



## ROUND HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH STEWARDSHIP NEWS

October 2018

This fall we have been asking members and friends of Round Hill why the Church is important to them and what inspires them to support the Church financially. Some of their answers are included below.

We also offer information on why the Church needs your support and how you can make a first-time pledge or contribution, set up a sustaining pledge, increase your past commitment, and make a legacy pledge.

Contributions make up the single most important piece of revenue to support our mission to be a force for good in the world.

“When I arrive at RHCC on Sunday morning, I take a big deep breath, and decompress. This is *my hour* to be fully present, to God, and to the wonderful friends I have met over 20 years of being a member. I am embraced. My daughter knows she is loved, valued, and cared for. Can there be a better gift to give any child? To know they are *loved*, cared for, valued? RHCC has become a part of my personal operating budget. On a monthly basis, an automatic transfer is made from my bank to RHCC. I don't have to think about it. It happens and I make ends meet.”

That we are loved and called upon to love others suggests the kind of place most people would like to have in their lives. Round Hill is that place because of your generous financial support that enables services and programs that speak to us, enlighten and educate us, and care for us regardless of age.

Just as important, at Round Hill we learn about the needs in the community and world around us and have the opportunity to be of service to others, financially as well as through volunteer efforts.

The needs and work at our church are ongoing. Our growing congregation is committed to responding to situations where we can make a difference. It has been said that the money we give to the church is *happy money* since it comes from a place of generosity toward people who need it more than we do.

Please review the information on the following pages, think about what other people at our church feel about giving, and decide on a level of giving that is best for you. There are many ways to give, which are explained on the back page of this report.

“We truly are doing God's work in a world that too often can be mean and angry rather than loving and supportive. Ed Horstmann has suggested that being generous is good for your heart. The checks I write to Round Hill do make me feel good because I know they're being put to great use. I know we are creating a better world because of what we do here.”

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“I give because I believe that the Church is a force for good in the Greenwich area. We support wonderful programs that have a meaningful impact on others less fortunate than us. By joining and working together we are able to do so much more than we can do individually. I care about our community and I want it to be a better place. Another reason I give to the church is that it has become an important focus in my life and that of my family. I have met many wonderful people here at Round Hill and it has made my life better.”

“I’ve been here long enough to hear the story of the founding of this church told from many different points of view, and as hard as the process was, it came out of love and a determination to remain a community church. And as a community we need to watch out for each other. That can mean bringing a meal to someone who is going through a medical or personal crisis, volunteering to help in the Church School on a Sunday morning, cooking and serving at a local homeless shelter, or simply saying good morning and asking how you’re doing. I also know that my contribution to the church is as important as my presence.”

### Round Hill Community Church Financial Statement of Mission

<b>Expenses 2018</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>%</b>
Worship	\$213,000	17
Faith Development	120,000	10
Children’s Christian Ed.	86,000	7
Youth Programs	73,000	6
Outreach	99,000	8
Communications	32,000	3
Buildings & Grounds	231,000	19
Admin. & General	366,000	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,220,000</b>	
<b>Revenue 2018</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>%</b>
Contributions <sup>1</sup>	\$413,000	34
Endowment Transfer <sup>2</sup>	243,000	20
New Initiatives <sup>3</sup>	200,000	16
Cell Tower Rentals	197,000	16
Campus Rentals <sup>4</sup>	73,000	6
Restricted Funds <sup>5</sup>	61,000	5
Christmas on RH	18,000	1
Mission Trip Donations <sup>6</sup>	8,000	1
Event Income	7,000	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,220,000</b>	

Allocation of staff costs are included in the Expense lines, since our services, programs, and campus could not run without our outstanding staff of clergy and administrators.

<sup>1</sup> Includes pledges and gifts, bequests, and plate cash.

<sup>2</sup> Annual transfer to operating budget

<sup>3</sup> Transfer from endowment to support initiatives of Strategic Plan

<sup>4</sup> Includes Church, Community House, and Parking Lot rental fees

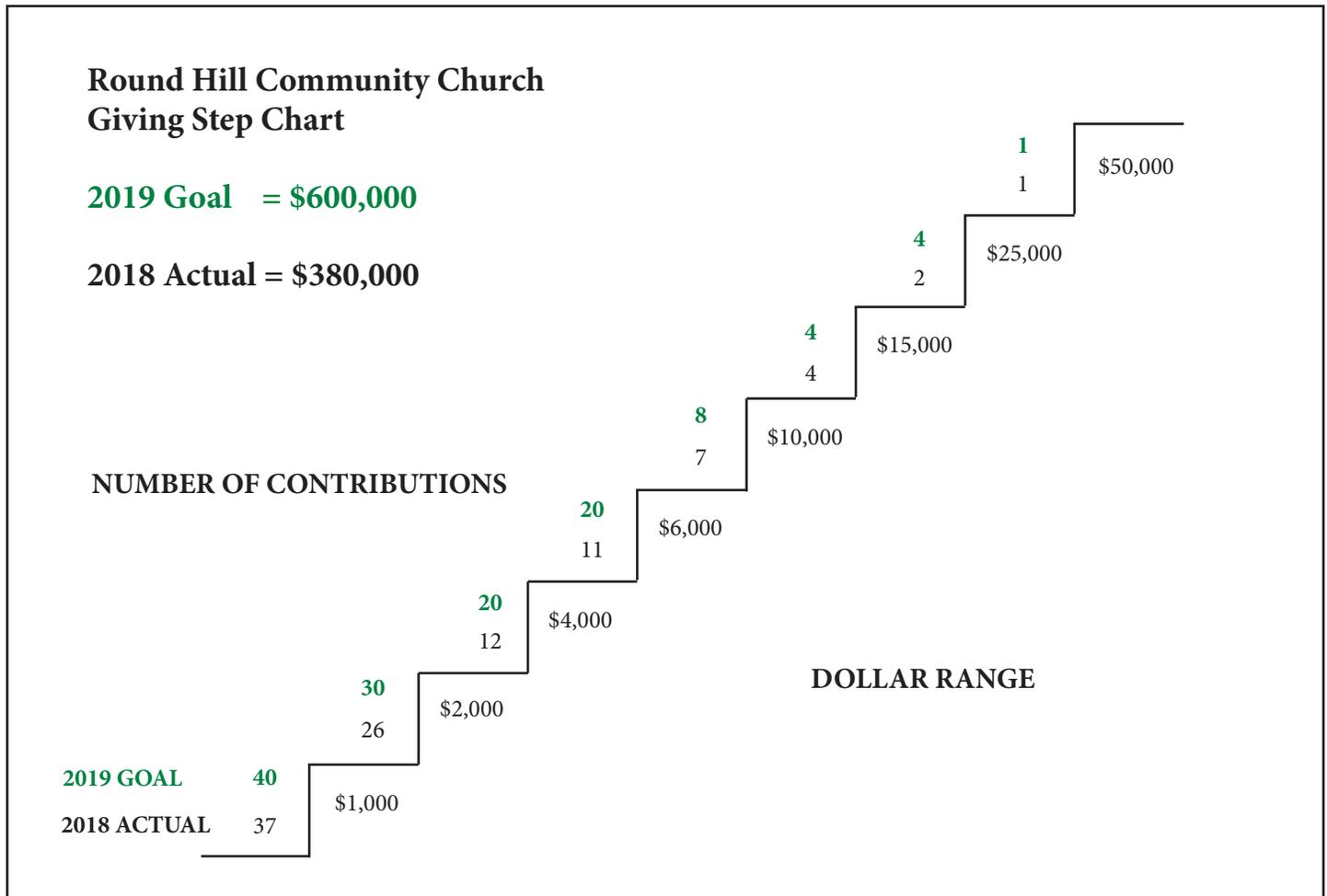
<sup>5</sup> Board restricted funds designated to be used for Music, Education, Grounds

<sup>6</sup> Donations from members and friends to send high school students on mission trip

In February 2018 we held a meeting, open to the congregation, about the fiscal health of the Church. One question, echoed by others attending the forum, was a request for more specific guidance about the level of giving we need to make us fiscally healthy while maintaining our current level of excellent staffing and programming.

The chart below is a response to that question, showing the number of contributions actually given by dollar range in 2018, and also the number we need in each range (noted by the numbers in green) to reach our goal of funding 60% of our operating expenses through contributions in 2019.

By taking a step up in giving, you will be a part of making the Church fiscally healthy and committed to our mission of being a force for good in the world.



	2018 Actual	2019 Goal
\$ Contributions	\$380,000	\$600,000
Unit Contributions	100	127
Average Contribution	\$3,800	
Median Contribution	\$1,700	

## How to Give

We have designated November 11, 2018 as Commitment Sunday, when we ask that you return your pledge card to the Church with the amount you will contribute and the method of payment. In about a week, you will receive a letter with a Pledge Card enclosed to use for that Sunday.

The reason we ask people to pledge is so that we have better information for planning for the year, but we gratefully accept contributions any time you feel prepared to give them.

In addition to using the Pledge Card for your donation, you can request giving envelopes to bring to the service for the offering plate. You can also go to the Donate page on our website and choose the amount and schedule of your contribution.

Another way to pay online is with our Church app. Go to your app store and install The Church App (it's free). Follow the instructions to make RHCC your default destination and then scroll down to "Give."

Some people choose to donate by transferring stock. If you prefer this method, please contact the Church Office for instructions.

Finally, please consider including Round Hill Community Church in your estate planning. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss and it is a wonderful way to ensure the future of the Church.

Jake Kommer, [jkommer@kboattorneys.com](mailto:jkommer@kboattorneys.com)

Nancy Mazzoli, [nancy.mazzoli@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.mazzoli@gmail.com)

Milton Koenigsberger, [milton.koenigsberger@gmail.com](mailto:milton.koenigsberger@gmail.com)

"As a church family, we contribute to others through the United Way, Neighbor to Neighbor, the Christmas Angel tree, the day at the beach, and work on a Native American reservation in South Dakota. And the church family gives back to us. In the words of St. Francis, 'It is in giving that we receive.' In time our children grow up and may move away. In time you may find yourself down to two or even one in your home. As a family we celebrate our members and grieve when they leave us. But you are not alone. You will always have a family here in our church."

"If we can offer parents and their families a safe community where God's love is taught and experienced, then we are doing the work God has asked of us. This is our responsibility."

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