**CHURCH GIFTS**

Churches have distinct needs that align with their mission and vision. University Heights

United Methodist Church, (“UHUMC”) is no exception. UHUMC’s position is unique in that it

does not own the church building. Therefore, certain restrictions apply with respect to the

building. Additionally, certain areas of the facility are designated for use by specific entities,

namely the Children’s Center and the Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Ministry. Given the

exceptional nature of these relationships, specific guidelines are required with respect to the

donation of material goods and monetary donations. At UHUMC, material goods shall include,

but are not limited to, furniture, musical instruments, books, and vehicles.

A. Material Goods:

Material goods are not to be dropped off at the church without prior approval of the

church’s Governing Board, (“the Board”). Occasionally, the church will request a donation. In

that circumstance, if the item is in good working order and matches the request, it will be gladly

received. A receipt acknowledging transfer of the donation will be provided.

To propose a donation, please contact the board chair, pastor, and trustee representative.

Their email addresses are provided in this document. The Board will discuss the donation at its

monthly meeting to determine if (a) the material donation will further the church’s ministry,

mission and vision or (b) if sale of the item will further the church’s mission and vision.

The donor will be contacted within two weeks of the Board’s monthly meeting regarding the status of the donation. If the donation is accepted, a receipt confirming the same will be provided to the donor.

B. Monetary Donations:

UHUMC welcomes a variety of financial gifts to further our mission. The following guidance is

offered:

* If there are fees associated with the acceptance of a financial gift, the Board will discuss

said fees to determine if the donation value adequately offsets the fees.

* If a donation is determined to be in conflict with the Social Principles of the United

Methodist Church, the donor will be promptly notified so that his or her gift can be

donated elsewhere.

* It is encouraged that the monetary donation be as general as possible. When funds are

earmarked for an area where current finances are lacking, the church may not have

adequate resources to fulfill the funded goal. For example, a gift of $5,000 specified for

extensive remodeling of the sanctuary space may need to be declined if the church lacks

adequate resources for such extensive building changes or if the University of

Indianapolis does not approve said changes.

Should there be any questions regarding this policy, please do not hesitate to contact the

board chair at (boardchair@uhumc.com), the pastor at (pastor@uhumc.com), or trustee representative at (trustees@uhumc.com).