



5300 MAIN STREET
HOUSTON, TX 77004

713.620.6500

FPCHOUSTON.ORG

October 23, 2020

Hello FPC Family,

I hope that each of you and your loved ones are safe and healthy in these unusual times. I hope that, despite the many challenges you may be facing, daily struggles, or even personal loss, that like me, you are continually reminded in the midst of this pandemic that our hope does not lie in anything or anyone in this world but in He who sent His son to reconcile us to Him now and forevermore. Praise God!

As we move into the final months of 2020, I wanted to drop a quick note to let you know that our financial position remains sound. Despite some decline in recent months, giving levels are sufficiently covering our operating expenses. The giving decline is to be expected in light of economic headwinds many of our employers may be facing, which in turn gives rise to some level of financial uncertainty for us personally. That being said, FPC's staff and leadership have adjusted well to the new modes of giving, and I am encouraged by our congregation's faithful giving despite the challenges many of us are facing.

We have attached giving statements through September 30th for your review. If you find any discrepancies compared to your records, please do reach out to our finance team so that we can work to resolve them. Historically speaking, December is by far the month with the greatest giving as people have better visibility into their financial situations and go through year-end tax planning. It is hard to believe that December is not far off at this point. For convenience, I will repeat a reminder that was included in Jim's letter to the congregation dated September 16, 2020:

For those in our congregation 70 ½ or older, you may have a unique giving opportunity. Even though the CARES Act allows you to waive your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for 2020, you can still donate through your IRA using a Qualified Charitable Distribution. For the 2020 tax year, you are allowed to gift up to \$100,000, in aggregate, paid outright to charities directly from your Individual Retirement Arrangement (IRA) on a pre-tax basis prior to December 31, 2020. For those who are age 72 or older in 2021, it will reduce the balance of your IRA, which in turn, may reduce your RMD and tax liability in 2021, as well. Please consult your tax advisor for more information and to address this strategy's appropriateness to your specific tax situation.

In closing, thank you once again for your generosity and faithful giving to FPC in support of our mission to carry the Gospel to Houston and the world! Please always feel free to reach out to me with any questions you may have at any time.

Matt A. Malinsky

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt A Malinsky".

Treasurer