

# The friendly house that works

**F**rom the first time I walked into University Presbyterian Church as a new pastor in 1956 I was struck by the beauty of our sanctuary and the friendly building that makes ministry to people in Christ's name possible here on the corner of 47th Street and 15th Avenue Northeast.

The congregation had the vision to build and dedicate these buildings to the glory of God, so that through these years laity and pastors have been able to carry on ministries to people of all ages in buildings that work.

There are many of you in UPC today who have pledged your gifts to building projects at UPC through all these years, and some of you from the earliest project that constructed our sanctuary in 1952. As a couple who have benefited from your faithfulness, but have contributed very little ourselves to these projects, Shirley and I and others like us say a heartfelt "thank you" to the large company of faithful folks for your generosity and concrete investment in the future generations. We are blessed by your confidence in the future of UPC.

Now its our turn to join with you and once again invest strategically in our present and future mission here in Seattle,

doing our part, so that our ministry to people happens in a building that works.

The Session is leading us as a church to make some very important improvements in our friendly church buildings. We want to totally improve the ventilation and the lighting of the sanctuary, as well as to open up and enlarge the narthex. We also need to improve the first floor

rooms and hallways and complete the unfinished rooms on the third floor of our new building. It is also our hope to establish an ongoing maintenance fund to keep all of our church in tip-top condition.

How can this vision happen? By God's grace and with His blessing we will do it together, just as every other part of our ministry and mission is done, day-in and day-out. Each one of us will have our chance to make a three-year pledge to these vital projects.

We plan to hold three gala dinners in Larson Hall to catch the vision together of God's blessings and the remarkable opportunity that we have been given for ministry in this city. Watch for the details of these dinners, plan to attend one of them, then make your reservation when the announcement is made.

Also, some of us in this church may be led by the Lord to make a special major gift toward making this goal a reality. If that is on your heart and you want information on ways to do that, please drop a note to either Tim Snow or me or our Stewardship Council, and we will help that happen for you.

What an exciting time to be a Christian and a part of the total ministry and mission of UPC and to show our confidence in the future of this congregation of God's people in Seattle.

