



# Be Renewed Toolkit

Practical Ideas for Living & Giving Generously



# From The Pastor

Nearly every day, we make financial decisions. Some are small: should I make my own coffee or splurge for the Pumpkin Spice Latte at Starbucks? Some are big: which house, which car, which college? Some concern the future: how much should I spend on Christmas? which retirement funds should I choose?

Probably the most challenging decision we make with money is the decision to give. Giving creates tension. We wonder, "If I give this away, how will the gap be filled?"

That's why giving is such a big deal. Nothing invites God into our lives like giving. Giving is a tangible way we declare our trust in and commitment to God. Giving opens the door for God to show up in our lives in a powerful way.

Giving is not just a financial decision; it is a deeply spiritual decision.

This generosity toolkit invites your active participation in the Be Renewed campaign. Consider how God has blessed you and how God is inviting you to trust and to move forward in that trust. Our prayer is that you will experience the power of God in your life as you seek God and God's Kingdom first, through generous giving and living.

Blessings,  
*Pastor Justin*



The most effective path to generosity is a spiritual path where you set your heart on things above. Your financial priorities will then naturally flow out of your spiritual priorities.

People often describe this as “living a generous lifestyle.” It is always a temptation to give to God in such a way that it makes little impact on how you live. The challenge of living a generous lifestyle is to intentionally and prayerfully find ways to do just that – to let your giving touch your living!

*King David declared,*  
**“I will not give to God that which costs me nothing.”**  
*(2 Samuel 24:24)*

David understood that the value of the gift presented to God is determined by its value to the giver.

A gift that would touch the heart of God must first touch the life of the giver! This is the spirit of lifestyle generosity — “If it is for my God, my gift must have meaning and value to me.”

Lifestyle generosity is a level of giving that affects you – your plans, your activities, your attitude and your approach to life. It means giving up something in one area so that you can give more of yourself in another.

During the worship service on November 22, our University UMC family will have the opportunity to celebrate God's grace and generosity as we complete our 2021 Estimate of Giving cards.

An Estimate of Giving Card and a return envelope are included with this mailing. A sample card is also shown below. If you would prefer to complete your card online, go to [universityumc.church/pledge](http://universityumc.church/pledge).

If you have a Realm account, you may also fill out your commitment there.

Login to your Realm account.

Click on *Giving*.

Click on *+ Pledge*.

Complete the pledge amount and the frequency as appropriate.

Choose *General Fund - 01/01/2021 until 12/31/2021* in the first drop-down menu.

Click *Save Pledge*.



## Be Renewed

### 2021 Estimate of Giving

Please provide information about:

- Setting up online recurring gifts
- Making a gift of appreciated assets or from an IRA
- Giving through Estate Planning (will, insurance beneficiary, etc.)



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### OUR COMMITMENT

We will trust in the Lord with all our hearts. We will honor the Lord with our first fruits. We/ I estimate giving to the Lord's work and ministry through our church next year as follows:

2021 Annual Estimate of Giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We/ I plan to fulfill this commitment:

- Weekly
- Quarterly
- Monthly
- Annually

Please print.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I understand this estimate of giving may be revised or canceled at any time at my request.

Save time and postage! Fill out your commitment card online at [universityumc.church/pledge](http://universityumc.church/pledge) or through your Realm account.

The following are creative ways to give that you may not have thought of before or of which you may not be aware.

### 1. PRIORITY BUDGETING

You may choose to rearrange your priorities and give up something in your current budget in order to grow in your giving. Priority budgeting may mean postponing a planned expenditure such as a new car, vacation, remodeling, or other major purchase.

### 2. APPRECIATED ASSETS

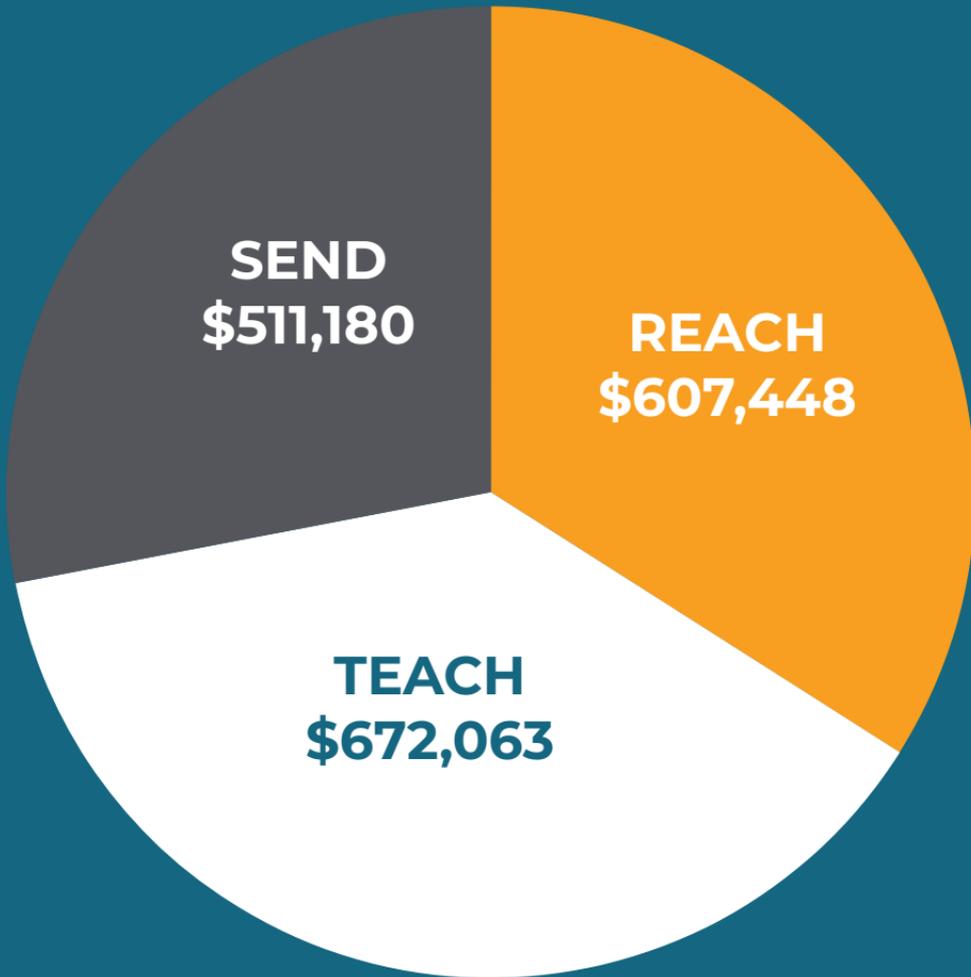
Many people own assets that have achieved tremendous unrealized gains in value over the years. That is good news. The bad news is that if these assets were sold, a significant portion of the gain could be lost to taxation. Gifts of appreciated assets – typically investment securities or real estate – can be advantageous to both the giver and the church.

### 3. IRA CONTRIBUTIONS

If you are 70.5 in age or older and have an IRA, there are certain advantageous rules for you. Please contact your financial planner or accountant to learn more about how to give in this manner.

### 4. CARES ACT IMPACT ON GIVING

In response to the coronavirus, the CARES Act of 2020 includes a clause that radically impacts giving for individuals who itemize their personal tax returns. Please contact your financial planner or accountant to learn more about how to give in this manner.



# BUDGET



## REACH

We reach our community and beyond with the good news that Jesus saves lives (Luke 15; 19:10). Evangelism, Outreach, Hospitality, Facilities

## TEACH

We teach believers through the Bible how to love God and love their neighbors as themselves (Col. 1:28, Matthew 22:37-40). Worship, Adult Discipleship, Music Ministries, Children, Youth

## SEND

We send those believers out into the world to share with others the story of how Jesus saved them (Rom. 10:13-15, Acts 1:8). Missions, Benevolence, Hospital Visitations, Congregational Care

# PERSONAL PLAN FOR GENEROSITY

## MONTHLY GIVING

ANNUAL INCOME	TITHE						
	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	12%	15%
\$20,000	\$33	\$67	\$100	\$133	\$167	\$200	\$250
\$30,000	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$250	\$300	\$375
\$40,000	\$67	\$133	\$200	\$267	\$333	\$400	\$500
\$50,000	\$83	\$167	\$250	\$333	\$417	\$500	\$625
\$60,000	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$650
\$70,000	\$117	\$233	\$350	\$467	\$583	\$700	\$875
\$80,000	\$133	\$267	\$400	\$583	\$667	\$800	\$1,000
\$90,000	\$150	\$300	\$450	\$600	\$750	\$900	\$1,125
\$100,000	\$167	\$333	\$500	\$667	\$833	\$1,000	\$1,250
\$125,000	\$208	\$417	\$625	\$833	\$1,042	\$1,250	\$1,563
\$150,000	\$250	\$500	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$1,875
\$175,000	\$292	\$583	\$875	\$1,167	\$1,458	\$1,750	\$2,288
\$200,000	\$333	\$667	\$1,000	\$1,333	\$1,667	\$2,000	\$2,500
\$250,000	\$417	\$833	\$1,250	\$1,667	\$2,083	\$2,500	\$3,125
\$300,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,750