



November 1, 2020

Dear Friend,

I am so grateful to know you and to serve as your pastor. I hope this letter finds you well and willing to read on, for it has been uniquely tailored for you. Within it, you will find an introduction to Kingstowne's *Fall 4 Kingstowne* stewardship campaign, followed by a personal thank you and invitation to give in 2021.

Fall 4 Kingstowne

On October 4th, we, the Kingstowne Communion, celebrated four years of mission and ministry in this corner of Alexandria, VA; and, in such, introduced our *Fall 4 Kingstowne* campaign, inviting you to both recall what made you first fall for Kingstowne and respond to that recollection by continuing to fall for Kingstowne, especially in this season, with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

There is no doubt that the Kingstowne Communion has made an incredible impact on our community over the last four years. It has been one of the greatest gifts of my life to partner with God and with you in the gathering of people into communion with Jesus Christ through *courageous conversation, creative community, and collaborating for the common good.*

**And, in every season, whether of profound growth or unexpected challenge,
I have fallen in love with the mission, energy, authenticity,
and inclusivity of this church over and over again.**

But this season, this fall, is different. After four years of profound mission and ministry undergirded by the administrative and financial support of Aldersgate Church, we, the Kingstowne Communion, will be stepping out to continue this mission and ministry on our own as an independent, financially sustainable United Methodist church. This season, this fall, is different, and that means that, as members, attendees, stakeholders, and supporters of this church, the degree to which we all *Fall 4 Kingstowne* must be different as well.

In order for the Kingstowne Communion to continue to be a space where those who have felt far from God discover that God has fallen for them, every one of us - every individual and family who calls our church home - will have to be financially invested in the mission and ministry of this church in 2021.

A Heartfelt Thank You

Thank you for giving toward the mission and ministry of the Kingstowne Communion in 2020. It is obvious that you have fallen for Kingstowne and that you care deeply about the future of our church. Thank you, also, for the ways that you give of your time; I know that it's precious.

An Invitation to *Fall 4 Kingstowne*

As our church moves into this new season, I invite you to pray about *how God is calling you to fall for Kingstowne* and *how God is calling our church to further fall for our community the way God already has*.

I also ask that you would consider increasing your financial commitment to the Kingstowne Communion, so that, each of us assuming our roles and responsibility in Kingstowne's care, can continue gathering people into communion with Jesus Christ.

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Finally, as I reflect on this *Fall 4 Kingstowne* stewardship theme, I am reminded of the cool breeze and falling leaves of this season, of which I am so fond, and my favorite anonymous fall-time quote: "The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to let things go."

Like the trees, Jesus is in the loosing-the-leaves, letting-go business, so that we might fall for God and God's mission in the world over and over and over again. How is God setting you free, loosing the leaves in your life, so that you might fall for God's mission at Kingstowne?

I invite you to *Fall 4 Kingstowne* by turning in a completed 2021 pledge card either in-person, by mail, or online by one of our two commitment Sundays on **November 15 (at the park)** or **November 22**.

Grace & Peace,



Michelle Matthews
Pastor

Enclosed:

- 2020 infographic & 2021 financials at-a-glance
- 2021 pledge card & self-addressed envelope
- Invitation to one of our online Q & A sessions
- Instructions for setting up scheduled, online giving
- Instructions for designating Kingstowne the recipient of your Amazon Smile donations