

FOUNDATION of FAITH



Dear Friends,

The investment of our time, talent and treasure is the Foundation of Faith. John Wesley, who is the founder of Methodism, was opposed by folks 250 years ago that thought that it was best to wait quietly for Christ to work in one's heart. Wesley was adamant that faith grew on the foundation of actions. For Wesley those actions were traditional "religious" actions like worship and Holy Communion. Wesley also saw our faith foundation resting on our study of the scripture and engaging in holy conversations. In addition, Wesley believed that assisting the poor, teaching the children, and caring for the sick were among the actions that built a Foundation of Faith.

Every Member in Ministry

It is time for each of us to assess our actions that construct our Foundation of Faith for 2009. The enclosed Every Member in Ministry form provides a way to choose our foundational actions of service this year. Every way we serve our neighbor, or participate in a ministry of the church, we are building our Foundation of Faith. These are our investments of time and talent.

Financial Commitments

It is also time to make our financial commitments for the 2009 Operating budget. The work we do with children, youth and adults would not be possible without investment of our treasure. We cannot have our Sunday school, youth program, choirs, Wednesday meals, Stephen Ministry, bicycle rehab, women's retreats, Christmas tree lot, Lenten breakfasts, or our pastoral care of the sick, dying, and bereaved without the foundation provided by our annual Operating budget. We expect these things to be available for our faith journey in good times and bad. It is our Operating budget that makes it all possible and through our investment of treasure we build our Foundation of Faith and the faith of our family and neighbors.

Please carefully and prayerfully consider joining me in investing in the Foundation of Faith by returning your EMIM and financial commitments during worship on January 24th or 25th. In doing so, we will be making our community and world better places.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carl L. Schenck'.

Rev. Carl Schenck SENIOR PASTOR