

WE ARE STEWARDS OF FORGIVENESS

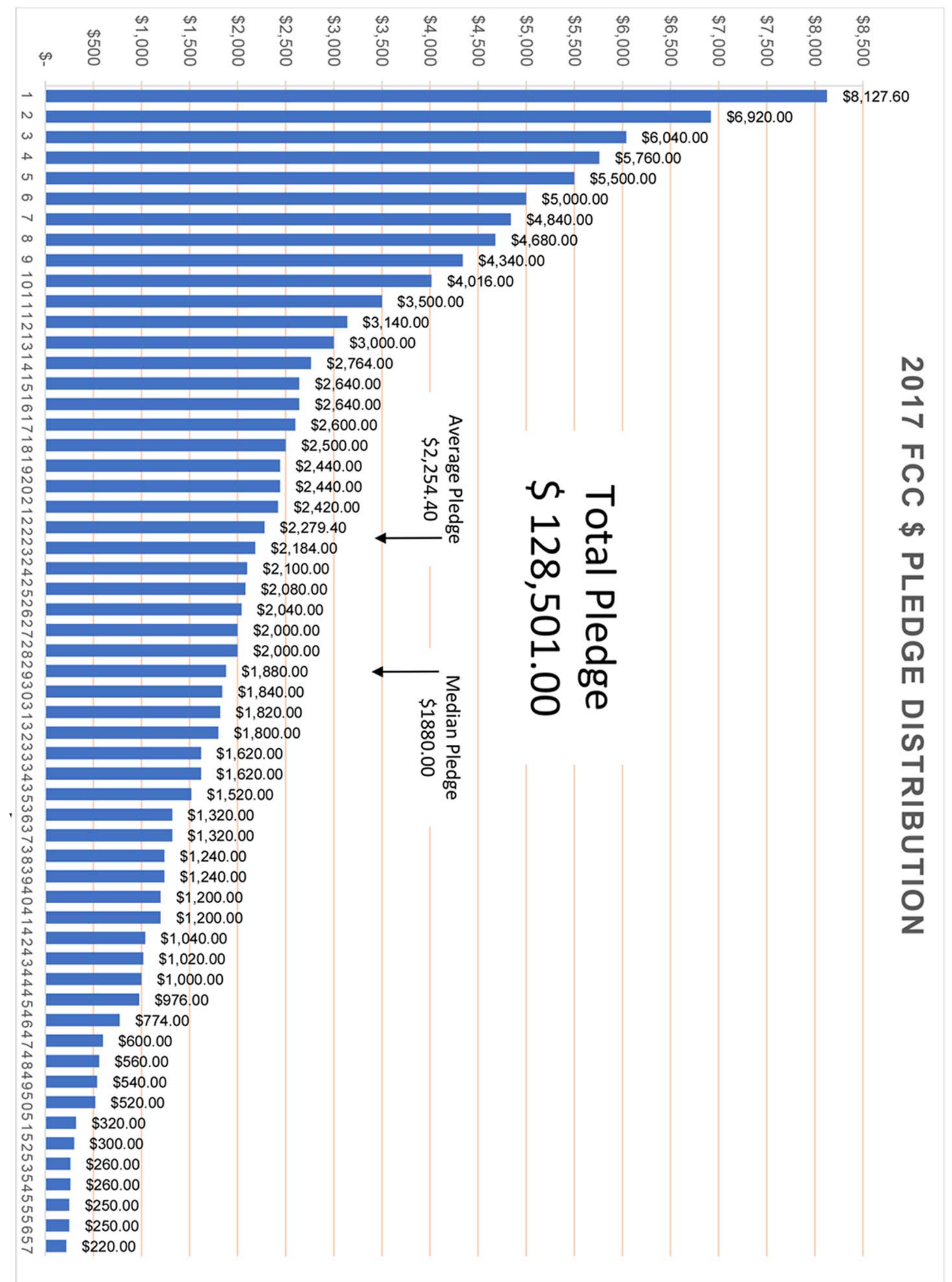
“Then Peter came and said to him, ‘Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.’”

Our text today centers around forgiveness. When we think about forgiveness in the church, we probably first think about God forgiving us. And that is the foundation of all other forgiveness. But our text focuses on forgiving one another, particularly when someone has done something to violate you or to violate community.

When something is unforgiven, it stands like a roadblock between two people, between a person and community, or between communities. Only when it is removed can each party fully give to the relationship and receive from the relationship and engage in the mutual support that should characterize true community.

We are stewards of our time, talent, money, and other resources. We are stewards of forgiveness. We are stewards of possibility for individuals, households, and larger communities.

When we use our resources to support the church, we vote for a world in which we put the roadblocks aside and replace them with the free flow of traffic in real community.



2017 FCC \$ PLEDGE DISTRIBUTION