



Congregational Connections

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"IT'S ABOUT LOVE, LOVE, LOVE"

"That's what it's all about. Because God loves us, we love each other; mother, father, sister, brother. Everybody sing and shout, 'cause that's what it's all about." Do you recognize this Church School song? A simple song, with lyrics understandable to children, and yet a concept that has profound meaning for all of us. The author of 1 John wrote, "Beloved, let us love one another because love is from God, everyone who truly loves is a child of God and knows God." The song for children sums it up, "it's about love, love, love."

We are focusing on the text from 1 John in this year's stewardship campaign. At first glance it may seem like a strange scripture text to use as a focus for stewardship. There is no mention of money, or giving, or budgets, or the church's bills, or anything resembling the way we often think about stewardship. Our text is much more all-encompassing than a church budget. 1 John is calling us to a fundamental reorientation of our lives!

When we think of stewardship in a spiritual sense, it is essentially the wise and generous use of God's gifts. The author of 1 John is calling us to use the greatest gift, the gift of love—and to use that gift generously; multiplying that gift by loving one another. As you prayerfully consider your financial support of the church in 2023, consider how your support of our church's ministry can embody God's love and multiply it as it serves our members, friends and the wider community. We are stewards of the greatest gift of all—LOVE!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Scott