



November 2022

Dear Friends,

We are in the process of our annual Stewardship campaign, Investing in the Future. The Stewardship campaign is not just about receiving a financial commitment for Hanover United Methodist Church of 2023, but also your commitments of time, talent, and treasure. How do you see the future of our church? What are your dreams and visions on how HUMC makes a difference in a troubled world? Each of us has different talents we can offer to the church in terms of service. While we all have different amounts of time we can give, each of us has time to serve the Lord. For some, that might be serving on a church committee. For others, it might be using your time and talent to serve our community through the quilt ministry or Giving Tree, sharing musical talents in Sunday worship, working with the food pantry, organizing a blood drive, or helping with our pie and ice cream fundraisers. Perhaps there is even a new ministry that you would like to see started at HUMC. Each of us has different resources, but all can give something. You are needed. Your time, talents, and financial resources are needed.

We know this has been a tough year for many of us. But as we are reminded in Philippians 4:19, *“My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”*

On or before November 13th, the Finance Committee respectfully asks that you complete and return the enclosed commitment card for 2023. The card represents your commitment to make a financial gift that supports the mission of Hanover United Methodist Church. It is a response to God’s call and abundance in our own lives; it is a statement of thanksgiving. On that Sunday, we will gather our gifts and offer them to God in thanksgiving.

In terms of giving, we believe that the standard of giving should reflect both our standard of living and the abundance of God’s blessings in our lives. A tithe of 10 percent of your income has long been held as the standard of Christian giving. However, every commitment, no matter what the amount is, makes a valued contribution to our mission and ministry.

As an FYI, HUMC has a budget of approximately \$165,000. Of that \$165,000, \$110,000 covers staff costs and \$40,000 for utilities and maintenance. On the income side, approximately \$150,000 comes from pledges and contributions. Other sources of income come from the Community Foundation of Madison and Jefferson County, stock dividends, and other resources. We also take advantage of the community support programs offered by Amazon and Kroger, which make a small donation to the church from your purchases. If you don’t currently participate in these programs and would like more information, contact the church office or look under the Giving tab of the church’s website.

If you have any questions about the finances of the church, please reach out to Keith Howard, Finance Chair and to Pastor Luke if you have any questions about how you can serve the church in other capacities.

We thank you for all that you do to be the face of Jesus in our community.

Blessings,

R. Keith Howard, Finance Chairperson
Reverend Luke Richards