

# FIRST LOOK

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Time. Talent. Treasure.



“Do you not know that **God entrusted you with that money** (all above what buys necessities for your families) to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to help the stranger, the widow, the fatherless; and, indeed, as far as it will go, to relieve the wants of all mankind? **How can you, how dare you, defraud the Lord**, by applying it to any other purpose?”

JOHN WESLEY  
FOUNDER OF METHODISM

## LOOKING FORWARD

### LunArt Festival

*June 6 – 7*

### Pentecost Sunday

Presentation of Van Dyke/Alton  
Scholarships

*June 9*

### Wisconsin UMC Annual Conference

*June 14 – 17*

### Appalachia Service

### Project Mission Trip

*July 6 – 14*

### Camp in Community

*August 5 – 9*

## OUR MISSION

We seek to embody grace and hospitality in the manner of Jesus, nurturing our diverse spiritual journeys and joining together as a servant community to help realize a more loving and just world.

Find out more about First Church: Online go to [fumc.org](http://fumc.org)  
and follow us on Social Media



**FIRST LOOK** is published quarterly  
by First United Methodist Church, 203  
Wisconsin Avenue, Madison, WI 53703.

### PUBLICATION TEAM:

Marja Barger, Bobbi Foutch-Reynolds,  
Tricia Hillner, Earl Madden, Kathy Paul,  
Sonja Penner, and Max Wendt. For  
article submission, contact: Bobbi Foutch-  
Reynolds at [rjfoutch@gmail.com](mailto:rjfoutch@gmail.com)  
or 920.222.1824.

For membership information, contact  
Kathy Carpenter at [kcarpenter@fumc.org](mailto:kcarpenter@fumc.org)  
or 608.335.0545.



## Mark My Words...

*Time, talent and treasure.* This is the first lesson I learned about taking responsibility for the ongoing ministry of Jesus, with my grandfather as my first teacher about these matters. He was the kind of person who did not say much, so when he spoke you treasured the moment and listened deeply. And, you remembered.

A stewardship analogy is to a three-legged stool of time, talent and treasure. Through the years, my heart has been warmed to hear so many repeat the lesson I had learned while walking along with Grandpa on his evening constitutional. However, he did not begin with a stool, but with the amazing three gifts of God. “Cherish these and be grateful. Or, you will let them go and miss them when they’re gone.” Cherish these and be grateful.

*Time* seemed unlimited to me as a child. It is the sense of immortality that grows into adolescence. In those years, the psalmist’s words that Grandpa often whimsically quoted while admiring a beautiful sunset or saying good-bye to a brilliant display of autumnal woods when the leaves fell from the trees, were “Teach us to number our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom.” (Psalm 90:12). Sometimes, when we were skimming stones on the calm bayside and contemplating the vast ocean slipping beyond the horizon, he quoted, “Show me, O Lord, my end and the measure of my days. Let me know how fleeting my life is.” (Psalm 39:4)

How precious is time and the way I spend it? With whom do I spend it? In what pursuit do I spend it? Answering these questions was why Grandpa prayed every morning. He read the scriptures and sought the companionship of others who shared the faith. It is also how he ended the day – with praise. I am grateful for the walks we shared. They have taught me to number my days. Like him, I believe the body of the church is a worthy investment of my time to cherish the gift we have been given. Like him, we as the church must always focus on cherishing the gift of time we give to each other and in continuing the ministry of Jesus.

*Talent and Treasure* were always related as the material contribution of the self to the ministry of the church and our investment in the broader community of the world. My grandfather worked for the U.S. Treasury Department auditing federal banks. He had a keen talent for figures and measures. He seemed to personify the stories of the steward to whom the landowner gave “talents” to care for and invest. When I would tag along with the toolbox to learn how to maintain the summer cottage those stories of talents and gifts often came up. Building the trellis and picking the berries and grapes it produced are etched in my memory. Grandpa noted that he had a talent for figures and a gift of building things. Some are rewarded with treasure, others by the yield of fruit (ker-plink, ker-plunk as I got to drop them in the bucket).

It is also why he taught me about tithing. “Your gifts come from God.” “Some will reward your gifts with pay.” “Start giving now or it gets harder.” “You invested the gifts God gave you and will make a living.” “You begin with a gift, give a gift, give generously, give often... give because it was given to you.”

Thanks to my grandfather and the many like him who have given me so much.

*Thankfully,*  
Rev. Dr. Mark A. Fowler  
Lead Pastor, First Church



# Nancy and Carrol Spencer

Nancy and Carrol Spencer are long-time members of First Church, having joined in 1976 when they moved to Madison. They grew up in Kansas. When Carrol was in eighth grade, he and his family moved to Blue Mound, Kansas, to a farm just a quarter of a mile from where Nancy and her family lived. Carrol and Nancy dated all through high school, but actually began “stepping out” while they were in eighth grade.

**Q: That sounds interesting... tell me more.**

A: (Nancy - laughing) His folks always picked me up on the way into church, and finally, his mother said, “You gotta call her and set this up!” (Carrol) I’m not sure I was driving yet. We each went our separate ways after school, but saw each other every weekend, if we could. Nancy did nurse’s training at Kansas University Medical Center. I went to Fort Scott Junior College, mostly because I had a football scholarship. Actually the scholarship consisted of tuition paid, I’m not even sure about books, I don’t think they paid for that either, and they got you a job. But it was a start.

**Q: So when were you married?**

A: (Carrol) Sept 9, 1951. I was in the service, drafted



MAX WENDT

into the service, and was at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky. And there’s a story that goes with that. We had gotten engaged before I was in the service. We decided to delay, anyway, when I knew when it was gonna be, she [Nancy] fixed everything up for the wedding. In those days you had to have a blood test. So I got my blood test and sent it in. And Kansas City was flooded. (Nancy) Totally flooded. I worked on the 3rd floor. I’ll never forget that. National Guard surrounded our hospital. Couldn’t get anybody in or anybody out, it was that bad. And when I got on the train to go down home, they walked the track almost the whole way.

(Carrol) And I drove in on a Friday night, got home late. I was on furlough. I picked up Nancy and we

went over to get our marriage license. (Nancy) I had gone over earlier to talk to the judge to tell him that he would come in on Friday night and we were gonna be married on Sunday. And he said, "I'll meet you Saturday morning at the courthouse." (Carrol) So we went to the courthouse and the judge said, "We didn't get your blood test." Nancy had hers; didn't have mine. So the judge asked Nancy, "Well, will you marry him without it?" And I was lucky she said yes. So the judge gave us a marriage license.

(Nancy) After the wedding [a church wedding to which the whole town was invited – because they would have come anyway, she added, laughing] we had ten days and then he left for Europe. (Carrol) I was stationed in Europe and I was able to bring Nancy over for nine months of my two-year tour there.

**Q: I know you have children...were they born there?**

A: (Nancy) No, they were born in Texas. Carrol came back and he had to finish college. So I worked at a health clinic while Carrol finished his degree at Kansas State University. We had three years there. Then all three of the boys were born in Texas, because Carrol's first job was in Austin, Texas. David's the oldest, and now he's retired. I can't believe that! Neal was the next one. (The preacher that married us was Neal Hyatt, so, there's a connection there.) Then Allen is the youngest. They were all born within three years. They were close together.

**Q: You've lived in many places, haven't you?**

A: (Carrol) We had moved a lot during our career up until 1976. I showed up in town here on July 4th, 1976. Nancy was still in our house in Little Rock, Arkansas. Then she came up about a month later. (Nancy) We moved from Texas to Colorado, Colorado to D.C., then we moved to Florida, then Little Rock, then here. The boys were used to changing. We moved two of them their senior year in high school.

**Q: So, as long as you've been here, and you've been involved with First Church, tell me about the various areas of the church with which you've been involved.**

A: (Nancy) We got involved in this church because of Scotty and Acie Walters. He [Carrol] took Scotty's job here. We knew them because we'd met through different business things. So when we got here they introduced us to all their friends, and they all went here. Like Jane McGinn, and Dale Gilbert was the choir director at the time. But you see it was easy to

*But you see it was easy to get involved in this church, and we started in the choir immediately. And we'd go out after choir practice and go out and get a sundae or something. That continued for a long time. It was a good mix.*

get involved in this church, and we started in the choir immediately. And we'd go out after choir practice and go out and get a sundae or something. That continued for a long time. It was a good mix.

(Carrol) Typically when we'd move we'd spend about a year visiting different churches. It didn't matter whether they were Methodist, Congregational or whatever, we just would visit them. We came here, we visited two other churches in town and this one, and thought, oh heck, let's just go downtown. (Nancy) Well, of course, we grew up Methodists.

We've been on about every committee in the church, probably. Maybe not ALL of them. We started out with Worship Work Area. That's where you were in charge of Communion and all that sort of stuff. And Carrol was the head of Trustees. (Carrol, patiently) No, I wasn't the head of Trustees. I was on the Trustees. I'm the head of Trustees now. [Speaking to Nancy] You were head of Trustees at one time.

## PARISHIONER PROFILE

(Nancy) And I was on the Finance Committee quite a bit. Because I was treasurer out at Attic Angels, that's how they got me hooked up with the Finance Committee. And United Methodist Women. Of course the choir. I've been on the Stewardship Committee. [To Carrol] And what have you been on?

(Carrol) I'll tell it. I was on the Worship Work Area. And on the...I can't remember what it was called, maybe Friendship Committee, where we called everybody after about a month or so if they hadn't shown up again at church. (Nancy) Yes, that went on quite a long time. (Carrol) Yes, it went on as long as I was chair of it; after that they quit. And I've served on the foundation, president, chair of trustees, the latest building committee, and choir.

(Nancy) We went on 12 trips with the choir. That was so much fun. I think my favorite one was the one in England. (Carrol) Greece was probably my favorite one.

**Q: So, you've been members here for 43 years. What has been the biggest change for the church in that time, in your opinion?**

A: (Carrol) Well, probably the one big change that shows up now is building the new building. I was on that committee. That was, of course, a struggle. Trying to decide what size we could afford, because you always want something bigger than you can afford. One of the things that happened during that time was we did away with the childcare that was in the church, mostly because it wasn't really needed. That's probably the largest visual change, at least.

I think the church has always been very friendly. In fact, someone told me not too long ago, that they came here after having visited other churches, and they weren't too friendly. When they came here they said, "people spoke to us even if we didn't know 'em. Everybody here speaks to everybody."

(Nancy) One of the things that's happened over the years is that we have a lot more outreach into the community now than we did when we came. That's just kind of built over the years, the food pantry, everything we do now....that's a great addition. But I also think there's a lot of outreach to people who are in the hospital, you know. Like Jim (Ostrander) calls on people all the time. This is very important.

*I think the church has always been very friendly. In fact, someone told me not too long ago, that they came here after having visited other churches, and they weren't too friendly. When they came here they said, "people spoke to us even if we didn't know 'em. Everybody here speaks to everybody."*

**Q: This is all a part of stewardship?**

A: (Nancy) Yep. (Carrol) I guess I'd say just about the same thing she said. I'm the sort that I tend to pick up paper off the street to keep things going, things like that. But we do have a very good outreach program overall. Absolutely super. And we're in a position downtown where we're located that there's a lot of need for a lot of stewardship in terms of people and money and food.

**Q: As the church is going forward, what do you see as the church's strength(s)?**

A: (Carrol) I would like to see it grow a little more. It can be difficult being downtown.

(Nancy) I hope we can continue to keep our church and keep it moving forward with "All Means All;" that sort of thing.

*Bobbi Foutch-Reynolds,  
Contributing Writer, First Church*

# *Living into* “Downtown For Good”

**First United Methodist Church was the first church in Madison.** It has been located in the heart of the capital city – on or around the capitol square – since its inception in 1857. While many churches followed the American migration to the suburbs, (a phenomenon that began in the middle of the twentieth century) First Church has remained committed to its urban roots.

The geographical location of First Church seems to be in its DNA – the traits of which play out in the church personality, its beliefs, and missions, as well as through the partnerships that have been transferred and transformed through the generations.

The book *Downtown Church: The Heart of the City*, by Howard Edington is about “how-to-do church” in a downtown setting in the 21st century. Chosen for a book study around 2004, it spurred a congregation-wide discussion about the future of First Church and its viability and commitment to its urban location. Success for a downtown church, Edington suggests, is reliant on being relevant to community needs, being a credible partner with municipal leadership, and offering the Good News with a message and program that is inspirational, consistent, and provides for spiritual growth.

For First Church to be a successful a downtown church, a thorough evaluation of its role and an understanding of what it would take to succeed as a downtown church was necessary. It meant a significant financial investment. It meant under-

standing that to thrive as a downtown church required certain changes and conditions, including:

- creating a clear identity to communicate First Church’s intent and commitment,
- opening the doors of the church throughout the week to respond to a large range of community needs,
- serving a regional constituency but concentrating on local outreach ministries,
- building relationships within the community that allows the church both to transform human lives and, at the same time, to sustain the ability to stay put, and,
- getting involved (and taking a leadership role) in the decision-making process of the community.

This was a tall order, but one the congregation ultimately decided to take on. In 2007, the approval of a new building project sealed First Church’s future as a downtown church. At the same time, the First Church identity was defined with the tag line “Downtown for Good.” With its double meaning, this was a declaration emphasizing a commitment to the

location as well as to the community. While it remains a work in progress, First Church has transformed itself in extraordinary ways by taking steps to open the doors, build relationships, respond to community needs, and advocate for those who need a voice.

Recognizing that the church building was one of First Church’s greatest assets was key to planning the future. Opening the church doors in new ways after the building project was completed paved the way for First Church to respond to community needs, build relationships and partnerships with other organizations, and introduce First Church to many lives.

***The Arts at First Church and Hope’s Home ministries are prime examples of how First Church lives out “Downtown for Good.”***

The arts add to the richness of life and the vibrancy of downtown Madison, of which First Church is a part, so collaboration with the arts community seems natural. The church supports arts activities in many ways.





First Church began providing rehearsal space for community arts groups in the mid-1990's. There was a need for rehearsal space for non-profit arts groups like the Children's Theatre of Madison and Four Seasons Theatre.

"Sharing our building and resources has had a positive impact at First Church—bringing singers, actors and musicians into the church. These artists not only participated with their organizations, but also were a ready source of talent for First Church productions including Leonard Bernstein's *Mass*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Secret Garden*, and multiple productions of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*," says Ross Cowing, Director of Music and The Arts at First Church.



Various instrumental groups that rehearse at First Church—Black Marigold Woodwind Quintet, Madison Brass Band and Isthmus Brass, for example—provide music for worship services or provide benefit concerts for a ministry that First Church supports, such as Porchlight.

Developed in 2017, a business plan for The Arts at First Church describes a formal relationship between outside arts groups and individuals and First Church where they make donations or are invoiced for "recoverable costs" associated with building use—utilities, custodial and technical costs. "Groups come here because of the proximity to the Overture Center and the university. We have quality musical instruments, music stands and a variety of large, versatile rooms," says Ross.

Opening our doors to the arts is an opportunity to build awareness of First Church within the broader community. Audience sizes range from 15-20 people for some chamber music concerts to 400 attendees for an Isthmus Brass Christmas Concert and Greg Zelek's organ recital. Groups in rehearsal here range in size from a trio or quintet to 200 high school

singers from the Wisconsin High School Honors Choirs. During 2018, 40 groups or individuals rehearsed or performed at First Church – totaling 700 hours of use.

***Notable partnerships with the arts community include:***

- *Opera For the Young (OFTY)*, a preeminent producer and presenter of opera for children in the United States. Since 1970 they have introduced more than 2.5 million children to opera. *OFTY* rehearses in the music room for a week each fall. The youth rooms are transformed during the workweek into costume and scenery shops.
- *Isthmus Brass*, comprised of the finest professional brass players in the Midwest, is Wisconsin's premiere large brass ensemble. They rehearse at First Church and in return perform an annual fundraising concert for Porchlight.
- The First Church Chapel is the site of numerous vocal and instrumental recitals throughout the year.



Left: The Blessed Brass plays once a month at the 9 a.m. worship hour, September through May as well as using the church for rehearsal space.

Above: Last fall, The Stanislava Varshavski and Diana Shapiro piano duo played as part of an afternoon of world class performers at First Church





Hope's Home ministries involve building relationships that stem from First Church's core values. "Serving in the community with key advocates has nurtured strong, long-lasting relationships and has built awareness of First Church as a community leader," Karen Andro, Director of Hope's Home ministries, says.

Many of the partners rely on First Church facilities for their programming. "Making our building and resources available is another opportunity to serve the community and help our partners," Karen continued. "Groups come to First Church because they feel welcome and aligned with First Church beliefs and mission."

*Sonja Penner,  
Contributing Writer, First Church*



Volunteers associated with Thea's Table enthusiastically fill much-needed bags of healthy food for homeless families with children who attend Madison schools. The work takes place weekly in the First Church building.

### ***Partner groups that use or have used First Church facilities include:***

- *Thea's Table* uses First Church every Thursday to prepare and distribute food to more than 50 homeless families. Nearly half of the food storage room is dedicated to them.
- *Homeless Services Consortium* holds their monthly membership meetings at First Church when the United Way is not available.
- *Safe Communities* conducts bi-monthly suicide prevention training in Fellowship Hall.
- *VA Homeless Services* uses Fellowship Hall for their quarterly meetings.
- *The Transition Education Program* uses First Church for their six-week training program to help individuals learn how to help children and youth who are suffering the trauma of homelessness.
- *Madison Area Care for the Homeless* used First Church for more than two years to pilot and develop Foot Care Clinics for the Homeless.
- *Porchlight Men's Shelter* uses First Church from November through March for emergency overnight shelter.

Bethel Homeless Support Services  
Briarpatch  
Community Justice, Inc.  
Downtown Madison, Inc.  
Friends of the State Street Family  
Journey Mental Health  
Madison Area Care for  
the Homeless  
Madison Police Department  
Madison-area Urban Ministry  
Meriter UnityPoint  
Porchlight  
Safe Communities  
The Salvation Army  
Second Harvest Foodbank  
Transition Education Program  
Voter ID Coalition  
WisCARES

# TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

## First Church Style

If copious amounts of time, talent and treasure are the marks of a healthy church, then First Church is indeed blessed. No matter if they're called "Teams," "Committees," "Councils," or "Teachers," First Church has 64 groups of 330 individuals who volunteer their time and talents to make the ministries of the church hum. Obviously, many people serve in many capacities, as these 330 folks fill 714 "slots" on different committees – one energetic soul serves on 14!



Children and parents both enjoy participating in Sunday School in the children's classroom at 10:15. An age-appropriate discussion of Bible stories and their meanings is often a hands-on activity.

ALL PHOTOS BY MAX WENDT





Tom and Josie Goebel arrive early on Sunday mornings to prepare and serve pastries, coffee, and other beverages for Coffee Fellowship from 8:15am-11:15am.



Jim, Greg, and Corey provide vital audio and video support for First Church. With their technological skills, they enhance the look and sound of the weekly sermons, and create visual messages and reminders to keep parishioners well informed. The team also meets the multimedia needs for other First Church ministries.



The numbers behind the names of the group(s) indicate the number of people who serve in this ministry area.

***Church Council: 8***

***Resource Committees: 76***

Staff Parish Relations Committee  
Lay Leadership/Nominations Committee  
Finance Committee  
Finance Office Support  
Offering Counters  
Lay Leader  
Trustees  
Stewardship  
First Foundation  
Communications Committee  
First Look Communications Team

***Program Council: 6***

***Peace & Justice Ministries: 36***

CROP Walk  
Racial Equity Team  
Green Team  
International Ministry Team  
Reconciling Ministries Team  
Education & Spiritual Formation: 150  
Lyons Lecture Committee

***G-ETS on the Road Team***

Adult Ed Guide Team

Youth Council

Student Planning Team

Young Adult Planning Team

Library Team

Van Dyke/Alton Scholarship Committee

Teachers of Children and Youth

Young Families Ministries Team

Biblical Economics Planning Group

Teachers of Adults

Adopt-a-School Committee

Prayer Team

United Methodist Women: Tabitha Circle;

Deborah Circle

***Worship, Music & the Arts: 204***

Chamber Choir

Chancel Choir

Handbells

Blessed Brass

Sanctuary Preparation Team

Plant Care/Holiday Flowers

Communion Stewards

Liturgists

Ushers



Greeters

Curbside Escorts

Technology Team

***Caring Ministries: 90***

Keeping Connected Ministry

(Rehab/Homebound Visitation)

Hospital Visitation

Senior Social Team

Prayer Shawl Team

Card Ministry

Team Valerie

Funeral/Memorial Service Reception Team

***Hope's Home Ministries: 144***

Food Pantry

Receiving & Procurement Team

Greeting & Security Team (Wednesdays)

Community Breakfast

Come As You Are Worship

Wednesday Outreach in the Octagon

Loaves & Fishes Kitchen

Shelter Meals

Community Holiday Meals Leadership Team

Homeless Day Resource Center Meals

Sunday Coffee Fellowship

These talented volunteers and friends of the church support the church's staff in various ways. Some volunteer their professional expertise in areas of the church that would otherwise necessitate the church needing to hire consultants or staff (e.g., accounting, law, public relations, photography, graphic design, office management).

Then there's the matter of Treasure. Although Time and Talent are both necessary for the church to succeed, without a solid financial foundation, time and talent would be pointless.

The church receives money in a number of ways: through pledged giving, Sunday morning offerings and special offerings. Sometimes, a person or group using the church for a concert may donate the proceeds to the church, typically to support the arts. And, of course, there is the rare occasion when the church receives a check in the mail just because... In fact, this past winter when the Polar Vortex swept through this area and First Church received national news coverage about the church's efforts to provide food and shelter to those in need, generous people from across the country contributed nearly \$12,000

This year, 214 pledging "units" (a single individual, couple, family or any combination of the above) promised to contribute \$691,000 for the operations budget; 47 units pledged \$45,400 for debt reduction; and another 26 units have vowed to provide nearly \$30,000 for other specific ministries. Typically, these kinds of contributions make up about 75 percent of the church's total contributions.

Some pledges are received weekly, some monthly, quarterly or even annually. In the past, contributions were nearly all dropped in the Sunday morning offertory plate. Today people donate electronically, by regular electronic transfer of funds, or just "whenever" via the church website, text or app.

And, finally, an important partner in First Church's financial life is First Foundation. The Foundation distributes funds that members have donated through the years to be used for the church's ministries and programs. This year, the Foundation will contribute more than \$200,000.

**Time. Talent. Treasure.**

**First Church is blessed, indeed.**

*Bobbi Foutch-Reynolds  
Contributing Writer, First Church*



Parents can attend Sunday services knowing that their young children enjoy reading-based activities in the friendly setting of the Read N' Play Room under the direction of brother and sister Brendan and Miranda Moore. Infants and toddlers receive compassionate care in Noah's Ark Nursery.



Above: Long time volunteer Doug Knudson contributes a warm smile as he passes the collection plate during Sunday worship offertory.



Left: The friendly faces of volunteer greeters like Abby DeLong (left) welcome each person who visits First Church on Sundays. Greeters assist people with special needs and share a handshake or hug with all who enter.

## FIRST FOUNDATION:

# First Church's Vital Funding Partner

The mission of First Foundation is to... “serve the First United Methodist Church, Madison and its ministries by inviting, accepting, investing and administering enduring gifts from members and friends of the Church.”

The goal of this article is to provide an introduction and overview of the First Foundation. It is important that First Church members and friends are aware of the Foundation and how it supports our church.

First Foundation was officially incorporated on March 31, 1965. As described in the Mission Statement above, its purpose is to support the ministries of First Church. The Foundation accepts and invests financial gifts from members and friends of the church. All Foundation assets are considered *endowed* funds, unless specifically stated otherwise by the Fund Donor Agreement. “Endowed” means that the cumulative amount of principal from all contributions and gifts to these funds (the “*corpus*”) must be preserved and not distributed.

When one donates to First Foundation, the contribution is either placed in the General Unrestricted Fund or into one of five Funds to support a specific ministry area in perpetuity:

- Worship & Music
- Christian Education
- Mission & Outreach
- Property Care & Improvement
- Youth & Young Adult Ministries

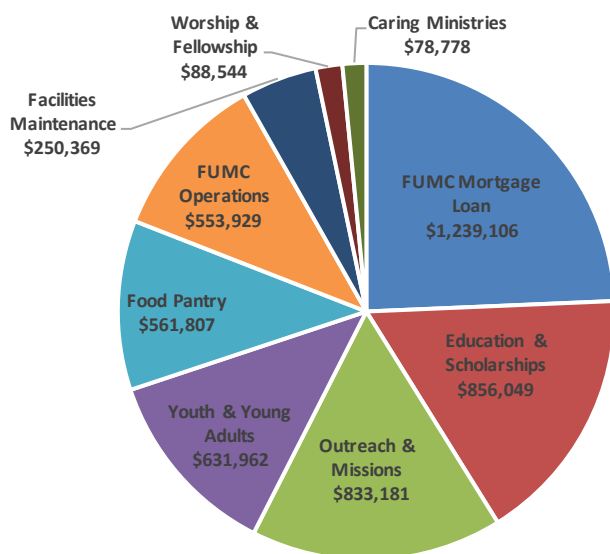
As of March 31, 2019, First Foundation has assets of \$5,093,725. Figure 1 shows the asset value of each Fund and the designated ministry area it supports. For example, Outreach and Missions has \$833,181 (16.4%) of the total assets.

Every January, the Foundation Board reviews the investment performance of the Funds and determines an earnings distribution rate for the year. Typically, it is 5% of each fund’s 12-Quarter Rolling Average Fair Market Value (FMV) on December 31 of the previous year. First Foundation makes payments to First Church on a quarterly basis.

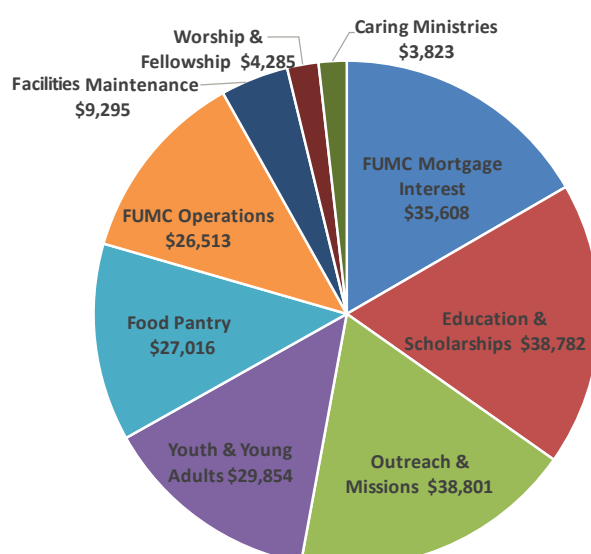
First Foundation is a vital partner for funding the church’s ministries. First Church commits to using distributions from each Fund in support of that Fund’s designated ministry area. Figure 2 demonstrates that the 2019 Foundation distributions will total \$213,977.

Donations to First Foundation give members a long-term way to support First Church ministries. The Foundation is so thankful for the many members and friends of First Church who have helped grow First Foundation to where it is today.

People who designate First Foundation in their will or estate plan are members of the **Downtown for Good Society**. Their gifts will help keep First Church Downtown for Good. To become a member of the Downtown for Good Society, simply notify the Foundation that you have included First Foundation in your will or estate plan.



First Foundation Funds by Ministry  
3/31/2019



Support Provided to Ministries  
For 2019



## **DOWNTOWN FOR GOOD SOCIETY MEMBERS**

Marion & Norm Beachley  
Joan Deming & Don Schultz  
Emily & Milton Ford  
Susan & Mark Fowler  
Kirsten Held  
Judy Lyons  
Ruth & Bruce Marion  
Alan Marty  
Marjorie Matthews  
Jane McGinn  
Sue & Ray Petkovsek  
Miriam Simmons  
Bill White

The First Foundation Board consists of nine members: Krista Tweed, President; Kent Peterson, Vice-President; Russ Lenahan, Secretary; Ray Petkovsek, Treasurer; Laura Kitslaar, Acknowledgement Chair; Don Schultz, Communications Chair; Susi Buhmann-Albert; Tom German; and Kirsten Held.

If you have questions or would like more information about First Foundation or how to contribute, please contact Foundation Board President

Krista Tweed ([krista.tweed@hbm.com](mailto:krista.tweed@hbm.com)), Rev. Dr. Mark Fowler ([mfowler@fumc.org](mailto:mfowler@fumc.org)) or Director of Finance Sarah Flanagan ([sflanagan@fumc.org](mailto:sflanagan@fumc.org)).

Thank you again to all who have donated to First Foundation, making the ministry support we provide to First Church possible.

*Krista Tweed,  
First Foundation Board President*



If you wish to make a gift to last a lifetime and beyond, you may make an undesignated gift for use by the church as needed, or you may designate your gift to one or more of the following funds:

Worship & Music Fund  
Christian Education Fund  
Mission & Outreach Fund  
Property Care & Improvement Fund  
Youth & Young Adult Ministry Fund

For more information about First Foundation or guidance in providing for First Church in your estate plan, please contact our Lead Pastor Mark Fowler at 608.234.5189 or [mfowler@fumc.org](mailto:mfowler@fumc.org); or First Foundation Board President Krista Tweed at 608.212.7823 or [krista.tweed@hbm.com](mailto:krista.tweed@hbm.com).

**The ministries of First Church are furthered by the generous financial contributions given by First Church members, friends, and the FUMC First Foundation. Thank you for your support of our mission to help realize a more loving and just world.**



BRENT NICASTRO

# Downtown for Good

It's not just **where** we are...  
It's **who** we are.

Some Sunday, skip brunch,  
and spend your morning with us.  
You'll be impressed with our service.

[fumc.org](http://fumc.org)

Downtown for Good in one respect describes First Church's location within the heart of the city of Madison. From the first church built in 1849, through its struggles in the 1990s to stay in its present location, First Church is committed to being downtown, and staying downtown.

But the more important **Good** is that which our church provides in myriad ways for the Madison community. The **Good** of the food pantry and homeless outreach ministries. The **Good** of youth group retreats and mission trips. The **Good** of the Pride Parade, Music Fellowship, and CROP walk. The list of **Good** continues to grow. Ultimately our passion for this **Good** helps us use our spiritual gifts to make a difference in our church, our society, and our world.