



**What seed sown now will
provide a bountiful harvest?**

The timeless Christian principle of **STEWARDSHIP** focuses believers attention on the ways God provides for our needs and the opportunity given to each of us to provide for the mission of the Christian faith made real and alive through the mission of the church. At **BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, we believe...

- † **God's grace is a gift to everyone**, making every person a beloved child of God worthy of love, respect and blessing.
- † **Christ's steadfast and inclusive love reaches far & wide to embrace everyone**; everyone is called in his/her/their own unique way to follow and serve in Jesus' example.
- † **the Holy Spirit is our source of wisdom and courage for this time** in the life of the church as it evolves in mission among diversity of people, cultures and needs."

Take the Next Steps

1. Read this brochure and review the anticipated 2026 budget expenses & ministry needs.
2. Examine your ability to give.
3. Pray over the stewardship information & commitment card.
4. Complete the commitment card.
5. Return the card to the church office, by **Consecration Sunday, October 26**. You can also make your commitment at our website.



For more information contact:

BAKER MEMORIAL UMC

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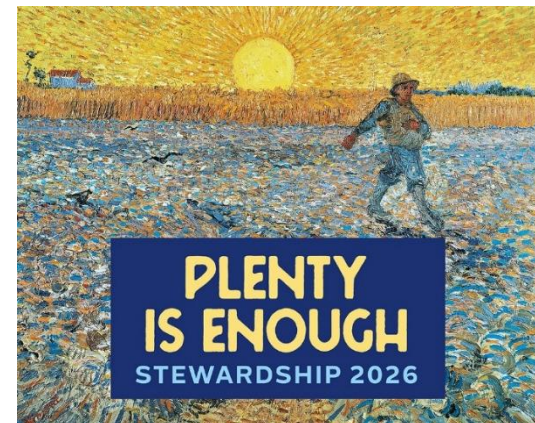
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**BAKER MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Experience Christianity for Today's World



*"And God can give you more blessings than you need, & you will always have plenty of everything. You will have enough to give to every good work."
2 Corinthians 9:8*

**STEWARDSHIP
BAKER MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



An Invitation to a Generous Commitment

What of God's gifts & blessings in your life will you dedicate to the mission & ministry of

BAKER MEMORIAL CHURCH in 2026? Your pledged gift of support helps to create an **accurate estimate of our congregation's income** for where God leads us into the future!

Preliminary 2026 Budget

The ministries of the church are supported by a budget of **\$689,700** proportioned into these categories:



Program

All ages discover what it means to be and live as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Our worship life shapes the spirit of the

congregation. It is supported by stellar music and the witness of joy and inclusion of all ages. Newly structured and adaptive learning experiences for children, youth and adults are offered weekly. Ministries of care, nurture, and connection help to build our multigenerational faith community.

Personnel & Administrative

Currently, we support a clergy pastor, full-time administrator and building maintenance manager, several part-time program staff, contracted employees for music, communication, website, and livestream worship. **We are blessed by a dedicated staff and pastor who provide leadership and**



CATEGORY	MINISTRY DESCRIPTION	2026 ANTICIPATED EXPENSE
Personnel & Administrative	Compensation for full-time pastor and staff, insurance, office expenses, internet, database system, communications, website	\$ 425,000
Buildings & Property	Insurance, maintenance, utilities, lawn care and landscaping, snow plowing, security and safety services, technology, loan repayment, cleaning and custodial, contractors & parsonage-related expenses	\$ 190,000
Missions & Service	Local & global mission support, partnerships, annual giving to the Northern Illinois Conference and the General United Methodist Church (~apportionment)	\$ 59,000
Program	Children/family/youth/adult ministries, intergenerational activities and events, Faith Food Fun, Sunday Funday, curriculum, worship and music supplies, organ & instrument upkeep, evangelism, special events, concert series	\$ 15,700
Total		\$ 689,700

care while furthering our mission.

The efficient administration of the church's ministry provides effective connection within the congregation and outward to the community.

Missions & Service

To enable the transforming message of Christ, **we are called to extend ourselves in missions here, near and far away.** We do this through our local partners: Lazarus House, Hesed House & Salvation Army as well as regional, denominational and global organizations like Midwest Mission & Cambodia Missionary. Through the



apportionment we support the work of the Northern Illinois Conference & UMC.

Buildings & Property

A well-used building requires funds for utilities, maintenance, and improvements. We are entrusted with a historic and large building. It is an event and gathering space for several community organizations. Weddings, recitals, & concerts find welcome in the building. A parsonage provides a lovely home for our pastor, too.