

September 12, 2024

Dear Church Family,

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus. I love you all dearly and feel incredibly blessed to be a part of this precious fellowship.

This year, September has five Sundays, and we will continue our tradition of observing Sacrifice Sunday on the fifth Sunday. Sacrifice Sunday is a time when we reflect on the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by participating in communion and by contributing to a special sacrifice offering. We call it a sacrifice offering because it is in addition to our regular offering. In the past, we have used Sacrifice Sunday offerings to connect <u>outward</u> by supporting other ministries or to connect <u>inward</u> by financing projects that enable us to better minister to the needs of those who attend our church. On September 29th, our sacrifice offering will go toward a new renovation project.

In our Six-Year Strategy Plan, one of the goals for Year Two is to upgrade our gymnasium to a multipurpose facility. The gym was built in 1982 and is long overdue for an update, but this will be a costly project. In August, the Finance Committee proposed to Church Council that we create a new fundraising campaign to finance this project. The Council agreed and chose a name for this fund: **Faith for the Future**.

The name of the fund was inspired by Hebrews 11, a Bible chapter some people refer to as "the roll call of faith." The writer begins by defining faith as "being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." He then names several Bible heroes who demonstrated great faith and tells how God blessed their faithfulness. You may consider Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and the others to be extraordinary people, but they were actually <u>ordinary people</u> who had <u>extraordinary faith</u>.

Over the last 150 years, Poplar Springs Baptist Church has stepped out in faith many times, and God has blessed this body. Many of the blessings we enjoy today are the result of the faithfulness of those who came before us. Let us build upon that legacy and demonstrate our faith for the future.

I hope you will join us around the Lord's table on September 29th, and I encourage you to pray about what God would have you contribute to this special offering. May all who come behind us find us faithful.

In His Love,

Pastor Ken

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