



O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL ONES

“Consider how the lilies grow If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith?”

Luke 12:27-28

Today’s newspaper headlines say it all. Thousands of jobs lost in February Dow falls to 12 year low Foreclosures hurt neighbors Budget woes hit schools hard Rising demand strains charities’ abilities. Few of us are immune to today’s financial tribulations and tomorrow’s fiscal uncertainties. Even Shallowford Presbyterian Church (SPC) has its own budget concerns. Our pledge collections have been less than anticipated in the first quarter of 2009; and it is difficult to determine how our currently turbulent economy may affect future collections. The SPC Session has met to discuss these concerns and continues to have faith that we will be able to meet our financial obligations throughout the year. But we ask that each congregational member have steadfast faith in your own ability to give as well.

While your own personal finances may have you worried about having enough money for living, we encourage you to live more faithfully by making your gifts to the church a priority. If you have pledged in 2009, please keep that pledge current. And if you haven’t pledged, please consider doing so. Trust in God to provide your every need, even when you are stretching your dollars to further the ministry of Shallowford. If God clothes the lilies and feeds the ravens, God will certainly do the same for you.

Furthermore, as a symbol of your trust, we ask that EACH of our 800 church members (pledgors and non-pledgors alike) join our “Faithful One” program by giving one additional dollar per household member each week. Just \$1 per member each week for the remainder of 2009 could equate to as much as \$30,000! What an appreciative return for just a small gesture of faith!

Shallowford’s Session invites and challenges each one of you to participate as a “Faithful One”. Please place one additional \$1 bill per household member in the offering plate each Sunday. Give it faithfully, and with a faithful attitude . . . and each *“faithful (one) will be richly blessed.”* (Proverbs 28:20)

B.J. McMillan
SPC Treasurer