**Chebeague United Methodist Church**

**258 North Road**

**Chebeague Island, Maine 04017**

November 3, 2019

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| AdministrativeCouncilLola ArmstrongDeb BowmanKaren Corson Jen CorsonDonna DamonCheryl HillicossLynne PriestJohn RentRochelle RiceSylvia RossCheryl StevensPolly WentworthTrusteesSteve AuffantElaine ClarkJay CorsonSpecs EatonEldon MayerKendra McKinnonKen PeltonCheryl StevensJackie TraskPastorMelissa Yosua-Davis |

 Dear Island Friends,

For the last few years, our Annual Appeal and our Stewardship Campaign have occurred together in August when the largest numbers of our community are gathered together. Our Annual Appeal letter primarily solicits financial support from members of our island community who do not regularly attend the Chebeague United Methodist Church.

You are receiving this Stewardship Campaign letter instead of the annual appeal letter because you have given more than financial support. You have actively supported our community church. Thank you!

Stewardship is much more than money (treasure) and budgets. Stewardship is faith, time, talent and treasure coming together to sustain and build our community church.

As a group we have developed core values, a mission and a vision. We have become a reconciling church and made clear our desire to welcome everyone through our doors. We have just begun a discernment process to understand how our theology fits or does not fit with the UMC. We aspire "*To be a people of diverse traditions who welcome, worship, serve, and find joy together".*

That's what we're about and that's why God invites each of us to commit ourselves fully through our prayers, our presence. our gifts, our service and our witness. What we do matters! It matters to our island community and to the larger world.

As we move forward, into 2020, what do you see as the opportunities for CUMC? Where do you see our church next year, in 5 years, in 10 years? We need your involvement in our discernment process around our relationship with the greater United Methodist Church. We need your involvement in existing ministries: Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, Choir, our mission to Guatemala, and the Food Pantry. We need your hopes and dreams for further ways we can reach out and serve our island community and our neighbors near and far. We need your financial support of a budget has grown to support our expanded music program. Please prayerfully consider what commitments you will make for 2020.

On Sunday, November 24, you will be invited to make a stewardship commitment for 2020. On several Sundays prior to the 24th, we will have brief "Minutes for Stewardship" intended to help you make decisions about your stewardship in the year ahead.

Please bring the enclosed card with you, completed, to worship on November 24th. As an act of worship, we will bring our commitment cards forward, giving thanks for God's many blessings and committing ourselves to God through our faithful stewardship in the year ahead. (If, for some reason you are unable to be with us for worship on November 24, please try to mail it back to us as soon as possible.)

Karen Corson Cheryl Stevens

Chair, Administrative Council Chair, Trustees

Melissa Yosua-Davis John Rent, Rochelle Rice

Pastor Co-Chairs, Stewardship

**Vision**: *To be a people of diverse traditions who welcome, worship, serve, and find joy together.*

**Mission**: *To know and work with our neighbors near and far as we grow in God's love together.*

**Values**: Community Fellowship Rootedness Creativity Inclusivity Innovation

We are a reconciling congregation.

*2 Corinthians 9-7: "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”*