

PEOPLES CHURCH TURNING POINT 2017

Dear Peoples Church Community:

Just as we all reach points in our lives when we must change direction, so has Peoples Church reached a *Turning Point*. We look forward with hope to transforming into a new community through our Developmental Ministry, and call everyone to step forward to help our church launch itself in a new direction.

Turning Points are challenging, and it will be so for Peoples.

In support of Developmental Ministry, we as a congregation decided at our December 2015 meeting to dip deeper into Endowment Funds and Unrestricted Reserve Monies than we ever have in the past to fund our current budget. Though this decision has maintained our operation in the short term, such a financial policy is not sustainable long term.

As we look toward 2017, our goal is to pay now for the church programs we are using now. To meet this goal, our pledge income for 2017 must increase by an average of 25% over the current year pledge commitments. This increase would allow us to:

1. Fully fund our staff and programs without spending our reserves.
2. Promote stronger growth in our Endowment Fund.
3. Envision and build the future of Peoples Church with the help of our new Developmental Minister.

A 25% increase in pledging is a major challenge! We know some members and friends will not be able increase their pledges by that amount. For that reason, we ask those who **can** to consider increasing their pledges by more than 25%.

People Church has stood for over a century as a beacon of liberal faith in Cedar Rapids and a home for religious seekers of all kinds. To continue this tradition for many generations to come, we hope Peoples people will embrace this *Turning Point* as we begin building our church's future together.

Sincerely,

The 2017 Stewardship Planning Group

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