

Kathy and I went to London a few weeks ago to visit Ashley. While there, we visited Winston Churchill's bunker where he led the WW II efforts. As part of the museum there were several of his quotes posted, including this one: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give". This resonated with me because this is what our stewardship team has been trying to emphasize over this last year, even if we couldn't put it quite so succinctly. "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give"

I took an inordinate amount of pleasure during our Dollar Offering Sundays as the offering plate full of dollar bills passed by, and our kids saw and participated in generosity at work.

I loved hearing members speak about why they are grateful for Northridge, and why they are generous to Northridge. Each time I felt closer to the speaker and to our church.

I am proud of our new budget, which shows the Northridge Story better than just numbers do by themselves. And, it made me proud.

Kathy and I are pledging today, and we are pledging more than we did last year. We are pledging because of you. We are pledging because we want to live with gratitude and generosity instead of fear and anxiety. And we are pledging because the world right now needs more Northridge like influences, and more from Northridge itself.

I hope you'll spend this week thinking about what you are grateful for, and how being generous impacts the world. And, then, Kathy and I hope you will join us in pledging to Northridge.