



Red Clay Creek
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rooted in Love



Dear Red Clay Family,

There is a moment in John 6 when a child steps forward with five loaves and two fish. Thousands of people are hungry, and the disciples look at what the child has brought and asks the perfectly reasonable question: "What are they among so many people?"

And yet the child offers what he has. Jesus takes it in his hands and, somehow, there is more than enough. Let that story guide you as we enter another season of generosity at Red Clay! It is the story we are living!

Last year, you pledged more than \$700,000 to the ministry of Red Clay - the highest level of pledging in our 303-year history. Those gifts became worship and music, ministry with children and youth, care for one another, and service to our neighbors. They helped us welcome 125 children to Camp Red Clay, provide turkeys and Christmas gifts for local families, assemble hygiene kits for school children, and keep our historic and wonderful church alive with ministry throughout the week.

And then, this spring, something happened that feels almost like a parable itself.

Our Jesus Christ Superstar Service Challenge Concert raised \$10,271. Through our partnership with Undue Medical Debt, those gifts became more than \$1.3 million in medical debt eliminated for families in New Castle County. People in our community received letters that our church relieved that debt.

\$10,271 became \$1.3 million. Five loaves. Two fish.

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The child in John 6 was not asked to feed five thousand people. He was not asked to solve the problem. He simply stepped forward to offer what he had in the moment it was needed.

That is all any of us is asked to do.

As always, I will be straight with you. The cost of doing ministry continues to rise. Our programs are growing, and growing programs cost more. We want to compensate our beloved staff fairly as their costs of living increase. And we want to keep investing in the people, programs, and places where we see God at work.



So this year, I am asking you to make a financial commitment to Red Clay and, if you are able, to consider increasing your pledge by 5%. That is my sincere and direct ask.

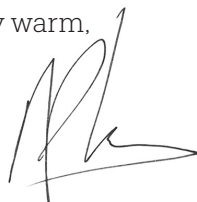
For some, that will be possible. For others, maintaining your current commitment will itself be an act of faithfulness. And if you have never pledged before, let this be the year to start.

Whatever the amount, I hope you will begin with the same question rattling around in the mind of the John 6 child:

What do I have to offer? Let us offer what we have! And then, by the grace of God, we get to discover what it becomes.



Stay warm,



Rev. Dr. Nathaniel D. Phillips
Senior Pastor