



**Setting a Course for a Better Life  
Together in Ministry  
Empowering Our Congregation for  
Tomorrow**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WESTLAKE VILLAGE  
2022 STEWARDSHIP APPEAL**

Dear Members and Friends,

**THANK YOU** for your commitment to God's ministry through your prayers, service, and presence in the United Methodist Church of Westlake Village!

We are writing to invite you to set a course for a better life for yourself, your family, your fellow church members, and for Christ in our community, by pledging financial support to our church in 2022.

Our stewardship theme this year is:

**"Setting A Course For A Better Life  
Together In Ministry  
Empowering Our Congregation For Tomorrow."**

**TO EMPOWER OUR CONGREGATION FOR TOMORROW,  
WE NEED OUR MEMBERS TO PLEDGE FINANCIAL  
SUPPORT TO OUR OPERATING BUDGET TO ACHIEVE  
OUR GOAL OF \$550,000 IN 2022 PLEDGES BY  
OCTOBER 31, 2021, CONSECRATION SUNDAY.**

Last year, your pledges and contributions made an incredible difference in the life of our church as we faced the challenges presented by the COVID-19 outbreak, the nation's racial reckoning, the economic downturn, and the dissension in the larger Methodist Community, with a correspondingly negative impact on our church membership and our church budget.

In 2022, for the above reasons, and without the government's Payroll Protection Plan support, we will again face an Operating Budget that will exceed our projected income.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP  
TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES!**





## YOUR PLEDGES SUPPORT OUR WONDERFUL PROGRAMMATIC MINISTRIES - AND MORE!

### PASTORAL CARE AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Pastor Walt and Pastor Rachel provide calm and steady leadership, Christian love, healing, counseling, and comfort, particularly in this difficult time.

Our dedicated Pastors work with Amy, Lynn, The Growing Place and our Christian Education Committee, providing Christian education and engaging activities for adults, children, youth, and families.

Our Pastors craft and deliver thoughtful, insightful, and moving sermons at our worship services, and they give personal attention, support, and loving care to each and every parishioner, young and old.

Pastor Walt's and Pastor Rachel's leadership and vision empower, inspire, and motivate our church leaders and our congregation, making our church a healing sanctuary and a positive impact in our community.

### MUSIC MINISTRY AND CHURCH OPERATIONS

Gloria, Nick, Jenny, Barbara, Carol, and our choirs, bell ringers, and guest performers have been creative and resilient by singing, bell-ringing, and playing the piano, organ, and other musical instruments safely and with masks, reflecting God's love through their gifts and talents.

Our clergy and Music leaders work with Linda, Vinia, Joanna, Manuel, and the expert audio-visual technical team led by Paul, to go above and beyond to ensure that our vital church services continue by:

- (1) managing our operations,
- (2) crafting our marketing and communications,
- (3) helping us register for services, and

- (4) setting up our campus to beautify our live-streamed services (both on the lawn and in the Sanctuary) enabling our members to worship with us, even if they are unable to be physically present.

### SOCIAL CONCERNS

Under Chris and Kitty's leadership, the Social Concerns Committee generates ways - including hosting webinars, panel discussions, book studies, and movie nights - to help educate our community and promote social justice, particularly in the areas of racism, homelessness, voting, and caring for all of God's children.

### MISSIONS

Cathie leads the Missions Committee in gathering volunteers from our congregation, raising money, serving food, and donating clothing, school supplies, and other needed items for the Conejo Valley Free Meal and Winter Shelter Program, Harbor House, Many Mansions, Manna, Senior Concerns, UMCOR, Blood Drives, Westminster Free Clinic, and other community organizations.

### HOSPITALITY AND MEMBERSHIP

Barb and our Hospitality Committee collaborate with Kathy, Boyd, Peggy, and our Membership Care Committee, Candice and our Prayer Team, and Jan and our In-Touch Ministry program members, as they reach out to the sick and shut-ins with meals, cards, calls, email messages, and visits, providing a lifeline of nurturing support.

### MINISTRIES AND AFFINITY GROUPS

Your pledges also support the Crafty Ladies, Men's and Women's Ministries, and our new LGBTQI+ and Black Diaspora affinity groups - with more innovative programming to come from the UMCWV Memorial Foundation!





WE NEED AND INVITE YOUR SPIRITUAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO CONTINUE PROVIDING THESE LIFE-GIVING AND JOYFUL MINISTRIES FOR OUR CONGREGATION AND FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

In the next few weeks, you will be hearing more about how we as a congregation are seeking to grow and answer God's call with contributions of spiritual and financial gifts.

Many members of UMCWV make an annual financial pledge. Some members tithe, committing 10 percent of their income to the work and missions of our church. Still, others give as they are able.

We recognize that everyone has different financial means and resources.

Individually, our ability to pledge and support our ministry may have been adversely impacted by the once-in-a-lifetime pandemic, which devastated families in more ways than financial.

What is most important is that everyone tries to provide support in the form of a financial pledge.

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME!  
NO AMOUNT IS TOO SMALL!**

PLEASE JOIN OTHERS IN OUR CONGREGATION BY MAKING A FINANCIAL PLEDGE BY OCTOBER 31, 2021, CONSECRATION SUNDAY, WHERE WE WILL CELEBRATE OUR 2022 PLEDGES!

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further making a financial pledge to UMCWV, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Pastor Walt or Pastor Rachel.

TOGETHER, LET'S SET A COURSE FOR A BETTER LIFE BY EMPOWERING OUR CHURCH FOR TOMORROW.

**THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!**

FAITHFULLY AND GRATEFULLY,  
Greg Stuart (Church Council Chair)  
John Shehorn (Stewardship Committee Chair)  
Boyd Donovan (Membership Care)  
Carí Jackson Lewis, Jeanie Severance, and Julie Elginer (Lay Leaders)  
Charles Laing, Lynn Dokken, Nancy Moravec, and Candice Shehorn (Lay Delegates - Annual Conference)  
Lee Friel (Treasurer)  
Charles Laing (Assistant Treasurer)  
Agnes Dougherty (Financial Secretary)  
Carol Ames (Communications Coordinator)  
and the entire UMCWV Church Council and Governing Board!

.....>.....>.....> **THREE WAYS TO MAKE YOUR PLEDGE!**

YES! I WANT TO EMPOWER THE WONDERFUL MINISTRIES OF UMCWV WITH A FINANCIAL PLEDGE FOR 2022!

- I will complete the enclosed pledge card and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the office.
- I will make a pledge online at <https://bit.ly/2022UMCWVPledge> and click on "Operating Budget".
- I will send an email message to Vinia at [vinia@umcwg.org](mailto:vinia@umcwg.org): "Hi Vinia! I pledge \$(annual amount) for 2022! God bless you!"

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR PLEDGE BY OCTOBER 31, 2021, CONSECRATION SUNDAY! THANK YOU!