



Beloved, Love the Children.

“Grown men can learn from very little children, for the hearts of the little children are pure. Therefore, the Great Spirit may show to them many things which older people miss.” – Black Elk 1863-1950

How often have I found myself amazed at the simple wisdom of children? Children have a profoundly different perspective on how they see the world – if only we could see the world through their eyes! Jesus tells us in our sacred texts that we must become like little children to enter the kin-dom of heaven. *(Matthew 18.3)*

In 2019, Skyland Community United Church of Christ, through their Love of Children, reached out to the broader community to create a photo exhibition. Located in the Santa Cruz mountains of California, the congregation invited children ages 4 – 11 from the community to submit photographs. Over 80 children participated in the “My World in the Santa Cruz Mountains” exhibit. People from all ages attended the exhibit reception replete with milk and cookies. Each participant was valued as an artist and encouraged to talk about their submission.



All enjoyed the playful and profound perspectives of their world in the mountains through the eyes of the children.

What might we learn about one another, our communities, and especially our church if we were to see them through the eyes of a child? Do they feel heard... seen... valued? How do they know they are ‘beloved’?

As you reflect on stewardship in our church, think about these things. How do your actions express your love of children? Are children engaged in ways that also inspire us? What do they teach us about love? Nelson Mandela reminded us, “Our children are our greatest treasure. They are our future.” Beloved, Love the children.

WEEKLY GIVING IF THE PERCENTAGE IS

(Rounded to the nearest dollar)

Annual Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	15%
16,000	1,333	308	6.00	12.00	18.00	25.00	31.00	46.00
20,000	1,667	385	8.00	15.00	23.00	31.00	39.00	58.00
25,000	2,083	481	10.00	19.00	29.00	38.00	48.00	72.00
30,000	2,500	577	12.00	23.00	35.00	46.00	58.00	87.00
35,000	2,917	673	13.00	27.00	40.00	54.00	67.00	101
40,000	3,333	769	15.00	31.00	46.00	62.00	77.00	115
45,000	3,750	865	17.00	35.00	52.00	69.00	87.00	130
50,000	4,167	962	19.00	38.00	58.00	77.00	96.00	144
60,000	5,000	1,154	23.00	46.00	69.00	92.00	115	173
75,000	6,250	1,442	29.00	58.00	87.00	115	144	216
100,000	8,333	1,923	38.00	77.00	115	154	192	288
125,000	10,417	2,404	48.00	96.00	144	192	240	361

