

Dear Contributor,

You are receiving this letter because you contributed financially to The Allenwood Church at some point during the past year. Whether it was a one-time gift, or a recurring donation, we want to thank you for your generous support. Every contribution helps to keep our church functioning at a material level in support of a far greater purpose, the building up of the body of Christ, for many various works of ministry and service. Your financial gift carries so much more value than its seeable denomination. Also, a summary of all the contributions you've made to our church this year (2020) is enclosed for tax purposes.

The past year has been deeply challenging for all. Change by choice in itself is a great difficulty; unexpected, unanticipated change can bring trials that shake foundations bare and test the very ground they lay upon. 2019, for our congregation, marked the completion of a brand-new constitution that in many ways was a re-establishment of who we are as a church. It was intended to be the footprint for the kind of people we desire to be. One. Authentic. Family. On Mission. 2020 proved to be the very testing ground of what had been laid. Excitedly, I am confidently able to report "we have not been moved"—standing firmly upon our Chief Cornerstone, Jesus Christ.

**"Therefore thus says the Lord GOD,
Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone,
A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed.
He who believes in it will not be disturbed." Isaiah 28:16**

In 2020, God exceedingly and abundantly met our need for more spiritual leadership at The Allenwood Church, by sending qualified men with ministry leadership experience to our congregation. We also had the joy of raising up deacons at the start of the year, to care for the physical, tangible needs of the church, which has nearly doubled in attendance!

The Lord provided incredibly for our church's needs, at the physical level, too. We were generously gifted a new roof for the parsonage. We were finally able to expand our children's ministry area, by adding dedicated classroom spaces and restructuring the space that we have to better meet our current needs. In addition, we have been able to share this new space with an afterschool program for underprivileged children in our community on a weekly basis. Our parking lot even got an expansion in the back, to accommodate more vehicles. Financially, we have been able to continue supporting our missionaries at a time where support is dwindling. To top it off, 2020 was the first year in six consecutive years that we closed our books in the black! All glory to God! Ten percent of that surplus will be divided amongst our missionaries to further bless their work and ministry.

Thank you again for your support of our church in the form of time, prayer, and resources. We hope you'll consider continuing to contribute to our mission in the coming year.

In Christ,

Pastor Dave Berkey