid the attempts to try and return to some sense of normalcy, our churches continued to function, in some form or fashion. Adapting to the surrounding upheaval of life, worship services were live-streamed, moved to the church parking lot, or held in different locations to allow for healthy social distancing.

We all know that we are an important part of the Body of Jesus Christ. These challenging times have only made us stronger as Christ's family. As His disciples, we know that our ministries and our missions must continue to function in this world, whether it is a world that is now unfamiliar in its makeup or one in which we can declare as perfectly normal. Jesus' call to us to "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations*" is still an active requirement for each and every one of us in our present time and situation.

For this reason, it is paramount that we continue to support our Presbytery of Eastern Virginia with our pledges and our gifts. Each church family is asked to prayerfully consider your annual pledge to further the presbytery's support of our churches and its mission and many and various ministries throughout our community. The 2022 Church Pledge form is included with this letter.

I thank you for your dedication and your valued ministries on behalf of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May God continue to bless each of you.

Yours in Christ's Service,

The Reverend Dr. Wilbur C. Douglass, III
Moderator, Presbytery of Eastern Virginia

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