

# 2025

# ANNUAL REPORT

THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
FOUNDATION OF SAN DIEGO



**The First United Methodist Foundation of San Diego**  
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# The First United Methodist Foundation of San Diego

## The Mission

The Foundation's Articles of Incorporation, filed with the California Secretary of State on June 26, 1998, state the Foundation's Mission, which is to:

- (1) *Provide donations to the First United Methodist Church of San Diego, California, in support of the aims and activities of the Church;*
- (2) *Manage the assets of the Foundation, including endowment funds, derived from gifts, contributions, donations, grants or bequests to the Foundation, in a gainful and prudent manner and in keeping with any special conditions applicable to each gift, contribution, donation, grant or bequest; and*
- (3) *Actively promote the growth of the Foundation's assets through a program for soliciting gifts, contributions, donations, grants, bequests and devises to the Foundation.*

The First United Methodist Foundation of San Diego, a California 501c3 nonprofit religious corporation, is the charitable foundation of the First United Methodist Church of San Diego.

The Church's Charge Conference authorized the Foundation's establishment and the Foundation's Board of Directors are elected by the Church's Annual Charge Conference.

While the Foundation is intended to last in perpetuity, if the Foundation were ever dissolved, its assets would revert to First Church.

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## 2025 Foundation Board of Directors:

Nick Hubsmith, President

Norma Brownell

Kent Schrock

Christine Masuda, Secretary

Scott Caprio

Amy Moberly\*

Mel West\*

Claudia Kay\*

Janice Lau

\*From Board of Trustees

## Foundation President's Message

The Foundation continued to work closely with First United Methodist Church staff and Board of Trustees to provide donations in support of the aims and activities of the church. As always, we worked closely with our financial advisors to ensure our portfolios were positioned to balance opportunity and risk. We continued to build our assets with gifts received in 2025. The value of the foundation increased from \$11,155,186 at the start of the year to \$11,827,658 at year end.

The financial review conducted in conjunction with a review of the church finances by an outside auditor confirmed that we are abiding by best accounting practices and managing our assets responsibly. As always, we continue to ensure our assets are invested in accordance with the United Methodist Social Principles.

### Specific highlights for the Foundation during 2025:

- Gifts to the Foundation came from the estate of John Hermann (after final estate settlement) and the estate of Mary Lee Dickerson. We are grateful for all gifts of any size and we especially honor John and Mary Lee.
- We continued with our investment advisors from previous years, Blankenship and Foster, and Kane-Anderson-Rudnick. We had \$7,447,905 invested with Blankenship and Foster and \$4,379,754 invested with Kane-Anderson-Rudnick at year end.
- Year-end asset allocations are in accordance with the foundation's investment policy and are the following:

Equities	73.9%
Income	23.8
Alternative investments	1.7
Cash	0.6

- The annual distribution to the church was \$639,216 in accordance with our policy of distributing no less than 5% of the beginning year's valuation. This was the largest donation the Foundation has made.
- In May the Foundation hosted the 32<sup>nd</sup> Covenant Circle luncheon at the Southwestern Yacht Club. In November the Foundation, in conjunction with the Cultural Events Committee and Church Choir, hosted a well-attended evening dinner in Linder Hall.
- In December Jason Tucker resigned as Director of Stewardship and Development. In that role he served as an integral part of the Foundation board. His leadership and dedication in working with potential donors and the estates and families of those leaving bequests to the church significantly contributed to the Foundation's success over Jason's 8 years of service.

Know that any contribution to the Foundation will be managed responsibly, so as to ensure continued support of the mission of First United Methodist Church in perpetuity. I am honored to continue to serve as Foundation President for 2026.

Thank you for your continued support.

Nick Hubsmith

<b>FUND NAME</b>	<b>12/31/2025</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>	
Charles & Mildred Nann Real Property Fund .....		\$291,622	C
Cultural Events Fund .....		\$61,033	C
Don and Mary Jane Perkins Music Fund .....		\$6,718	C
Dick and Jeri Eimers Good Samaritan Fund .....		\$132,007	F
Eldon & Mary Baker Food Endowment .....		\$118,778	F
Fred Cheever Library Fund .....		\$3,733	C
Harpichord Fund .....		\$9,099	C
Helen Grimes Local Mission Fund .....		\$23,964	C
John Hermann Evangelism & Outreach Fund .....		\$2,563,449	F
John Hermann Maintenance & Facilities Fund .....		\$1,893,670	F
John Hermann 'King of the Alps' Blooming Color Fund .....		\$151,921	F
John Hermann Excellence in the Arts .....		\$593,892	F
Juanita Gordon Music Series Fund .....		\$64,404	C
Judith Allday Arts & Education Fund .....		\$501,246	F
Music Endowment .....		\$46,898	F
Loren Vance Global Missions Fund .....		\$63,478	C
Lowell Elson Care Ministry Fund .....		\$16,798	C
Mary Lou Atkinson Missions Fund .....		\$6,505	C
Masterwork Chorale Fund .....		\$31,782	C
Mildred Donnelly Youth Scholarship Fund .....		\$26,362	C
Paul & Mary Long New Life Center Endowment Fund .....		\$1,816,305	C
Pearl Chenhall Maintenance Fund .....		\$1,075,266	C
Robert Stadge Music Fund .....		\$84,662	C
Doris Lumens New Life Center Fund .....		\$456,443	F
Doris Lumens Memorial Garden Fund .....		\$332,593	F
Shirley Kelly Youth Program and Activities Fund .....		\$6,681	F
W.T. & Gwen Myers Methodist Missions Fund .....		\$74,421	C
Racial Justice Endowment .....		\$240,125	C
Trustees' Perpetual Fund .....		\$606,298	C
Trustees' Unrestricted .....		\$326,175	C
Judith Allday Organ Maintenance Endowment .....		\$201,333	F
<b>Total .....</b>		<b>\$11,827,658</b>	

**The First United Methodist Church Foundation of San Diego**

**2025 Fund Balances**

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. -- 1 Peter 4:10*

*The F or C in the rightmost column denotes whether gift was initially given to the Foundation or the Church, then invested in the Foundation.*

## Foundation Funds

**JOHN EDGAR HERMANN ESTATE:** John Hermann lived an extraordinary life of service to First Church, becoming a member at 9<sup>th</sup> and C in 1957. He was one of the major proponents of the church's move from downtown to Mission Valley and served on the building committee that established the first facilities on the Mission Valley Campus. He also chaired the committee that organized and built the Memorial Garden. After 92 years of a very full life of adventure and service in the Lord, John passed nearly all of his estate to the church and its foundation, providing a final gift of over \$7 Million in assets for our ministries. In addition to outright gifts to the church for sanctuary air conditioning, John also directed that the following funds be established in the foundation:

**Evangelism & Outreach:** John's fondest memories of the church were when the sanctuary was full and teeming with joy in Christ. He served as the Evangelism chair for many years and one of his chief desires was bringing new people into the life of the church. John set aside a large portion of his estate for this purpose. Knowing that ways of reaching people were changing, John allowed these funds to be used for a wide range of outreach and evangelism, including marketing, communications, and other new forms of digital outreach to help as many people as possible know Christ through our congregation.

**Maintenance & Facilities:** John had a deep love for the architecture and facilities of the church and wanted to provide for their care. He also knew that facility needs change over time, so he directed the foundation to invest these funds and use the earnings for maintenance work until such time that the church identifies a building project or renovation. At that time, the church has permission to utilize all or part of the principal given for such a monumental project.

**Excellence in the Arts:** John knew our church has always had great civic importance in our region, and has provided funds for us to bring leading artists, musicians, and speakers to campus in hopes that we would draw new people from the city to our sanctuary to engage in dialogue and hear new ideas to consider in their faith journeys.

**'King of the Alps' Blooming Color:** John was an avid motorcyclist and even wrote a guidebook to touring in the Alps. He was part of the BMW "Million-Mile Club" and rode

his BMW motorcycle well into his 80's. This fund will provide for splashes of colorful flowers and landscaping throughout the year to welcome guests and members alike with color and joy on our campus.

**CHARLES AND MILDRED NANN REAL PROPERTY FUND:** Established by the Charles and Mildred Nann estate, this fund is to pay for the real property needs of the church, including the payment of interest or principal on a deed of trust and for church property improvements.

**CULTURAL EVENTS FUND:** The Cultural Events Fund has been established to provide for the funding of Music Series concerts as determined by the Cultural Events Committee.

**DON AND MARY JANE PERKINS MUSIC FUND:** Donald and Mary Jane Perkins were long-time members of First Church. Due to their interest in the church's music program, their family designated a portion of their estate gift to be put in the Foundation, with the earnings to be used to purchase anthems for the Chancel Choir.

**DICK AND JERI EIMERS GOOD SAMARITAN FUND:** First Church has been an important part in the lives of the family of Dick and Jeri Eimers. This family legacy fund was established as an endowment to ensure support of the church's Good Samaritan Fund, helping those less fortunate and in need of assistance.

**ELDON AND MARY BAKER FOOD FUND:** This gift from the estate of Eldon and Mary Baker came to the Foundation in 2023 and their family provided several possibilities for the Foundation to choose from for its use. In consultation with the church staff, the Foundation Board chose to use the Baker gift to provide food for those in need, across the variety of church ministries, whether that be in the Samaritan Store, our ministries with Cherokee Point Elementary School, or through the Dream School of the Arts, which will feed low-income students after school during their arts education there.

**FRED CHEEVER LIBRARY FUND:** This fund was established in memory of Fred Cheever to benefit the Church library.

**HARPSICHORD FUND:** Members at the downtown 9<sup>th</sup> and C location, Fred and Thelma Irwin contributed to the purchase of the church harpsichord, while Ed Barr and the Ryan Family Trust set up a maintenance to care for the instrument in the 1980's. Thelma also provided a major contribution from her estate toward the renovation of the Memorial Bell Tower.

**HELEN GRIMES LOCAL MISSIONS FUND:** Helen Grimes joined First Church in 1979, several years after her husband's passing, and became deeply involved in our local missions and outreach, including Loaves and Fishes Food Ministry, Mission Outreach Thrift Store, and others. Helen specified that a portion of her estate be set aside at First Church for local missions work, which was one of her greatest passions.

**JUANITA GORDON MUSIC SERIES FUND:** Juanita Gordon was a longtime First Church member and active in many church activities. As a faithful patron of the Cultural Events and Music Series at First Church, it was Juanita's wish to establish a fund to ensure the rich music legacy of First Church continues for future generations to enjoy.

**JUDITH ALLDAY ARTS & EDUCATION FUND:** Judi Allday was a lifelong teacher and musician, singing tenor in the Chancel Choir for decades. With her unrestricted gift to the Foundation, the Foundation Board and Trustees agreed that it would be fitting to honor Judi's legacy with an Arts & Education endowment. These funds will be used for education and arts for young people, including children's music programs and the Dream School of the Arts.

**JUDITH ALLDAY ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND:** This fund is a special fund established by the Foundation board with funds from Judi Allday's estate. As a devoted choir member and church musician, Judi supported our music ministries for years with her time, talent and treasure. Every 25-30 years, our magnificent pipe organ requires significant maintenance on its thousands of working parts, much like a house needing a new roof after 25-30 years. In 2019-2020, this maintenance cost over \$300,000. To prepare for the future organ maintenance needs, the Foundation has set up a new fund that will grow over time with no annual distributions, until the next major maintenance is needed on our organ.

**MUSIC FUND:** This fund was set up with additional funds received from the Allday Estate, and will serve as a general music fund that others can contribute to over time. First Church is passionate about its music ministry and we have been blessed by so many contributions to uphold and build it over the years.

**LOREN VANCE GLOBAL MISSIONS FUND:** Loren C. Vance joined our church in 1932 and served as an usher. From 1917 until his death in 1953 he ran an elevator in the Land Title Building. He left the bulk of his estate to the Church for World Service. The fund has benefited many foreign missions and provided disaster relief around the world.

**LOWELL ELSON CARE MINISTRY FUND:** This restricted endowment fund was established in memory of Lowell E. Elson to be used for Care Ministry. This fund provides ministry to those dealing with health, healing and care issues.

**MARY LOU ATKINSON MISSIONS FUND:** Mary Lou Atkinson was a retired nurse who had a lifelong interest in mission work. She participated in the church's pooled income fund, with the request that upon her death, the balance would be put into the Foundation and the earnings be used to fund church mission projects.

**MASTERWORK CHORALE FUND:** The Masterwork Chorale was founded by our former Music Director, Robert Cooper, for the purpose of presenting sacred major choral works in concert with members of the San Diego Symphony. The chorale is made up of members and non-members of First United Methodist Church who perform with members of our Chancel Choir at least twice per year as a cultural outreach to the greater San Diego

community. The earnings are used to offset the administrative expenses of the Masterwork Chorale, which receives no funding from the church's operating budget.

**MILDRED DONNELLY YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND:** Mildred Donnelly moved to San Diego where she met her husband while working at the United States Post Office. Though they had not children, they became surrogate grandparents to many children. Mildred believed the Church has real influence on the lives of children, especially First Church's youth camps. She wanted her money to provide "camperships" for children who were unable to attend due to lack of funds.

**PAUL AND MARY LONG NEW LIFE CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND:** Established in 2007 by Mary and Paul Long, this fund exists in perpetuity to supplement counseling fees at the New Life Counseling Center when, based on a sliding scale and a person's ability to pay, the fee paid is not equal to the Center's standard hourly rate for counseling services.

**PEARL CHENHALL MAINTENANCE FUND:** Pearl and Ray Chenhall met and married at First Church. Pearl felt a strong conviction about a Christian's responsibility for stewardship and left a large portion of her estate to First Church. This unrestricted endowment gift was placed into a maintenance endowment fund to provide property maintenance for the Church.

**ROBERT STADGE MUSIC FUND:** This is a designated fund established by a bequest from the Robert Stadge estate. Robert was a longtime supporter of the church's music program and the purpose of this fund is to provide quality church music programs, in the form of special worship services or sacred concerts, apart from the Cultural Events Music Series at First Church.

**DORIS LUMENS NEW LIFE CENTER FUND:** Doris Lumens was a transplant from Pennsylvania to California to further her career, which offered her various opportunities as an Executive Secretary with several Fortune 500 companies. She was a tireless volunteer in the church Development Office and a founding member of the Covenant Circle. Doris was also instrumental in establishing the Memorial Garden at First Church. She designated the earnings from part of her estate to serve the New Life Counseling Center.

**DORIS LUMENS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND:** Doris Lumens served for many years on the Memorials Committee and she was instrumental in establishing the Memorial Garden at First Church. It was her wish that the earnings from rest of her estate benefit the Memorial Garden in perpetuity.

**SHIRLEY KELLY YOUTH PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES FUND:** Shirley Kelly established this designated fund to support youth programs and activities on the Mission Valley campus. Mrs. Kelly wanted to ensure the youth programs will continue for future generations of children at First Church.

**W.T.& GWEN MYERS METHODIST MISSIONS FUND:** Established in 2007 by W.T. and Gwen Myers to support First Church missions in perpetuity. W.T. and Gwen Myers celebrated 61 years of marriage. Church was central in their lives and they were both very active in missions. Gwen was a member of the Chancel Choir where she served as choir librarian for 25 years. Mission Sewing began because Gwen enjoyed sewing and helping little children. W.T. taught Sunday school for 25 years, helped found the Wesleyan Class, was an usher for 50 years and served on the CREW. W.T. and Gwen left the legacy of a gift annuity to the First Church, which was a large part of their lives.

**RACIAL JUSTICE ENDOWMENT:** The Racial Justice Endowment was established by First Church in 2020 to provide funding for annual Racial Justice Grants to local organizations that either advocate for anti-racist policies or serve primarily People of Color in the San Diego community.

**TRUSTEES' PERPETUAL FUNDS:** Individual perpetual funds have been established by church families and individuals through their estate plans to be preserved in perpetuity to further the mission of First Church and its ministries.

Albin and Pauline Anderson	John & Grace Bender
Mrs. Kenneth Catron	Helen Crane
Ed & Marjorie Eagle	Louise Norwood
Alice Roberts	

**TRUSTEES' UNRESTRICTED FUND:** These funds have been donated to the church and invested with the Foundation by the Board of Trustees, who direct the earnings of these funds to the area of greatest need among our ministries. Donors to the Trustees' Unrestricted Fund are recognized below:

Anonymous	Terry Charles Bode
Mary Bond	James Butterfield
Don Goodwin	Charles & Rhona Gorder
Marguerite Hansen	Jeannette Lewis
Hattie Liggett	Ed Lucado
Roscoe Matlick	Ron &
Nancy Mires	
Louise Norwood	Mildred
Switzer	

## **WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:**

The First United Methodist Foundation depends upon the generosity of our donors and church members who seek to support the work of First Church in perpetuity with their gifts. There are many ways that you can further the work of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world during your lifetime and beyond.

- **Make an outright gift** of money, unencumbered property, or other marketable assets to the First United Methodist Foundation of San Diego.
- **Name the Foundation as the beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust or gift annuity.** Payments are made to the donor for a specified term or the remainder of their lifetime. At the end of the specified term, the remaining funds are distributed to the Foundation for use as the donor specified.
- **Name the Foundation in one's will or trust as** the beneficiary of securities, retirement plans, life insurance policies, or a bequest either of a specific amount or a percentage of your estate.

All gifts will be invested to ensure growth and return by preserving the principal and the Foundation always strives to honor the wishes of each donor. Each year, a percentage from all Foundation funds are distributed quarterly to the First United Methodist Church of San Diego to support the missions of the First United Methodist Church of San Diego. A very small percentage of each fund is used for the Foundation administration, including advisory fees, accounting services, and financial auditing.

Many of the gifts invested in the Foundation have been given as estate gifts from members of the Covenant Circle, to whom we are eternally grateful. To become a member of the Covenant Circle, one only has to make arrangements to name the Church or the Foundation as a beneficiary of your will, trust, charitable gift annuity or retirement plan. There is no dollar amount required to join, only your commitment to leave a part of your estate to the Church or Foundation. Each year, the Church holds a luncheon to honor those Covenant Circle Members who pass on into eternal life in the previous year.

For more information about giving to the Foundation or becoming a member of the Covenant Circle, you are encouraged to contact **Nick Hubsmith Chair of the Foundation** at First Church at 619.297.4366 [nhubsmith@fumcsd.org](mailto:nhubsmith@fumcsd.org).