

Why I pledge to Wildflower:

Serena:

I don't remember how old I was when my parents first gave me an allowance. 9? 10 maybe? I don't remember how much I got, but I remember that I had to portion it out into 3 envelopes, labeled Savings (which got deposited in the bank), Spending (Fun, my choice) and Charities. In addition to early learning about budgets, I've pretty much had it ingrained in me that some of what you receive/earn you should give to help others.

Why do I pledge to Wildflower? Well, first I think I need to answer why do I come to Wildflower?

I want to help people. More specifically, I want a community and a network of helpers to help me help people. I want to be inspired. I want my daughter to grow up in a community that encourages her to be a kind, respectful person. I want to learn to be a kinder, more respectful person!

I want all those things, but in order to really drive those things, it takes funds. The fact of the matter is we as a community need money to have infrastructure to best "help people". The church doesn't run itself without funds. So, we too have enough money and we have to budget. We see the annual pledges and make a budget from that. We know what we absolutely need and from there can plan for what else we can accomplish in a year. There's so much work to be done in our world right now. So hopefully we can meet or exceed our goal, so that the "direct helping people" can be significant.

Matt:

For me, I would echo much of what Serena just said and add that as I have talked to friends recently, I have come to realize that not all churches have stayed together to the same degree as we have at Wildflower. I have friends who have stopped going to church or their church has not done as well with the transition to Zoom. I am very appreciative of our time together on the weekends and I pledge so us Wildflowers can continue to flourish during this pandemic and come out the other side stronger than when we started this journey together back in March. Lastly, as some of you know, I work for Clorox and as a company they are very generous with their charitable giving. Specifically, Clorox supports its employees by matching dollar for dollar, up to a certain amount, personal donations of time and money. With this program we are able to have Clorox also match some of our pledge and make our contributions to the church go further. I would encourage others to see if similar programs exist with their employers because companies want to help give back locally to the communities their employees live in, to make the biggest impact.