



Samuel P. Warner, Pastor

First Presbyterian Church

102 South Central Avenue, P.O. Box 1, Belmont, North Carolina 28012

September 25, 2011

Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

With these words the Apostle Paul opens his letter to the Philippians from which comes our 2012 Stewardship Theme — **PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL:** *“I thank my God ... for all of you ... for your partnership in the gospel ... from the first day until now.”* (1:3-5) Indeed, how thankful I am for everyone in our church family as we enter the final months of our *“Lift High The Cross”* Capital Campaign construction project and prepare for another year of Ministry and Service to one another and the entire Belmont community and beyond.

Our first Sunday of Stewardship Season will be September 25, 2011 when we welcome as our guest preacher Dr. Robert Lewis, retired pastor of Salisbury’s First Presbyterian Church. Dr. Lewis has a long and distinguished career of service to Christ and the Presbyterian Church (USA). We look forward to hearing his message based on the theme verse for this year’s Stewardship Campaign.

On Sunday, September 25 and World Communion Sunday, October 2, this Stewardship Packet will be available in specific locations around the church for individuals and families to pick up before and after Worship. Those packets remaining after October 2 will be personally delivered by current elders and deacons as well as members of the 2011 Stewardship Committee with the hope of receiving all completed *Pledge Cards* and *Time & Talent* sheets no later than during Worship on **Stewardship Dedication Sunday, October 16.**

Please find enclosed with this letter several important pieces of information prepared by the 2011 Stewardship Committee:

- The text of William Howe’s **Minute for Stewardship** shared with the congregation during Worship on Sunday, September 25, 2011 and found on the back of this letter;
- A **2012 Stewardship Newsletter** explaining our 2012 *Operating Budget* and the current state of our *“Lift High The Cross”* Capital Campaign;
- **Time & Talent Stewardship Commitments** for each adult family member to volunteer for various ministries in our church during the coming year;
- **Financial Stewardship Commitment Pledge Cards** toward the 2012 *Operating Budget* as part of our *“Partners in the Gospel”* annual Stewardship Campaign
- **Children’s Pledge Cards** for each child in your family.

The Stewardship Committee looks forward to hearing from everyone in our congregation this Stewardship Season in the hope of assisting the Session in preparing wisely and faithfully for 2012.

God’s Grace and Peace to you!

Sam