



## TALKING POINTS

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- United Methodists are **United in Impact**, joined together by our faith in Christ and supported by a worldwide Connection.
- When you give to your local church, you are part of the incredible work God is doing through The United Methodist Church.

### WHY DO WE GIVE?

- Giving is an expression of
  - our faith in action (James 2:15-17)
  - our love, obedience and gratitude to God (2 Corinthians 9:10-15)
  - our response to God's grace (1 Peter 4:8-11; Psalm 90:16-17)
- In our United Methodist membership vows, we pledge to faithfully participate in the life and ministry of our local church through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness.
- As United Methodists, we are connected by a shared covenant that is based on a common mission and mutual relationships.
  - Common Mission: The primary mission of United Methodists is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."
  - Mutual Relationships: United Methodist churches are not only accountable to God but also to each other, supporting one another in ministry and sharing resources.

### WHERE DOES MY GIFT GO?

- The mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church begin with your faithful generosity.
- For every dollar given, approximately 93 cents stays in the local church while around 7 cents goes to fund the Connectional work of The United Methodist Church.
  - 93% stays in the local church to fund mission and ministry in the congregation and community
  - 5% goes to districts, annual conferences and jurisdictions to strengthen regional structures and ministries
  - 2% provides for general church boards and agencies to fund key areas of support for the local church – including pastoral education, episcopal leadership, finance and administration, global missions, communication, discipleship and worship planning materials, and much more

### THE SEVEN GENERAL CHURCH FUNDS

- **World Service Fund**
  - Provides basic financial support to general agencies to maintain the common vision, mission, and ministry of The United Methodist Church.
- **Africa University Fund**
  - Supports the general operating expenses of Africa University, located in Zimbabwe.
- **Black College Fund**
  - Supports eleven Historically Black Colleges and Universities affiliated with The United Methodist Church.
- **The Episcopal Fund**
  - Funds our bishops' salaries, office and travel expenses, and pension and health-benefit coverage.
- **General Administration Fund**
  - Funds the administrative functions of the Church and General Conference.
- **Interdenominational Cooperation Fund**
  - Enables United Methodists to participate in ecumenical and interreligious organizations advocating for unity among the worldwide Christian church.
- **Ministerial Education Fund**
  - Supports the recruitment and education of ordained and licensed ministers.

### UNITED IN IMPACT

- You are never alone in ministry. You and your local church are **United in Impact** with 9.98 million United Methodists and 39,260 churches worldwide.<sup>1</sup>
- Health and welfare ministries related to The United Methodist Church serve more than 32 million people in 1,555 locations across the United States and provide more than \$2 billion in charity care each year.<sup>2</sup>
- Education ministries supported through The United Methodist Church include 106 colleges and universities, 13 theological schools, and seven precollegiate schools.
- In 2024, UMCOR responded to 137 humanitarian crises around the world.
- More than 200 Global Ministries missionaries are in active service around the world.

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<sup>1</sup> GCFA 2022 statistics

<sup>2</sup> [www.umc.org/en/content/united-methodists-at-a-glance](https://www.umc.org/en/content/united-methodists-at-a-glance)