

## 2020 Budget

*<sup>28</sup> “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? <sup>29</sup> For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’ Luke 14:28-30 New International Version (NIV)*

At the Church Council meeting held on November 5 it was decided a draft of the narrative budget for 2020 should be shared with the congregation. A narrative budget talks about the future needs of the church to carry out its mission and ministry. This budget, compiled by the chairpersons of each work area, will require approximately a 13 percent increase in giving over 2019. This narrative is presented to you for comments. The final budget will be voted on at the December 3 Church Council meeting. Send comments to Chris Steele at [clsteele@gmail.com](mailto:clsteele@gmail.com) or share with any member of the Committee on Stewardship and Finance; Mario Ciuffoletti, Pat Daugherty, Joe Gibson, Shawna Johns, Chuck Sarver, Bob Stewart, Kay VanDervort, Pat West, or Gloria Womer.

### 2020 Narrative Budget Request

LFUMC plans to continue to provide opportunities for Growing, Loving and Serving in Christ’s name in 2020 in spite of the financial challenges we face.

The Local Administration requests \$11,705 for the 2020 budget. This amount encompasses assistance to all area ministries of the church. This covers our office supplies and equipment, postage for the majority of all mailings, the cost of making copies for services, education, reports, etc. This amount also handles our legal and professional fees, clearances, QuickBooks Online, website fees, workers’ compensation and donations to local “support” services. The individual amounts in this budget are watched closely to stay inline.

The Stewardship and Finance Team requests \$400 to cover costs of envelopes and mailings regarding contributions.

We estimate \$ 22,000 will be needed to pay utility bills for the church and parsonage. This includes electricity, gas, water, sewage, cable and Internet. The Freeport charge will continue to contribute to the cost of parsonage utilities. The Trustees have agreed to cover the cost of cleaning, lawn care and snow removal for the first six months of 2020 from the building and repair budget. An estimated \$4,250 will be needed for the last six months to keep our building clean, sidewalks safe and grass clipped. In addition to Sunday services, Bible study and church meetings, Al-anon and the Girl Scouts use our building. Having a place to meet enables these ministries to take place - Al-anon, healing people and repairing families and the Girl Scouts, building character, citizenship, and reverence.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee has recommended a three percent increase in the salary of the administrative assistant and the two financial secretaries. Pastor Beverly has

most graciously declined an increase in her salary for the upcoming year. Her salary will remain at \$49,000.

Other staff and salary:	
Administrative Assistant	\$12,300
Financial Secretary	\$ 2,900
Music Ministries Director/Organist	\$ 9,200
Treasurer	\$ 3,600

Our pastoral support allows us to keep a fulltime pastor who will be there whenever someone needs her; a great preacher, teacher, counselor and spiritual leader. The pastor is here to guide all of us to fulfill our vision statement to make disciples for Jesus.

Our Nurture Committee remains a vital and active part of this church. The Nurture Committee covers diverse areas within the church such as special events, choir, items used in worship, education and a variety of other areas. This committee focuses on the needs of the members of LFUMC. The proposed budget for this committee is \$8,000.

The Outreach and Mission Work Area has organized the strongest and most active ministries of this church. We have supported the local community by collecting items for Feed the Sheep, and Kid's Closets in Leechburg and Apollo. Until recently we provided and handed out sandwiches and clothing to the homeless in Pittsburgh. We've blessed several businesses, nursing and personal care homes, first responders, and the school staff with bagels. For several years, we met 100% of our obligation toward Rise Against Hunger. Additional outreach activities include hosting a Veteran's Day luncheon, handing out turkeys at the local grocer, and organizing the Angel Tree Giving, which provides gifts for children whose parent/guardian, is in prison. Several members of the congregation have supported each of these endeavors. The Outreach Committee plans to continue these missions along with offering support to the Hope Ministry at Sandalwood. An ongoing budget of \$125 per month should allow the missions to continue.

Witness Work Area is requesting \$250 for annual expenses. We are making "Welcome Bags" for visitors from cloth and ribbon. They will contain 11 symbolic reminders to help a person live a Christian life. An additional \$50 will allow us to purchase new Bibles to distribute to visitors and others we visit.

We also pay "apportionments" to the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church. These dollars enable us to participate in the ministry and mission of the United Methodist Church locally and globally. We are able to address the needs of individuals and families and impact lives in ways we could not do alone. We were unable to pay 100% of our share in 2019 but pray that we will be able to improve in 2020. \$21,640 of our 2020 budget is expected to go to pay our apportionment share.