Then King David said to the whole assembly: “My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the Lord God. With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God—gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble—all of these in large quantities. Besides, in my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided for this holy temple: three thousand talents of gold (gold of Ophir) and seven thousand talents of refined silver, for the overlaying of the walls of the buildings, for the gold work and the silver work, and for all the work to be done by the craftsmen. Now, who is willing to consecrate themselves to the Lord today?”

Then the leaders of families, the officers of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, and the officials in charge of the king’s work gave willingly. They gave toward the work on the temple of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze and a hundred thousand talents of iron. Anyone who had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the temple of the Lord in the custody of Jehiel the Gershonite. The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

David praised the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

Praise be to you, Lord, the God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.

But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.
HOLDING OUR COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

We are heading into our Stewardship-focused season and are calling for prayers for us all to look at stewardship as a spiritual practice. "The spiritual practice of stewardship forms the way we see the world and ourselves within it as people of faith. It also hone each virtue muscle on Paul's list of spiritual fruits: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control—in addition to generosity and gratitude." (The Presbyterian Outlook, Feb. 19, 2019) Please pray that God will open our hearts and minds as we learn to trust in God's goodness and become ready to participate in both an individual spiritual practice of giving and as part of a community committed to our worship and church organization. Psalm 146: 5 (NIV) says, “Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.”

Our Pastor Nominating Committee continues to meet frequently and requests your strong prayers for their work and discernment. Read about their progress and FAQ at www.fpcberkeley.org/PNC. If you have specific questions about the PNC, contact pnc@fpcberkeley.org.

Dealing with Health Concerns:
Anika Augustaitus, Ann Butts, Fred Elia, Diane Roth

In Memoriam:
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