



REMEMBER

RELEASE —

REIMAGINE —

RESTORE



# Our Money Stories:



- *Our 2025 Stewardship Campaign focused on personal/family money stories.*
- *2026 Stewardship Campaign is focused on our church's money story.*
- *August 17<sup>th</sup>, we invited stakeholders for a luncheon and workshop. 25 joined us to compile Our Money Story.*
- *Staff also participated in an abbreviated input session earlier that week.*



# Our Money Stories:

- *Our staff and stakeholders discussed and contributed their thoughts around our story elements:*
  - **Setting, Characters, Plot, Conflict, Tone**
- *We also worked to discern God's Money Story and ways we can closer align our story with God's Money Story*
- *Re-Wilding has been the outline and guide that we're following to write these new chapters together. We're not starting from scratch this year!*



# Our Money Story NOW: Theme Statements

- ***As a community, we believe money*** is a gift and resource entrusted to us by God. It enables ministry, sustains our church, and supports those in need, yet we also recognize the tension it carries—between abundance and scarcity, freedom and burden.
- ***As a community, we use money*** to sustain our ministries and facilities, while trying to balance tradition with innovation, buildings with people, and stability with the risks of Re-Wilding in an evolving digital culture.
- ***As a community, we give money*** joyfully and generously to support God's mission, strengthen our congregation, and invest in causes aligned with our faith and values. We acknowledge that motivations are changing—some give to preserve legacy and infrastructure, while others give to advance justice, inclusion, and future-oriented ministry.



# GOD's Money Story:

What do we know about money from scripture and our traditions?

*Our community believes God's money story teaches that money is not to be hoarded but shared freely for the care of others. Scripture shows that generosity, not the size of the gift, is what matters—whether in the widow's mite or the loaves and fishes, God provides abundantly when we give faithfully. At its heart, God's Money Story calls the community to trust in God's provision, live simply, and give generously for the good of all.*

# Our Money Story NOW: Church Budget 2025

INCOME BUDGET PLAN	FY 2025 Budget
Tithes, Offerings, Special Gifts	\$ 1,440,000.00
Foundation and Endowment Earnings	\$ 374,000.00
Leases, Space Rental, Program Fees	\$ 714,257.00
Board of Trustees Funding	\$ 500,000.00
TOTAL INCOME BUDGET PLAN	\$ 3,028,257.00



# Our Money Story NOW: Church Budget 2025

EXPENDITURE BUDGET PLAN	FY 2025 Budget
Pastoral Team and Support Staff	\$ 597,161.99
Adult, Children and Family Ministries	\$ 6,000.00
Adult and Children's Choirs and Worship	\$ 381,316.27
Hospitality and Communications	\$ 282,708.32
Member Care Ministries	\$ 5,900.00
California-Pacific Conference Apportionment	\$ 450,000.00
Administration, Building and Grounds	\$ 1,170,703.38
Stewardship and Development	\$ 103,967.05
Facility Rentals, Weddings and Memorial Services	\$ 30,500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET PLAN</b>	<b>\$ 3,028,257.00</b>

# Our Money Story NOW:

## What Are Apportionments?

- Our church's share of support to the United Methodist denomination
- Current apportionment share is determined by a complex formula including membership, attendance, budget size, etc.
- Our 2025 Apportionments are near **\$450,000**
- 76% of each apportionment dollar stays within Cal-Pac Annual Conference.
- 24% goes to the larger United Methodist Church for **Ministerial Education**, **Black College Fund**, and **World Service Fund** (Groups like **UMCOR**, and **General Commission on Religion and Race**, and more)
- Our main channel of support for UMC's national and international work



# Our Money Story NOW:

## How We Share Our Commitments

- **Annual Pledges:**

Year	# Families	Total Pledged
2023	270	\$906,014
2024	239	\$928,973
2025	238	\$945,920

- **Smallest Pledge:** \$5/yr, **Largest:** Over \$72,000/yr
- 75% of pledges are for \$5,000 or less each year
- **Average Pledge in 2025:** \$3,974/yr
- Pledges have increased around 2% each year over last 3 years.
- **Fixed Expenses:** Healthcare, Liability Insurance, Utilities increase an average of 5-10% each year



# Our Money Story NOW:

## Myths to RELEASE

- *“The church survives from a few large givers, they don’t need my modest gifts...”*
  - 95% of pledges are \$12,000/year or under, 75% \$5,000 or under.
  - There have been many generous Covenant Circle & estate gifts, only 4 that we have on record have been over \$1M
- *“We have a large Foundation... it should cover our operating needs.”*
  - Foundation 2025 contribution is \$549,216, about 40% enters the operating budget, the rest is designated to specific programs and ministries
  - *“We’re overstaffed...”*
    - Number of staff positions have reduced every year since 2018



# Our Money Story NOW:

## Questions to **RELEASE**

- *What questions do I have about church finances that I haven't asked before?*
- *Are there assumptions I have (true or not) that keep me from giving or increasing my giving?*
- *When my personal finances improve over time, does that affect my giving to church?*



Our Money Story NOW:  
Submit your pledge online!

