



## Matthews United Methodist Church Endowment Team Report to the Congregation 2025 in Review

**March 2026**

Because of your faithfulness and generosity, 2025 was a historic year for our Endowment Program.

This year marked a **record distribution of \$19,303**, directed toward unbudgeted but much-needed capital improvements to our facilities. These distributions allow MUMC to continue its mission to **Reach, Teach, Praise, and Serve** without diverting funds from active ministry to cover unexpected maintenance needs.

### **A Milestone Year**

In 2025, we received **\$28,085 in new gifts**, bringing total contributions since inception to \$733,484. At year-end, the Endowment reached a remarkable milestone — surpassing \$1,000,000 in market value, ending the year at **\$1,004,376**, including net appreciation (after management fees) of **\$140,022**. Reaching the million-dollar mark is not simply a financial benchmark. It represents a growing legacy of faith, stewardship, and commitment to future generations.

### **Year in Review Highlights**

- **Launch of the Legacy Society – “Legacy of Faith”**  
In 2025, we established the *Legacy of Faith Society*. By recognizing current donors, we seek not only to express gratitude, but also to educate and inspire others about the enduring impact of legacy giving in sustaining the church’s mission for generations to come.
- **\$2 million in future estate commitments** have been secured through bequests — an extraordinary testimony to members who are choosing to leave a lasting legacy.
- We introduced the ***Peace of Mind Brochure***, a practical resource to help families prepare wisely — ensuring that wishes, values, and assets are stewarded with clarity and care.
- Our **Annual Endowment Celebration Dinner** was held in August, featuring MUMC’s own harpist, Camille Gotta, and guest speaker Pastor Luke Maybry of Matthews Presbyterian Church, who challenged us to thoughtfully define and live into our legacy.
- The Professional Development Fund was renamed the **Chuck & Karen Wilson Professional Development Fund**, honoring their enduring commitment to leadership growth. This fund will make its first distribution of \$506 in 2026.
- Since 2020, Endowment earnings distributions of **\$63,682** have supported:
  - Bus Ministry
  - 2021 Christmas Concert
  - Choir Loft seating
  - Sound system in The Commons
  - Narthex lanterns
  - Sanctuary Reception Area furnishings
  - Sanctuary LED lighting
  - Welcome Center remodel
  - Classroom flooring
  - Renovation of pastoral offices
  - New chairs placed in the Sanctuary to better accommodate individuals with mobility challenges

Each of these improvements strengthens our ability to welcome, worship, and minister effectively.



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### Looking Ahead: 2026 Distributions

Based on current earnings, we anticipate distributing \$28,877 in 2026, reflecting a 49% increase year over year. The distribution will be allocated to the funds as follows:

- General Endowment Fund – \$13,596
- Capital Improvements & Renovation Fund – \$715
- Kenneth Conley Fund – \$9,794
- Missions Fund – \$2,265
- Ira & Anna Williams Scholarship Fund – \$2,000
- Chuck & Karen Wilson Professional Development Fund – \$506

Each distribution reflects our commitment to balanced stewardship — supporting ministry, missions, facilities, and leadership development.

### Continuing the Vision

We plan to continue and soon expand educational opportunities for our congregation in areas such as:

- Financial planning for young families
- Debt-free living principles
- Insurance and risk protection
- Estate planning and legacy preparation

Our goal is not only to grow a fund — but to cultivate a culture of wise stewardship across generations.

### With Gratitude

Thank you to every individual and family who has contributed to the Endowment Program. Your generosity ensures that the mission of Matthews United Methodist Church will continue to change lives for Christ — not just today, but for generations to come.

If you would like to learn more about the Endowment Fund or explore ways to participate, please contact Pastor David through the Church Office or complete the “Please Contact Me” form at [MatthewsUMC.org/Endowment](https://MatthewsUMC.org/Endowment).

With gratitude for your partnership in His work,

*Julie Jones*

Endowment Servant Leader