



FIRST PRES
KINGWOOD

STEWARDSHIP 2020/2021



A NOTE FROM PASTOR CHAD

Covenant Partners and Active Participants in the ministries of First Pres Kingwood, it is clear that God is up to something in our midst! In the last year God has been moving! First through our session and staff, and now through our congregation, God has been moving us toward our calling to exist as both a **GATHERED** and **SENT** church: GATHERED to equip and grow inwardly strong; SENT to serve, outwardly focused.

All of this work brought us face to face with March 15, 2020, the first Sunday of isolation and separation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is clear that God has been preparing us as a GATHERED church so that we would be ready to be a church that is SENT to a world desperately in need.

Since it is clear that God is up to something big and beautiful in our midst, even in this time of separation, we believe that God's work is worth investing in, worth the investment of our time, our individual gifting, and our financial commitment.

This season of separation is not only a health crisis for our world, it has caused incredible economic hardship. It is difficult for many to consider a yearly stewardship pledge in such a time...it is difficult for us to ask you to make such a pledge! In fact, we are late in asking. We chose to take time to prayerfully consider how to address stewardship. Even so, we believe that:

1. God has a plan and purpose for all things;
2. This pandemic and the economic situation in which we find ourselves has not taken God by surprise;
3. The ministry of the church must go on both in times of peace and in times of crisis; and
4. Stewardship is not simply about keeping the lights on, it is a call to obedience...it is about discipleship.

The following pages lay out for you the purpose and mission as well as the values and direction adopted by the Session at First Pres Kingwood. We would like to ask you to prayerfully consider how you will respond in trust and obedience to God's call to participate in the life and ministry of First Pres Kingwood. We look forward to *all* the ways the people of God will choose to say "**I'm In!**"

PLEASE NOTE: For those of you who have lost work or income due to the pandemic and economic crisis, please hold on to this Stewardship Pledge until your situation has become more stable. Please communicate with us so that we know how to pray for you and if there are ways we can practically help you through this difficult time.

OUR PURPOSE AND MISSION

Our purpose and mission come straight from the mouth of Jesus.

PURPOSE (Mathew 22:37-40): "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength...and love your neighbor as yourself."

MISSION (Matthew 28:19-20): "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

OUR VALUES AND DIRECTION

First Pres Kingwood is called to be a church of:

DISCIPLE-MAKING DISCIPLES

Matthew 28:16-20 Jesus invites every person to become his disciple. It is an invitation to trust him, to follow him, and to become like him. Each disciple is called to make disciples who make disciples.

THIS IS HOW WE GROW



who are...



BIBLICALLY LITERATE

2 Timothy 3:16-17 In order to be a disciple-making disciple, we must know the biblical narrative and its "SO WHAT" application to our lives. God's Word is the first and final authority in all areas of faith and life.

THIS IS WHO AND WHAT WE KNOW

SPIRITUALLY FORMED

Romans 12:1-8 Becoming like Jesus is a "whole person project." The Holy Spirit in us transforms us from the inside out and changes how we live and move in this world as we anticipate his coming again and life in the next.

THIS IS HOW WE ARE TRANSFORMED



MISSION FOCUSED

Genesis 22:17-18 The blessing and responsibility given to Israel extends to the church; therefore, the church does not exist only for the benefit of its members; rather, its members are sent into the world, a blessed people who bless people.

THIS IS HOW WE LOVE OTHERS

GOSPEL FLUENT

Acts 2 Disciples of Jesus are fluent in the gospel of Jesus, the good news of the coming of the Kingdom of God. This gospel and the kingdom life is visible most clearly in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

THIS IS HOW WE LIVE



THIS CURRENT SEASON OF MINSITRY

COVID-19 has presented First Pres Kingwood a number of challenges and opportunities. In our planning and programming we have embraced a strategy that enables us to function as both a **GATHERED** and **SENT** church through **CONNECTION** and **CONTENT**. Though it has been difficult to remain separated from one another, First Pres Kingwood is an equipping and sending church in the following ways:

- Weekly worship services, both contemporary and traditional, have been made available on Sunday mornings beginning at 8:15am. Our Covenant Partners and Active Participants have engaged with us in worship from home and have shared our services with family, friends, and neighbors.
- Our staff and Covenant Partners began calling the isolated and vulnerable in our church as soon as we realized the shut-down was imminent. In addition, a daily Zoom call was established soon after the stay home order was established for Harris County as a way to keep our members connected.
- Bible studies, Sunday school classes, and other groups have established weekly Zoom meetings to continue their study of God's Word. Members of our groups have worked tirelessly to connect those who are less familiar with technology so that they, often the most isolated among us, are able to see and interact with their church family.
- We have instituted a new ministry, Sent Groups, to help connect our members to one another during times of crisis. This ministry will be an important part of the future of First Pres Kingwood as they will provide us with an opportunity to exercise our values of being **MISSION FOCUSED** and **GOSPEL FLUENT**.
- We are continuing to equip our church according to our values by offering weekly **SPIRITUAL FORMATION** exercises posted on our website, and starting May 4th we will offer 100 Days of **BIBLICAL LITERACY**, a multi-track plan to read through the Bible together between May 4 and August 16.
- Many Covenant Partners and Active Participants have shown care and concern for one another through prayer, writing letters, frequent phone calls, and picking up groceries and supplies for those in need. Our church is serving our neighborhood in a variety of ways.
- Mission partners in Humble, Kingwood, Houston, Alaska, Peru, and Honduras have been greatly impacted by this global pandemic. While limitations concerning on-site visits will have a negative impact on their ministries, we will continue to honor all financial commitments to our mission partners. We will nurture these strong relationships and look for ways to support their ministries as we plan for future mission engagement.
- In order to be good stewards of the church's resources, the Session has chosen to: 1) invest in maintaining our facilities in a way that is consistent with the reduced usage of our campus; 2) invest in our staff in order to protect jobs and keep the ministry of the church active; 3) freeze all other ministry spending unless approved by a Pastor or Session.
- We believe this season of separation has revealed in us a creativity and an innovative spirit that will serve us well in the future, in times of crisis and in times of peace and normalcy. We are excited to see the ways that God will use our current circumstance to make the ministries of the church even more effective!
- One day soon, this time of separation will come to an end. The staff is actively imagining and planning for ministry after COVID-19 and we are excited about the future ministry opportunities that God is undoubtedly preparing for us! In the meantime, the Session has established a set of guiding principles that will guide us as we prayerfully discern the will of the Holy Spirit for our church and make preparations to reopen our facility. You can find those guiding principles on our website, www.fpc-kingwood.org.

"I'M IN!"

I'm
INcluded

Joshua 24:15b
But as for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord.

We are children of the living God, restored in relationship to God through the work of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. That means not only are we, as the church, a family, but we are God's family. You have been made an heir to the throne of grace and mercy. What better gift could be given to a broken people! We have done nothing to earn this; it is simply a gift!

I'm
INdebted

John 3:16
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life

We are reminded that there is no greater love than that which is seen in the death of Jesus, giving his life so that we can be made heirs and citizens of the Kingdom of God. We are indebted to the work of Christ and the power of God who raised him to new life. That promise of new life has been made to us...we are not only indebted to God for this life, but also for the life to come.

I'm
INvested

John 20:21
Jesus said to them again,
"Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

Not only are we included and indebted, we are invited to participate and invest in the mission of God on earth as we anticipate the coming of his eternal kingdom! How humbling to think that the creator of the universe chooses to use even us to accomplish his good and perfect will. Investment is not simply about our money; it's an investment of our whole lives!

"I'M IN!" TWO WAYS TO MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY

01

Submit your pledge online

Open the camera on your phone or device and point it at this QR code:



Or go directly to
<https://fpc-kingwood.org/stewardship/>

02

Mail-in, call, or email your pledge

Fill out the information on this card and mail to:

"I'm In!"
5520 Kingwood Dr.
Kingwood, TX 77345

Or email Joy Eigbe with the subject **"I'm In!"**
joy@fpc-kingwood.org or call (281) 360-5555

Do you plan to make a financial commitment to First Pres Kingwood for the fiscal year 2020-2021?

The amount I plan to give during the fiscal year:

6/1/2020-5/31/2021 \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Would you like to contribute to our debt reduction plan for the capital campaign and recent renovations to our physical campus?

The Cornerstone Capital Campaign established a budget of \$2.97 million dollars. To date we have received \$1.74 million in campaign receipts. We expect to retire the bridge loan of \$1.23 million over the next two years. When added to the expected fulfillment of current pledges, your contribution can serve to significantly reduce our debt.

The amount I would like to give to debt reduction:

\$ _____