



October 23, 2006

Dear Members and Friends of Northaven,

This coming Sunday, October 29, each of us will have the opportunity to pledge both our financial support and personal involvement to Northaven for 2007.

The enclosed budget summary shows our projected expenses for 2007, in comparison to 2006. The total proposed budget for next year is \$711,000 – a 10% increase over 2006. This amount sustains our programs, missions, and ministries while maintaining our new home. The proposed budget also foresees future growth in debt service as we prepare to take on payment of our mortgage in 2010.

Funding this budget will require about \$562,000 in pledges. The remaining \$149,000 is expected to come from such sources as open-plate collections, co-op school payments, building rental, and special events.

Pledges to the Northaven budget traditionally range from under \$100 up to more than \$20,000, with an average pledge size of \$3,160. But if we are to support our goal of growing our ministry, our renewed pledges need to grow. New pledges are especially important in order to reach our target of 170, which will keep us on course with the long-term financial plan approved by the congregation in 2003.

No matter the amount, each pledge is essential to our ability to extend our reach. Each pledge also represents an expression of faith and a commitment to God's work through Northaven.

Our gifts of personal involvement are also essential to achieving our vision for the church. To that end, we are asking you to decide how you are being called to serve the church with your gifts of time and talent. A "Calling" form is included to help you with your discernment.

We also encourage you to consider pledging to Northaven's Human Development Fund. Established 35 years ago, this second-mile giving annually supports outreach to ministries locally and abroad. In 2006, the fund distributed a total of \$46,900 in grants to 21 organizations.

On October 29 you will have an opportunity to place the enclosed pledge card and "Calling" form in the altar basket. If you prefer, you can mail it to the church. Our goal is to receive all commitments by November 12.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration. Please contact one of us if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Bergstresser
Chair, Stewardship Committee

Eric Folkerth
Senior Pastor