

## Extravagant Generosity

*We believe that God inspires people to give generously of themselves so that others can receive the grace they have known.*

We have a willingness to share our abundant gifts because of God's grace. As a church we seek to live out our mission and ministry by giving generously. Some of the ways we share our abundance:

- Creating endowments for continuous giving
- Providing scholarships for high school graduates for continuing education
- Providing two houses for Bethel House (transitional housing)
- Taking the time and effort to provide excellent leadership and programing
- Sharing our resources with LaGrange and Richmond UMCs
- Sharing our facility with Cristo La Roca and University Ministry
- Being actively engaged in the Wisconsin Conference and its many ministries across the state of Wisconsin



*An increase in GIVING in this area would mean that we can grow our endowments, provide education in legacy giving,*

*hire a Children's Ministry Coordinator to increase programing with educational opportunities, and allow us to pay our full apportionment.*

2013 expenditures: \$95,629

## Risk Taking Mission and Service

*We understand that with increased spiritual maturity, people discern God's call to help others through mission and service.*

Our purposeful services extend beyond our local community to serve national and global needs. This includes both financial support and hands-on ministry. Through our apportionments we support the ministries of the United Methodist Church around the world. Through our support of UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), 100% of all our donations provide direct relief.



Our hands-on participation supports many ministries including:

- High School Youth Mission Opportunities
- University Lunch
- Community Clothes Closet
- Whitewater Food Pantry
- Bethel House (transitional housing)
- Volunteers in Mission (VIM)

*An increase in GIVING in this area will provide more opportunities for hands-on youth and adult mission and allow us to pay full apportionment to care for our neighbors near and far.*

2013 expenditures: \$99,382

In preparing for the 2014 stewardship campaign, the FUMC Stewardship Team and church leadership took the time to categorize FUMC ministries based on Bishop Robert Schnase's Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. We have come to understand that we – with much hope and faith – can grow into these practices to fulfill the greatest task ever entrusted to a faith community: the work of sharing the good news we have seen and known in Jesus Christ.

We can't and don't do ministry alone. Your participation is crucial. We invite you to grow in grace by repeating, learning and deepening your practice of gracious hospitality, by placing yourself under the influence of God's Spirit in worship, by intentionally seeking to grow in Christ-likeness through learning in community, and by practicing compassion and generosity in concrete ways. By responding to God's blessings in these ways, we can help the grace of God become visible, real and life-changing.

We are developing our budget for 2014. Our prayer is that God will use each of us to continue the God-inspired mission and ministry at First United Methodist Church. Please begin your stewardship journey now, trusting in God to provide abundant grace in your discipline. We encourage you to make your commitment to intentional, consistent percentage giving. We invite you to take the next step toward tithing (10%) of your resources.

We ask your prayerful support of this campaign and thoughtful consideration of the generosity that God is calling each of us in response to the blessings and gifts God provides.

## First United Methodist Church 2014 Stewardship Campaign



*Our GIVING goals are grouped by*

*“The Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation.”*

*As United Methodists, we are invited to GIVE with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness.*

We GIVE out of love. We GIVE out of joy. We GIVE out of a deep sense of thanksgiving for all God has done for us.

The dollar amounts given in this description of ministries are representative of staff time, care of the facility, materials and gifts to mission needed to enable these ministries to happen. It is through God's generosity to us – and your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness – that we, in the name of Jesus, are able to achieve the many ministries of our church. **Thank you for your support.**

Prayerfully consider your part in FUMC's mission by completing an Estimate of Giving card.

If you would like to give your gifts electronically, please contact Jayne in the church office, 262-473-2131. EFTs can be authorized for weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly contributions.



## Intentional Faith Development

*We believe God's Spirit nurtures people and matures faith through learning in community.*

Our aim is to develop engaged disciples of Christ by offering diverse, meaningful, relevant learning experiences for all ages and stages of faith. Some of the ways we are doing that include:



- Wednesday after school Promise Point, drumming, and dinner for K through Middle School
- Sunday School
- Children's Choir
- Vacation Bible School
- Confirmation Class
- Middle & High School Youth Groups
- University Ministry
- Adult Bible Study
- Monthly Devotionals
- Prayer Chain & Prayer Partners
- United Methodist Women
- Men's Breakfast Club
- Stephen Ministry Training

*An increase in GIVING in this area would mean that we could hire a Children's Ministry Coordinator, offer leadership training, plan adult retreats, offer more scholarships and enhance technology.*

2013 expenditures: \$87,756

## Passionate Worship

*We believe God shapes souls and changes minds through worship, creating a desire to grow closer to Christ.*

Worship is at the heart of our life together. God uses worship to transform lives, heal wounded souls, renew hope, shape decisions, provoke change, inspire



compassion and create community. In worship, we encounter God in Christ.

We worship in many ways:

- Sunday morning worship
- Seasonal Vespers services
- Christmas Eve services
- Lenten & Holy Week worship
- Major choral presentations
- Fairhaven communion
- Ecumenical Thanksgiving

Some of the things we do to enhance our worship times include:

- Chancel, Praise Team & Children's Choirs
- Projection and sound system
- Childcare during worship
- Youth Drumming Ensemble
- Cable television broadcasts

*An increase in GIVING in this area would mean enhanced access to worship through technology, a new hand-bell choir, growth in the university worship service, and an increase in the involvement of instrumental musicians.*

2013 expenditures: \$131,633

## Radical Hospitality

*We offer the gracious invitation, welcome, and hospitality of Christ so that people experience a sense of belonging.*

Hospitality is a spiritual discipline. We believe that we need to exceed expectation and offer all that we can and all that we have to extend the gracious invitation and welcome of Christ to others.

- On Sunday mornings, we offer hospitality through our elevator ministry, a fully staffed nursery, and coffee hour/fellowship.
- We welcome people through our friendly staff.
- We share ministry space with our sister Hispanic congregation, Cristo la Roca.
- We care for our facility by maintaining our building and grounds through cleaning, upkeep and insurance.
- We make our church available to community groups who need a place to gather.
- We provide meal ministries.
- Our website is up to date, our worship is aired during the week on Cable TV and we are well represented in the local press.

*An increase in GIVING in this area would mean more senior adult ministry opportunities;*

*a renovated entrance, gathering space, and kitchen; better signage; and an expanded church website.*



2013 expenditures: \$73,129