

# OAK GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## FINANCIAL NEWS YOU CAN USE

Fall 2016



### DEUTERONOMY 15:10

YOU SHALL SURELY GIVE TO HIM, AND YOUR HEART SHALL NOT BE GRIEVED WHEN YOU GIVE TO HIM: BECAUSE THAT FOR THIS THING THE LORD YOUR GOD SHALL BLESS YOU IN ALL YOUR WORKS, AND IN ALL THAT YOU PUT YOUR HAND TO.

### WHY SHOULD WE GIVE?

When considering our giving, there are several questions we need to ask ourselves. Are we giving for the right reasons? Are we giving to keep the lights on or to advance God's word? Are we looking inward or outward? Are we giving for mortar or missions? Are we giving out of a feeling of begrudged obligation or out of gratitude? Do we give only to the ministries we agree with rather than to the overall mission of the church?

There are several reasons people don't like to give to the church. Some may feel that they need to spend the money on themselves and their families. Some may have disagreements with church leaders over how the money is spent. Perhaps some fear the future – not knowing if

they will have enough. For all the reasons, we may have for not being a faithful steward, the Bible gives us reasons why we should.

So, why should we give? We give financially to God because he has given us everything. When we give to God, we are expressing our love to him. We should give to expand his Son's church. When we give financially to God, we will become rich in every way, but especially spiritually. God gives to us so that we can give yet some more.

Every possession we have is through God. He provides for us so that we can use His resources to bring Him glory and expand His kingdom. God deserves and expects us to give to Him first before anything else. He expects us to give cheerfully and to give regularly and in accordance with our income.



### FURNACE REPLACEMENT FUNDING UPDATE



Although we are on pace to complete the repayment of our furnace loan obligation early, giving for this purpose has slowed significantly. If you made a pledge for the duration of the loan, we encourage you to continue meeting that pledge. If you have not made a pledge, we encourage you to consider helping make these payments possible and reduce the balance as quickly and interest free as possible. Keep in mind that the building fund is also in place to provide necessary funds for capital improvements to the church buildings.



Original Loan



Balance

### Welcome new staff

We recently hired a **Financial Bookkeeper to assist our Treasurer, Andrea Just**

### Meet Correne

My name is Correne Martin. I have been married for 30 years to my husband Dan. We have two children, both blessing from God and answers to prayer. Our daughter, Dani, is married and lives in Anchorage, Alaska with her husband, Austin. Austin serves with the US Army. Our son, Ben, is 17 and a junior at Hartland High School. I was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois (and yes, I am a TRUE CUBS FAN!). I love to spend time with my family, which mostly involves traveling to Ben's soccer games. I also love to knit and sew and craft. I love the Lord and serving Him anyway I can.

### **AUTOMATIC GIVING OPTIONS**

Your finance team will be looking into alternative giving options in the coming months. Stay tuned for more information on how you can support your church with automatic giving.

**AUTOMATIC  
GIVING**

### CHRISTMAS OFFERING



This year's Christmas offering will be designated for UMCOR for the relief of hurricanes this year. Please be mindful that even after these tragedies have left the news reels, there is a very real need as people and communities spend months and even years putting their lives back together with the help of people like us.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?



### DID YOU KNOW?

Money received from UMM wood cutting sales goes directly into the general fund.

Scrip orders return a percentage of proceeds back to the church - see the board in Fellowship Hall for details. If you are purchasing gift cards, consider purchasing from Oak Grove UMC - many retail, restaurant and gas cards are available. (See Andrea)

You can set up your Kroger Plus card to share rewards with your church. If you are a Kroger shopper, consider visiting the customer service desk for details.

Coming soon... your finance team will be offering blank note cards for sale in packages of 6 cards/envelops for \$4. Proceeds will go directly to the building fund.