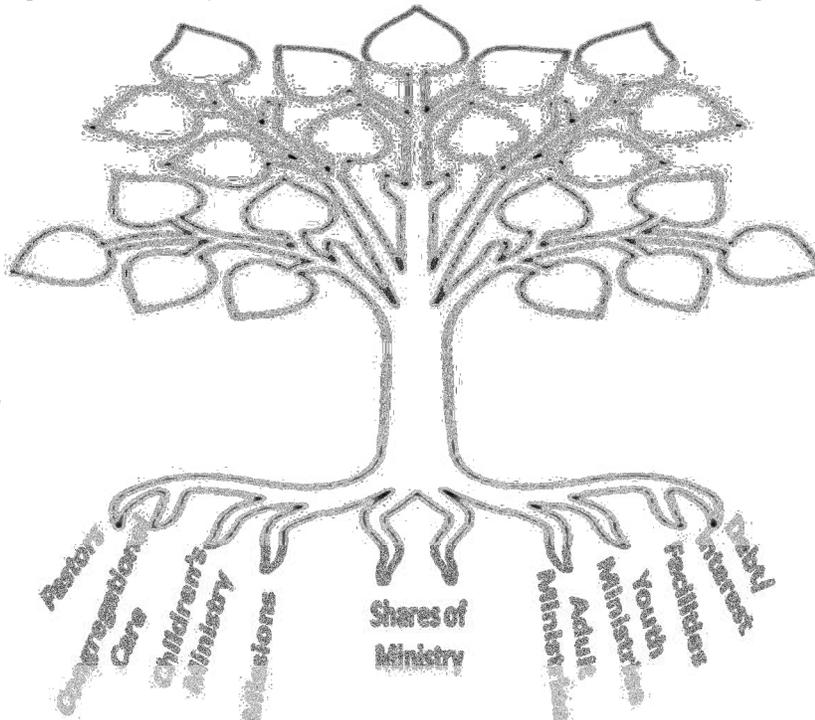


## GROUNDING IN FAITH -- GROWING TO SERVE

Over the last few years, the Finance committee has prayerfully reviewed and considered the actual annual giving, attendance trends, and the results of the budget pledge process to set the subsequent years' total budget. These annual budget decisions were made based mostly on these **Facts**. But, despite our best intentions, FUMC has only reached our budgeted giving once in the last 5 years. Balancing the budget in those years came from cost cutting, reductions in missions and ministry programs, and reducing debt payments.

With so many opportunities and needs for various ministry and mission programs in 2015, the Finance committee and the Administrative Board reached beyond their historical comfort zone and set the FUMC 2015 budget based mostly on **Faith**. In fact, we have stretched the budget about 5% beyond what facts that we would normally receive. We need your help to bridge that gap.

The Finance Committee of FUMC is pleased to announce the initiation of the 2015 Unified Stewardship Campaign called **Grounded in Faith – Growing to Serve**. The campaign will begin on April 12 and will showcase the various ministries of FUMC supported by the 2015 unified budget throughout the year. Each month through December, we will explain where the money is spent (from the Root) and how that money bears fruit for our Church (Tree). We will watch our tree grow every week as pastors, staff, committee members, and congregational leaders discuss and explain the wonderful ministry/mission opportunities during a special **“Stewardship Seconds”** portion of each worship service.



Finance FUMC is pleased the initiation of the Budget special campaign called **Faith – Growing** campaign will be and will showcase ministries of FUMC supported by the 2015 unified budget throughout the year. Each month through December, we will explain where the money is spent (from the Root) and how that money bears fruit for our Church (Tree). We will watch our tree grow every week as pastors, staff, committee members, and congregational leaders discuss and explain the wonderful ministry/mission opportunities during a special **“Stewardship Seconds”** portion of each worship service.

During April's "Stewardship Seconds", we will concentrate on the portion of our annual budget that goes to the conference as "Shares of Ministry". From local missions (such as the Children's Home, Neighborhood Center, and the Camping Program) to Global missions (such as UMCOR and Africa University), our shares of ministry combined with other United Methodist Churches help fund many valuable missions. Our Shares of Ministry also help fund the conference and global connectional ministries such as Discovery Place Resource Center, training and counseling programs for pastors and church staff, Stewardship Foundation, as well as all of the costs required to manage the local, national, and international leadership of the United Methodist Church. Starting in mid-April, be sure to listen and watch as we water and nourish the "Shares of Ministry Root". If we have roots **“Grounded in Faith”**, we will be able to **“Grow to Serve”**.