



# First, We Give Of Ourselves

## *Giving in Generosity*

### “God’s Generosity”

The “generosity of God” is our focus this week and surrounded by the words of the Apostle Paul in Philippians 2:1-11 where he says in verse 3, “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility and regard others as better than yourselves. Let each look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” Are your thoughts of wealth or other material things that have come your way? Perhaps one’s understanding of the generosity of God is linked with wealth given to us by God in response to some action or attitude on our part. This is called ‘the theology of abundance’ which finds its center in God rewarding a person with wealth and blessings for some favorable action on the recipient’s part. But this is not what the generosity and abundance of God is about. Rather, God’s generosity is the sacrificial giving centered on the cross where Jesus died for our sins that we might have forgiveness and life. It is the cross that defines the core of God’s generosity and defines our own. In the words of John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life.”

### Generosity Weekend

In two weeks, we will have a **Generosity Weekend** in our congregation. It will be a weekend of celebrating generosity with a gift of the loose offering designated for the expansion of the new food pantry facility on Route 6 near the west edge of town. This is a recommendation from the Church Council. The increased building space is projected to be used for storage and a laundry area to clean donations of clothing before they are offered to the clients. **Generosity Weekend** is an opportunity for us to give above and beyond what we would regularly for our ministry to one outside our congregation that is sharing the love of Christ. In this giving, we can experience the joy of generosity and being a blessing to others.