

The logo for Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church is a purple square with the text "Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church" in white, stacked vertically.

Lafayette
Avenue
Presbyterian
Church

October 21, 2020

Church Family,

No one could have imagined 2020 would turn out the way it has. We have been devastated by COVID-19: the virus has infected over eight million Americans and killed over 219,000. We suspended in-person worship in March and leadership wisely extended that into the new year. We watch as uprisings and rebellions spread in response to the pandemic of racism in this nation.

**The question is, “Will we cling to the past or
reimagine the world as we know it?”**

We as a church choose the route of imagination. We grieve this difficult time and commit to meet the needs of today. Within three days of having to close the church building due to the pandemic, we streamed our Sunday worship service live on Facebook. We have been here every Sunday since and expanded to Zoom and YouTube. We thank you for your steady, generous gifts that have sustained this church. Your pledges make virtual services, outdoor youth gatherings, support of our justice initiatives and continued pastoral care all possible. We write to invite you to continue your support of LAPC as we reimagine what it means to be church in this unimaginable time.

Each fall as we look to the year ahead, we engage in what’s called a Stewardship Campaign. Stewardship acknowledges we have been entrusted to take care of something sacred. This church is sacred. Our time, talents and resources are just as sacred. During this campaign we embark on the holy task of dedicating some of what we have to the work of this church in the year to come. This year proves that the future is scary and unknowable. Nevertheless, we invite you to join us in preserving the work of this church that remains dedicated to human flourishing no matter what may come our way.

This fall’s Stewardship Campaign has officially launched and will run until November 24th. We invite you to pledge your support for 2021. If you did not grow up in a mainline protestant church you may be asking “what is a pledge?” **A pledge is a best estimate of a financial gift you will give over the next year to help support the work of this church.** *No pledge is too small.* Your pledge is not binding but rather a promise that gives us confidence the work of this church can continue. We use the pledges as a foundation to plan our budget for 2021.

This pandemic has changed the circumstances of many of our household finances. We don't ask you to pledge beyond what you are able. Consider what a manageable gift is for you and your family. If you are able to keep your pledge level or increase it, we ask that you do that. If you're pledging for the first time we're excited as you consider how to join us.

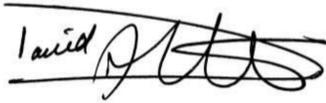
Our goal is 100% participation

100% of our members, friends and all who consider this their church home. Even if you've only recently started joining us online, we are inviting you into this process as well. In addition to your financial gift, we also invite you to use the pledge form to give us your feedback. What are your thoughts? What should we do to reimagine LAPC in these unimaginable times?

We ask that everyone pledge by November 24, 2020
[by filling out this pledge form](#)

We look forward to seeing you online soon and in person someday soon as well, God-willing.

With Deep Gratitude and Appreciation,



The Rev. David F. Telfort and The LAPC Stewardship Committee

P.S. While we are worshiping online, you can contribute towards your pledge throughout the year in any of three different ways:

- 1. Online via our website lapcbrooklyn.org and click on the "Donate button" or go to this [LAPC DONATION LINK](#) where you can give anytime with your Credit Card or your PayPal account (this works on your mobile device too)**
- 2. By setting up automatic payments with your bank**
- 3. Send checks by mail to LAPC, 85 South Oxford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217**

#LAPCBrooklyn