

Devotion, Week of August 4, 2024
Rev. Jeanne Simpson

Generosity. That is the word I think of when I think of our church. You recently donated to Kinship Care, the only church to do so, with school supplies worth over \$1500; to the Shepherd Medical Center through the Tomato Sandwich Party to support free medical care for low-income people; and to the Babb Project with weekend meals. Our church pays much more percentage wise of our budget than other larger churches for missions. You literally put your money where your heart is. I am reminded that you live up to the Christian tenet to support your community so that all can prosper. Jesus told several parables about that very issue.

I have found that being generous not only results in a glad and thankful heart, but also provides a sense of well-being for us within our community. In short, being generous makes us healthy and leads us toward *shalom*, that wonderful Hebrew word meaning wholeness. 2 Corinthians 9 says this: "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God."

Thank you for your generous hearts as we minister to those around us.

Jeanne