



Dear Church Family,

By now we are well aware of the statistics from Barna Research Group. Only three percent of South Florida's citizens are considered "Committed Christians." If we do nothing this will only get worse for the next generation. **Across our country 72% of youth who grow up in the Church will walk away from the faith sometime during their freshman year of college.** If trends continue, they are predicting that 35 million youth raised in Christian households may walk away from a life with Jesus Christ by the year 2050. It is no wonder our region looks more like the city of man and less like the city of God.

We often lose sight of the Church's unique role in the community:

- It exists to support young families in the raising of their children.
- It calls people together weekly to worship God.
- It offers the message of freedom and forgiveness through Jesus.
- It is committed to the training of the next generation as they develop a worldview.
- The Church seeks to serve the needs of its city and it brings the lonely together into fellowship.
- It fights for justice for the vulnerable of our society and it offers counseling to the hurting.

And this is just the beginning!

The Church has been called and is uniquely positioned to answer the myriad of needs in a world that is broken. **One of the most important investments you can make right now is in your local church.** For 60 years, Coral Ridge has been a beacon of hope to our community. It has played a critical role in millions of lives both locally and globally. We thank God for the work that He has done and look forward by faith to the work that is to come ... from generation to generation.

Jesus said, "I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell will not prevail." That is an incredible promise that He has given to us. The Church truly is the hope of the world. As Jesus builds His Church, He does it through *us*. The Apostle Paul calls Christians "co-laborers with God." Isn't that amazing? God allows us the privilege to partner with Him in the gospel ministry right here at Coral Ridge. **How will He use you and your gifts for such a time as this?**

When you give to Coral Ridge, you are changing lives now and for all eternity. Your financial support literally affects destiny. In light of the generosity we have experienced through Christ, would you respond with a one-time gift above your regular tithe and offering?

All financial gifts must be received or postmarked no later than December 31 in order to receive tax credit for 2019. In addition to giving on Sunday morning, you can send your gift by mail using the enclosed envelope or give online at crpc.org/give.

Thank you in advance for your support and continued encouragement as together we equip gospel-centered, culture-shaping Christians.

For Christ and His Church,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. J. Pacienza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a distinct "J" at the beginning.

Rev. Robert J. Pacienza
Pastor, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church

P.S. As we approach year-end, how might God use *you* to accomplish His work here at Coral Ridge? Thank you in advance for your support!

