

Sunday, December 9 is the day when we gather to commit our financial gifts to the church to enable it to accomplish God's work in our community and around the world for 2019.

We understand that everyone has their own reflections about giving. So, we hope you review the information in this brochure and consider some other personal perspectives on giving in our services in order to reach your decision:

- Pastor McCoy discussed giving and stewardship in his November 11 sermon "The Simple Gifts."
- Dr. Robert Lupton shared his view of the church impacting others in the community by generous giving to change lives on November 18.
- Karin and Chris Rohn will discuss the impact of HUMC in their lives and over generations (as a three-generation HUMC family) on December 2.
- Liz and Ken Chitester will share the importance of HUMC in their lives on December 9.

We are grateful for the many people that provide financial support to HUMC. Generous giving has made a difference in the lives of children, youth and adults in our church and in the lives of people around the world supported by our mission outreach. Please help us continue that work in 2019 as we dedicate our intended level of financial support for HUMC on December 9.

⁸ Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹ Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

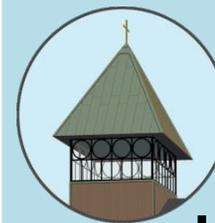
(1 Peter 4:8-10 New International Version)

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."

(2 Corinthians 9:6-9 New International Version)



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Hinsdale United Methodist Church

60th Anniversary
1959 - 2019



Giving Thanks for Our
Service and Strengths
Over Generations

Pledge Sunday
December 9, 2018

Giving Thanks for our Service and Strengths Over Generations Church Pledge Sunday December 9, 2018

We have relied on the generosity of our members and friends since our founding in 1959. It has allowed us to accomplish many wonderful things across several generations. As we enter our 60th anniversary year, this means serving our current members to the best of our abilities through worship, pastoral care and ongoing programs while building new and stronger connections with the next generation.

Why do you want me to make a pledge?

We rely on your financial support to run the programs of HUMC and we finalize our budget priorities **after** we know your intended gift levels. The pledges our members and supporters make constitute over 75% of our resources. As some of our longstanding members are unable to provide their historical levels of support, we are looking for all our members and friends to prayerfully consider making a pledge. Frankly, we cannot accomplish our program and service objectives without an increase in support from our current levels.

What's new for 2019 that should impact how I consider my pledge?

We know we need to enhance our engagement with families with children and youth at home and we have taken steps this past year in that direction. But, we have much more work to accomplish and a large priority for 2019 is to staff our youth program with a dedicated director—and hopefully have the funding to enable the position to be full-time. We interviewed several candidates for the Youth Director position in 2018 but for a variety of reasons, we were unsuccessful in finding the right person.

What is the budget overall and the principal uses of the resources?

Our total budget is about \$720,000. About 65% are the salaries and expenses of our pastors and staff along with direct program costs. This covers our senior pastor and worship, pastoral care, children and youth programs, music, Christian education, and communications to name some of the key items. Running the office and the normal operating expenses for our building and grounds are about 27%. Our apportionment (the amount we contribute to the Conference for our connectional support and global missions) is about 8%. We have established reserves over the years along with the distributions from our Copper Cross endowment to help pay for important capital improvements that could not be managed within our annual budget. As you may have noticed, some critical improvements during 2018 included new flooring in fellowship hall/old sanctuary and the fireside room, replacement of lighting in the sanctuary and parking lots and new technology for the classrooms and office. Along with some smaller improvements, these major projects aggregated to nearly \$100,000. Our financial statements are regularly reported to Ad Council and the congregation. Please ask for any details of interest.

Is my pledge important?

Yes! Spiritually, Jesus encouraged us to give cheerfully according to our ability. Hopefully, HUMC is a meaningful part of your life and you want to support its work. We've outlined the current congregational weekly giving amounts on the enclosed chart along with a matrix to consider your giving compared to your income. To live life generously as God has encouraged us to do, can you move up one level in your giving in 2019? The reality is that we have lost some faithful and generous donors over the past year (from illness, death, moves and other personal reasons). So, we need the support of everyone to sustain our programs and services to the congregation and the community.

How does the Copper Cross endowment fit into HUMC and giving?

It is a critical component of HUMC—both currently and for our future. In 2018, it distributed \$44,000 (4% of its three-year average assets per its charter) to help fund our annual budget and some of the significant Trustee capital improvements outlined above. Including the Copper Cross in your estate planning is a powerful way to leave a legacy to continue your support of HUMC for decades to come.

What are we asking you to do for HUMC?

Please prayerfully consider the gift you will make to HUMC for 2019 and fill out the enclosed pledge card. Pray for the success of our financial campaign to allow HUMC to accomplish its ministry. Then, bring your pledge card to church as we gather together on December 9th to dedicate our financial gifts to the church to enable it to accomplish God's work in our community and around the world. If you are unable to attend, please mail or email your card as outlined. If you have any questions, please contact Zed Francis, Chair of Stewardship and Finance at zsf3@aol.com.