



## **"Offering My Two Cents"**

### **Excerpts from Pastor Laura's sermon on November 9, 2003**

"In essence, my great joy as your pastor is that I get to sit by the FCCA treasury and watch and listen for the gifts that each of you bring to this community of faith: both those that are gleaming on the surface and those buried treasures that are hidden and have not been discovered yet.

"Part of my calling as an ordained minister is to help each of you to more fully see your individual sparkle and the patterns you create together as a community.

"It is also to take notice of who has found their voice and who has not discovered it yet. To listen for the sounds of the 'clinking coins' amid the crowd – to tap into those places in each of your lives where you have the passion to give of your time, talents and resources but have not found a way to do it yet.

"Friends, as we journey together through this Stewardship season, and as we seek to walk together as pastor and congregation,

"I offer you my ears and my eyes, my voice, my hands and my feet, my heart and my soul, my mind, my strength, my resources.

"I offer you my love, my care, my compassion and my ability to laugh with you and to laugh at myself.

"I offer you my strengths and weaknesses. I offer you my vulnerability and my honesty.

"I offer you my commitment to honor your past traditions, your present joys and concerns and your future hopes and dreams.

"I offer you my passion to reach out to those in our community longing for a spiritual home, longing for a place to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with their God.

"This is my two cents for today.

"It is my prayer that something of what I have shared will serve to inspire you to offer your two cents.

"To share the treasure of who you are and what you bring with me and with one another and with our world – a world desperately in need of faith, hope, love, justice and peace. Amen."