

Good morning...

My name is David Kinsey. Blythe and I have been members of SMPC for almost 30 years. During that time, we've had the privilege to see the church grow to where we are today. I'm excited for what the future is going to bring for SMPC. Today we give thanks and praise to God, and celebrate the future ahead.

When Greg Hobby asked me if I would do one of the Moments for Mission, I was honored and humbled. I was getting ready for the tithe "PITCH".

Okay, okay...Yes, I'm in sales. Fortunately for all of you, there is no PowerPoint presentation for me to use this morning.

I received some coaching from both Greg and Blythe. What I heard was something along the lines of: "you're talking on commitment Sunday, so no sales pitch! Everyone will have their Pledge Cards already filled out."

As I was preparing for this morning, I remembered the great example my parents set for me, sharing of their time and treasure. They taught me about faithful giving of time, talents and tithing.

I grew up watching my father be a hymn leader, sing in the choir, and my mom and dad leading youth group at Church. I have them to thank for getting me into singing, which started with me singing with them in a family quartet at church when I was 6 years old.

I also learned that God opens doors for new opportunities and challenges us. When I was a teenager, I was asked to fill in for playing the piano on a Sunday for the hymns because our regular pianist was out of town.

- I appreciated the opportunity to serve,
- I was nervous,
- I survived,
- and I learned that I should stick with singing!

As for tithing, my father encouraged me to start tithing 10% of my allowance, and continued when I got my first job. I want to thank him for being a great servant to the Lord and setting an example for me.

Parents...I encourage you to talk to your children about how the scripture calls us to share our time and talents. I'm glad that my father did.

As we sing the hymns today, I ask that you pay particular attention to the words. As the choir was rehearsing the hymns last Wednesday night, a verse in "As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought" stood out to me in particular.

*"In gratitude and humble trust, we bring our best today, to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way. O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son, help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done."*

I want to thank the SMPC Stewardship Committee for their leadership and prayerful approach that brought us to today.

God IS Doing a New Thing! I'm excited for today and the commitment that each of us is making as we do this New Thing together!