

**Proposal for above budget donation to Centre County Food Bank**

In response to increased food needs due to grocery inflation and the recent lapse in SNAP benefits, UMC should make a one-time, above budget donation to the Centre County Food Bank of \$1,000.

**Background and Rationale:**

1. This proposal comes in response to a suggestion from one of our members that UMC should use funds we are not paying for pastor's salary to help those around us who are in need.
2. The UMC budget already takes into account salary savings in that the salary and benefits portion of our budget is reduced by 25% compared to last year. The income side of our budget is also substantially reduced compared to last year due mostly to decreased pledges and also decreased interest rates. Our current budget shows only a \$3,210 surplus.
3. The suggestion to give additional donations to help those in need came when SNAP benefits had stopped due to the government shutdown. Now that benefits have resumed the need is somewhat less pressing.
4. We may realize greater salary savings than are projected in our current budget. If this occurs, we can consider making additional donations later in the fiscal year. We normally do this at the end of our fiscal year if carryover funds exceed 20% of our budget.