

Planting Seeds 2020

Dear Kirk Family,

This summer's sermon series offered us an opportunity to hear how the gospel has *taken root* in the lives of those that lead our faith community. Pastor Angela offered a story about being lost on a beach as a child and how she returns to that story when she thinks about how God has found her. Glenn Miller told us about how he found *middle C* in his first time sitting at a piano and reflected on the importance of having a Christ-centering middle C in your life. Pastor Jasmine shared about her experience of feeling uncared for as a child and how that serves as an engine for her caring ministry today. Each Sunday we heard stories of how the seeds of faith were planted in our pastors and how, now, we benefit from the fruits of that earlier labor.

My hope is that you have a strong sense of how the love of Christ has taken root in your life. My hunch is that someone, somewhere, invested some *seed* of the faith in you and it has blessed you greatly and carried you through some difficulty. I wonder if the person or community that tended you knew what would come of their effort.

Jesus tells this famous parable about the mustard seed. He could have used any seed to illustrate his point, but he didn't. He didn't use a carrot seed, or a turnip seed, or a radish seed, to talk about faith. Those seeds grow stalks that are straight and even—filling up the rows the way they were intended. Jesus used a mustard seed, though, to describe our faith, and the mustard seeds from his time and place were apt to grow into enormous bushes, sprawling their greenery in unimaginable ways.

Let us pray for a faith like that!

Let us pray for a faith that surprises us when it starts to grow!

We are seeing what that looks like here at the Kirk. The seeds planted in our Accent Pontiac and youth choir programs are taking root and meshing together in a life-giving way. The seeds planted by our small groups are growing into relationships of abundance and well-being. The seeds we have planted for being in worship are flourishing to include Sunday services in Cedarholm Chapel, the Sanctuary, the back patio in the summers, at Kirk West – Fox Run Retirement Community, Dinner Church on Sunday evenings, and at our affiliate church in Troy. Finally, the seeds of our commitment to service have helped to shape relationships of Spirit-led transformation with new friends all over the world. This brochure offers a few more examples of how things are growing!

As you consider how you will give to the Kirk this year, I hope you will imagine with us the potential for the seeds your gift will plant. My hope is that you will sit with the people you make your financial decisions with—and pray. Talk to God and one another about how to make your first and best gift to Kirk in the Hills this year—and then believe that God has an amazing mustard plant in mind for your contribution to the garden.

Stay warm,



Pastor Nate

How to Return Your Commitment Form

Please complete the **Financial Commitment** online as soon as possible. Early responses help us to start planning our 2020 budget and save follow up calls from church volunteers.

Pledge online at kirkinthehills.org/Resources/Give

If you prefer to do it by hand, fill out the other side of this page

- Bring the envelope to church on **Stewardship Sunday, October 27 –or–**
- Drop off the envelope at the Welcome Center **–or–**
- Mail your completed form to the Kirk

Questions?

Contact Jayne Zellers, Business Manager, at (248) 973-8005 or jjzellers@kirkinthehills.org.

It is easy to fill out the Commitment Form online!
Go to kirkinthehills.org under **Resources/Pledge Online**.



Kirk in the Hills

1340 W. Long Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
(248) 626-2515
kirkinthehills.org

It is easy to fill out the Commitment Form online! Go to kirkinthehills.org under Resources/Pledge Online.

Kirk in the Hills 2020 Financial Commitment

Please Print:

Name(s) _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

2020 FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

My/Our total commitment for 2020 is

\$ _____

- Please provide weekly offering envelopes.
- I plan to donate stock. Please contact Jayne Zellers, Business Manager, at jzellers@kirkinthehills.org.
This commitment may be revised or cancelled at any time at my/our request.

AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL SECTION

I wish to pay my 2020 commitment using automatic withdrawal from the following account:

- Checking/Savings Credit/Debit

Please complete the section below:

Name as it appears on account/card _____

I authorize Kirk in the Hills to keep my signature on file and to deduct from my account/card for the payment of my commitment. I direct that the sum of \$ _____ be deducted from my account/card every:

- Week (every Tuesday)
- Month (20th of each month)
- Quarter (20th of January, April, July & October)
- One Time Only (20th of _____ 2020)

Please complete **EITHER** the Checking/Savings section **OR** the Credit/Debit Authorization section below.

Checking/Savings Withdrawal Authorization

Please attach a voided check.

Bank Routing # _____

Account # _____

Credit Card Authorization

- Visa/Mastercard American Express Discover

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

By signing this authorization, I confirm my understanding that I control my payments, and if at any time I decide to discontinue this service, I will notify the church and request cancellation. I understand all information provided will remain confidential.

Signature: _____

Giving Guidelines

Annual Income	\$100,000	\$250,000	\$500,000
Sustained 2–3%	2,000– 3,000	5,000– 7,500	10,000– 15,000
Visionary 4–7%	4,000– 7,000	10,000– 17,500	20,000– 35,000
Transformative 8–10%	8,000– 10,000	20,000– 25,000	40,000– 50,000

Remember to bring your completed form on Stewardship Sunday, October 27.