

December 7, 2012

Dear Jack,

I am a member of the First Congregational Church of Vernon, FCCV, and want to help support your effort to repair the labyrinth at your church.

We have a program here at FCCV called Pay it Forward. Each week a member's name is drawn, and the individual is given \$50 to use to do a random act of kindness. This program started about two years ago, and was intended to last a month. The responses have been so positive that people have kept contributing money so that the program can continue. Recently, my name was drawn. I wasn't quite sure what I wanted to do with the money, but when I heard the news report about the situation with your Eagle project, I knew I had found my answer.

My son finished his Eagle project this summer, and I cannot imagine how disappointed he would have been if someone had damaged it. Your situation is even more compelling, because your labyrinth is also a memorial to your dad. I simply cannot understand how someone could do this, stealing the plants, not once but twice. I was hoping that a gift from our Pay it Forward program would provide both financial support to help replace the trees, and also would be a reminder that there are plenty of people who care, and are concerned at a time like this.

I spoke with your church secretary this week who explained that the bookkeeping details had not been worked out yet, so I will wait to send the check.

I am pledging a total of \$100 for your project. After talking about this with a few friends, we wanted to build on the initial money provided by Pay it Forward.

We all wish you well in your efforts to repair the labyrinth, and hope that the thief has a change of heart.

Please notify me when you are ready to go forward, and I will send you a check.

In Christian fellowship,

Barbara Melander
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