



More Than
STONE SOUP

A Stewardship and Giving Emphasis Program for Congregations

LETTER #3 – NOTES

Timing: This letter is mailed on Monday of Week #6

Message: The letter accomplishes the following:

1. Announces the end of the campaign to those for whom an Estimate of Giving Card has not been received.
2. Provides one final chance for recipient to participate in the campaign.
3. Delivers a Growth in Giving Challenge Chart and an Estimate of Giving Card as enclosures, and explains the mechanics of the chart.
4. Give consideration to including a copy of the week #5 bulletin insert, Why Estimate Our Giving, as well.
5. Encourages members to grow in giving by a percent or more in the coming year.
6. Invites members to give prayerful consideration to the challenge of growing toward the Tithe.

Author: The letter should be signed by the Governing Board's chairperson or by the ***More Than Stone Soup*** Program Coordinator.

Instructions: The following are suggested considerations for the letter.

- ▶ Mail letter to those for whom an Estimate of Giving Card has not been received.
- ▶ Use a basic font, Times Roman, Georgia, etc.; 12 point if possible.
- ▶ Date the letter. But this can be sacrificed if cramped for space.
- ▶ The suggested "Greeting" can be changed to something of your preference.
- ▶ Reword the document to suit your style, but preserve the message.
- ▶ Leave enough "white space" on the paper, margins, etc., so the document does not appear "crowded."
- ▶ Be certain the "master" is signed before reproducing and mailing.
- ▶ Only one signature is needed.
- ▶ The letter should be inserted in an envelope, and mailed U.S.P.S.
- ▶ The ***More Than Stone Soup*** font is *forte*.

[DATE]

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“**More Than Stone Soup**,” our Stewardship and Giving emphasis program has come to a close for this year. Our attendance yesterday was exceptional and the Celebration Banquet was declared a success. We are sorry you missed out on the banquet and fellowship that was all a part of yesterday’s Celebration Sunday activities.

From the **More Than Stone Soup** campaign we have come to understand the importance regular giving plays in a believer’s spiritual health and wellbeing. For that reason, I have enclosed a Growth in Giving Challenge Chart and an Estimate of Giving Card for your use. Please give prayerful consideration to planning for financial support of our ministry, and for completing an Estimate of Giving Card. The Growth in Giving Challenge Chart will assist you in planning. With the chart comes a challenge to grow in your giving by one or more percent in the coming year, and to accept the challenge to grow toward the Tithe.

While this year’s giving and emphasis campaign has come to a close, the final tally will not take place until [date]. Please complete your planning and send your Estimate of Giving Card to the church right away so we can include your commitment when the final report is prepared. Receiving an Estimate of Giving Card from you will help us when planning our ministry programming for the coming year.

You are encouraged to consciously and deliberately plan your giving for the coming year, and to complete an Estimate of Giving Card. I must remind you, however, that your participation in the Estimate of Giving process is voluntary. You alone must decide if you will participate.

On behalf of the **More Than Stone Soup** program team, I extend my thanks for any consideration you may give to participating in the campaign. Thank you, as well, for your generosity in giving in the year ahead. May the exercise of planning and estimating your giving for the coming year enrich you spiritually, and may you grow in your faith and trust in a loving and generous God.

Peace and blessings to you and yours... [first name signature]

[typed full name], Chairperson (or President)
[name of church] Church Council (or name of governing board)