



Steve Hart, Pastor

August 26, 2022

Dear Grace UMC Family and Friends:

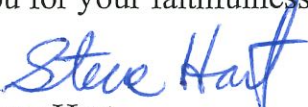
I continue to feel incredibly grateful for all that God has done for us here at Grace UMC over the past few years! Because of God's grace and the faithfulness of so many of you, we have gone from having almost \$3 million in debt in 2015 to being a debt-free church today! As we approach the fall season, we are planning for life at Grace in the remainder of 2022 and all of 2023. I am enclosing your 2023 pledge card with this letter. Please take the time to pray about what God is leading you to pledge for the coming year and turn in your card to the church office, put it in the offering basket, or mail it in by September 25, 2022. (Notice that there is a special pledge section for capital improvements, such as roofs and paving). We will have a special blessing of our 2023 pledge cards in the Sunday service on September 25.

We are requesting them by September 25 to help our leaders prepare a realistic budget for the coming year, based upon the commitments of the congregation. While our pledges do not fully underwrite the yearly budget, they do help to give our leaders some basis upon which to plan for the coming year. For years, this church has had to balance our ministry budget with a large monthly mortgage expense. For the first time in many years, God gives us the opportunity this year to devote our resources more fully to growing the kingdom of God through specific efforts to engage people of each generation. I pray that we can grow our children's ministry, youth ministry, adult and family ministry, and senior citizen ministry. A healthy budget projection begins with generous pledges. I was amazed that in the fall of 2020, we had approximately \$500,000 in pledges for 2021. What a wonderful expression of faithfulness!

When we offer God the first 10% of our income, not knowing what the future holds, we give action to our faith. We are trusting in God for our future more than we trust in our money. I believe that it is also critical to our growth in discipleship. It is exciting and liberating to watch God at work in growing His kingdom!

If you are tithing 10%, thank you. If you are not there yet, I encourage you to keep trying. Regularly increasing your pledge is a powerful step of faith.

God willing, we can plan and finalize our 2023 church budget early in the fall. Thank you for your faithfulness.


Steve Hart

Grace United Methodist Church
GIVING GUESSTIMATE

Name:(Please Print)

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email:

Home Phone:



**Yes!!! I/We will support our church
in the coming Year 2023**

**Circle the Frequency of Payment and
Indicate Your Pledge Amount.**

	Current	Capital
Frequency	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Improvements</u>
52 Weekly:	\$ _____	\$ _____
12 Monthly:	\$ _____	\$ _____
Once:	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other (below)	\$ _____	\$ _____

Signature

Date



Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization

Please indicate the frequency of the automatic draft.

- Weekly** – Day of the Week _____
- Monthly** – Monthly Date _____
- Attach** a voided check for the account from which withdrawals will be made. Withdrawals will begin in January unless otherwise specified

OR

- Simply navigate the web to www.gracemethodistmi.com and select “online giving” and follow the instructions to sign up.

Note: All withdrawals will be on the indicated day unless it is a non-banking business day in which case the withdrawal will take place on the next banking business day.