



Hello Kingwood Methodist Family,

Each year in October, our church engages in a Stewardship Campaign that enables each of us to prayerfully respond to God's invitation to financially give towards the building of His Kingdom through KMC. Thank you for the ways that you have done so in 2023.

Enclosed with this letter is an ***Estimate of Giving Card***, allowing you to share what you believe God is leading you to give to our church in 2024. This year, we need and hope to hear from every family. Please give your prayerful consideration and ask God to guide you in how you might increase the amount that you give for 2024.

Each year presents a unique set of challenges and opportunities for our church, and this year is no exception. The good news is that you have responded, and God has been faithful! In 2023, increased generosity and our finding economies in maintaining our campus allowed us to remain financially healthy as we rebounded from the recent membership downturn. Now, we are growing in membership and small group participation. New ministries are starting and building momentum, all fueled by your giving and our church living out the reality that there is "More to Life" in Christ.

For 2024, we have a goal to support our church staff with their first raise since before the pandemic, in addition to covering the increased fixed costs in utilities and property insurance. Complicating these objectives is the absence of one-time COVID relief money that has helped fill the gap in preceding years.

On the back of this letter are our refreshed Mission, Vision, and Discipleship Characteristics that will guide us as we seek to create more places for people to serve and lead in 2024. Please give them a look, as they are intended to remind us of what it means to be and how to stay "rooted and grounded" in God's love.

Once you have completed your ***Estimate of Giving Card***, you can mail it back to the church, drop it off in the church office, or place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning. We ask that all ***Estimate of Giving Cards*** be turned in by Sunday, November 5th, 2023. Based on your response, the Finance Committee will be making decisions about our ministry budget for 2024.

Thank you for your faithful support of our church and ministries!
The Finance Committee

BUILDING ON OUR PAST AND EMBRACING OUR FUTURE . . .

MISSION: GUIDING A DEFINING WHO WE ARE AND OUR PURPOSE

We are a community of faith that invites all people to experience Jesus' life-changing love that equips them to be and make disciples who go out in faith to transform the world.

VISION: HOW WE'LL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

To MEET everyone where they are in the love of Christ, CONNECTING them to Christ and one another. To encourage everyone to GROW their faith and go out into the world, SERVING and SHARING Christ's love.

DISCIPLE CHARACTERISTICS: OUR VALUES AND GUIDANCE AS CHRIST-FOLLOWERS

- *Profess Jesus Christ as Lord*
- *Believe in and study the Bible as the Word of God*
- *Trust the Holy Spirit*
- *Pursue holiness of heart and life*
- *Live a life of prayer and worship*
- *Give generously*
- *Serve others*
- *Share the story of God's faithfulness in their lives*

Amidst the challenges of 2023, we celebrate God's faithfulness. Your giving to the 2024 Operating Budget enables this to continue:

- Welcoming over 120 new members to KMC in the last year
- Children and youth learning to read scripture, listening to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, serving others, and living as faithful disciples of Jesus in their homes, schools and community.
- Twenty-nine 3rd graders received Bibles
- Annual Youth Awaken Retreat and Fall retreat that involved over 100 youth
- Our Summer UArmy involved over 120 youth and adults
- Over 400 participated in Vacation Bible School
- "Mom's on the Grow" welcomed over 70 women
- Women's and Men's Bible Studies and small groups growing
- Loss of Spouse Seminar & Griefshare encouraging the hearts of those who are hurting
- Stephen Ministry equipping laity to serve their neighbors
- The Gathering Place being hosted at KMC to provide a break for caregivers
- Monthly Mission and Society of St. Stephen serving our world
- Sr. Adult Team Ministry creating "New Pathways" ministry event
- Our live-stream and podcasts reaching over 450 people weekly
- The Refreshing of our leadership structure to involve more people in leadership