

September 2023

Dear Treasured Members and Friends, (past, present or future)

*Happy Birthday to us, Happy Birthday to us, you know the song ... **61** years to Us!*

As we celebrate our birthday, we want to recognize the vital, important ministry of our present and our future. In our past, members of our congregation had the foresight to set up a Foundation for our church, also called a Permanent Endowment. These funds currently help us in the present and will continue to help us in the future. Our endowment finances such things as our college scholarships, mission endeavors in our community in Africa and here in the United States. The funds have helped purchase water bottles for every student at sunset Elementary School, supported special music in worship service, allowed the library to purchase books, and continue to help spruce up the church landscaping, and even pay part of the utilities of the church.

On **September 24**, our birthday gift to the church will come in the form of adding financially to the endowment which goes this year to our education scholarship fund, Music Fund, Missions Fund, and Landscaping Fund. We'd love to have everyone participate as you are able. Children may give **61 cents**; others may choose the amount of **\$6.10, \$61.00, \$610.00, \$6,100.00, or \$61,000.00!** You get the idea we just thought if we were dreaming, we would dream big! A special Happy Birthday envelope is enclosed for your gift. You may mail your gift or bring your financial gift to church with you on the **24th**. We are hopeful giving you the opportunity to give in any amount takes into account that some of you have given sacrificially to so many ministries in our church. **Your gifts may be received through Halloween, October 31.** And **NO, we will not be printing any names of those that give.** Your gift matters, no matter the amount. Each giver always has different capabilities. We are thankful for the generosity of all, not the size of the gift.

As God guides us in our financial giving, God will also guide our church now and in the future. Please don't forget to bring the church your birthday gift on September 24, 2023.

Loving God and Loving Neighbor.

Pastor Kent & Permanent Endowment Committee

PS: Additional birthday envelopes will be available on Sunday morning in worship if you need additional envelopes for others in your household.