

## Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About AUMC Finance, But Didn't Know Who To Ask.

### 1. Who is the Church Treasurer and how do I reach them?

Becky Brownfield. She typically works in the church office, Monday-Friday from 7:45-2:45. Her schedule can vary though due to meetings, so you may want to call before stopping in to see her. The church phone number is 317-272-4068 and her email is [bbrownfield@avonumc.com](mailto:bbrownfield@avonumc.com)

### 2. I want to contribute to the church, but I don't use checks or carry cash; are there other ways to give?

Yes, you can set up online giving using your bank account, debit or credit card. Our online giving provider is Pushpay. Donations can be one-time or set up as recurring. Pushpay can be accessed a variety of ways:

- On the [www.avonumc.com](http://www.avonumc.com) website, go to the Online Giving tab.
- Grab your phone and text "avon" to 77977. You will receive a text back with instructions to start giving.
- Download the Pushpay app from Android Play or Apple App Store. You can also text "Pushpay" to 77977 and receive a link back to download the app. Open the app, choose Avon United Methodist Church as your giving location, enter the details and you're done in seconds.

### 3. How is my contribution used?

Your contribution is split between the church's operating and capital budget in order to meet the needs of the church and its ministries.

### 4. I've heard the phrase God's Challenge, our Choice in relation to offering; what does that mean?

God challenges us to tithe and then it is AUMC's Finance Committee's choice how to use the funds to best meet the needs of the church and its ministries.

### 5. What is the difference between Operating and Capital?

The operating budget refers to the monthly expenses of the church. This includes things such as staff payroll, utilities, custodial supplies, ministry costs (Youth, Children's Ministry, Music, Bible Studies, Health Ministries, Small Groups, Worship, etc)

The capital budget refers to major building expenses. Things like roof, carpeting, vehicle replacement, HVAC replacement, lift station repairs, etc.

### 6. Can I designate how my contribution is used?

Absolutely. You can always designate your contribution to a specific need or budget. For example, do you feel passionate about VBS, Youth Ministry, Missions, etc.? You can designate your contribution to that area. Sometimes individuals will fund specific items as well.

In addition to the Operating and Capital account, we have a variety of restricted funds. These funds are named restricted because the funds in them are restricted to a special purpose. For example, we have a Sports restricted fund. Some members of our fitness ministries donate to this restricted fund and it's utilized for replacement of sports equipment and periodic restriping of the gym floor.

### 7. On my offering envelope, building is an option. Is building the same as capital?

No. The building fund is used to offset mortgage payments on the loan we took out when we did the building expansion. It is also in place for future building needs, such as finishing off the West shell. The Finance Committee has committed to having at least \$240,000 in the Building fund, which covers one year of mortgage payments.

**8. How much is the church's loan balance? How much is the monthly loan payment?**

At the end of January 2021, the loan balance was \$3,141,138

The monthly loan payment is \$19,877.88

**9. What is the church's budget?**

The 2021 operating budget is \$1,151,000.

**10. Are the church's financials public and if so, how do I see them?**

Yes, both the monthly financials and the church budget are public. Copies of the monthly financials can be found in the white shelving unit outside of the main office.

**11. Are there other ways to help out the church financially, besides through offering?**

Definitely. Shopping at Kroger and/or Amazon can earn extra money for AUMC. You can find more information on how to sign up for these shopping programs on the church website. These money earned is used to fund unbudgeted expenses.

- Kroger – If you shop at Kroger, you can choose to have Avon UMC as your Community Rewards partner. Then each time you shop, we receive a cash donation based on the percentage of purchases. Note, this does not affect your savings or fuel points in any way.
- Amazon Smile – Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Amazon purchases must be made at [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and you have to select Avon United Methodist Church as your charity. Amazon Smile carries the same products as Amazon, but we only get credit for the purchases through the Smile site.
- Donation Boards – at times, such as leading up to VBS, we will put out donation boards. Selecting an item from the donation board that you would be willing to purchase and bring in helps to keep expenses down for the ministry.

**12. For events that may have a fee associated with them (VBS t-shirts & CDs, etc.), how do I pay?**

You can pay a variety of ways:

- Put a check in the offering plate. Please make sure to write what you are paying for in the memo line.
- Pay by cash in the offering plate. Please make sure to put the cash in an envelope with a note, stating who is paying and what they are paying for.
- Drop off payment in the church office between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- Use Pushpay online giving. Select "other" as the fund you wish to give to and then put in the provided box what the payment is for.

**13. Do you send out contribution statements?**

Yes, we send out contribution statements in June and again in November. You can also access contribution statements through the aumc.me portal on our website at any time. An added bonus to signing up for aumc.me is that once you are a member of that portal, you can download the Church Life app on your phone. The church life app gives you the church directory and the schedule at your fingertips.

**Have more questions? Don't hesitate to reach out to Becky for any additional information.**