



In His Steps 2025

GENEROUS

TOWARDS JESUS



FIVE FORKS
METHODIST CHURCH

To Know Jesus And Make Him Known



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HIS TITHE, OUR OFFERING

In Malachi 3, God challenges us to test Him to “bring the whole tithe into the storehouse and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”

DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TITHE AND AN OFFERING?

“Tithe” means ten percent of your income. A tithe is giving a tenth of your gross income back to the work of God. An “offering,” or generous giving, is over and above the tithe. A tithe is what God commands us to give (Malachi 3:8-12). Offerings are something that you decide, after searching your heart, to give beyond the tithe, but not in place of the tithe (1 Timothy 6:17-19). They include your additional offerings to the church such as: debt reduction, missions, or gifts to institutions other than the church. Examples would be charities, universities, etc.

WHY SHOULD I TITHE?

The quick answer is because God tells us to (Malachi 3:8-12). The long answer is more about the priorities in our lives and trusting the Lord. In Matthew 6, Jesus said “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also...No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” Jesus tells us how to set our priorities when it comes to money.

HOW DO I TITHE?

“On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income.” (1 Corinthians 16:2). At Five Forks Methodist Church, we have different ways you can give: in the offering basket, drop box at the front of the church, online through Realm (you can do a one-time gift or set up a recurring gift), or through appreciated stocks, bonds or real estate.

For financial information, E-mail Christi Yenser, Director of Finance & Administration, at finance@fiveforksmethodist.org



2025 BUDGET

THIS PAST YEAR

God continues to do miraculous things through Five Forks Methodist Church and the greater Simpsonville community! This year, persons have come to faith in Jesus Christ for the first time, or we see them recommit their lives to Him. We see children, youth, and adults continually on campus and in the community being fed spiritually through Five Forks Methodist Church and going out to serve. Our adults go deeper in prayer, worship, Word, and deed. Our senior adults find a place of fellowship, love, and grace. Five Forks Methodist Church is on track to receive more than \$800,000 in 2024.

OUR GOAL FOR 2025

With the possibilities in front of us right now, our 2025 church budget goal is \$973,350. In order for us to do all that God is calling us to do in 2025, let us all be united by doing our part through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Included in our part for the 2025 budget is our church staff whom each of you has grown to love and appreciate. They are our front-line missionaries in Simpsonville and beyond. This group of dedicated and called-out individuals want to be in the Five Forks Methodist Church community, want to serve alongside you, and be in an intentional relationship with you that is real and personal. We are blessed to have a staff that serves persons from nursery through senior adults. They, along with you, are the Gospel ministry as we spread God's love, grace, and mercy to each and every person within and outside the walls of Five Forks Methodist Church. Missionally, we seek to serve locally in the Greenville area, in the state by planting another GMC church and globally through the Global Methodist Church initiatives.

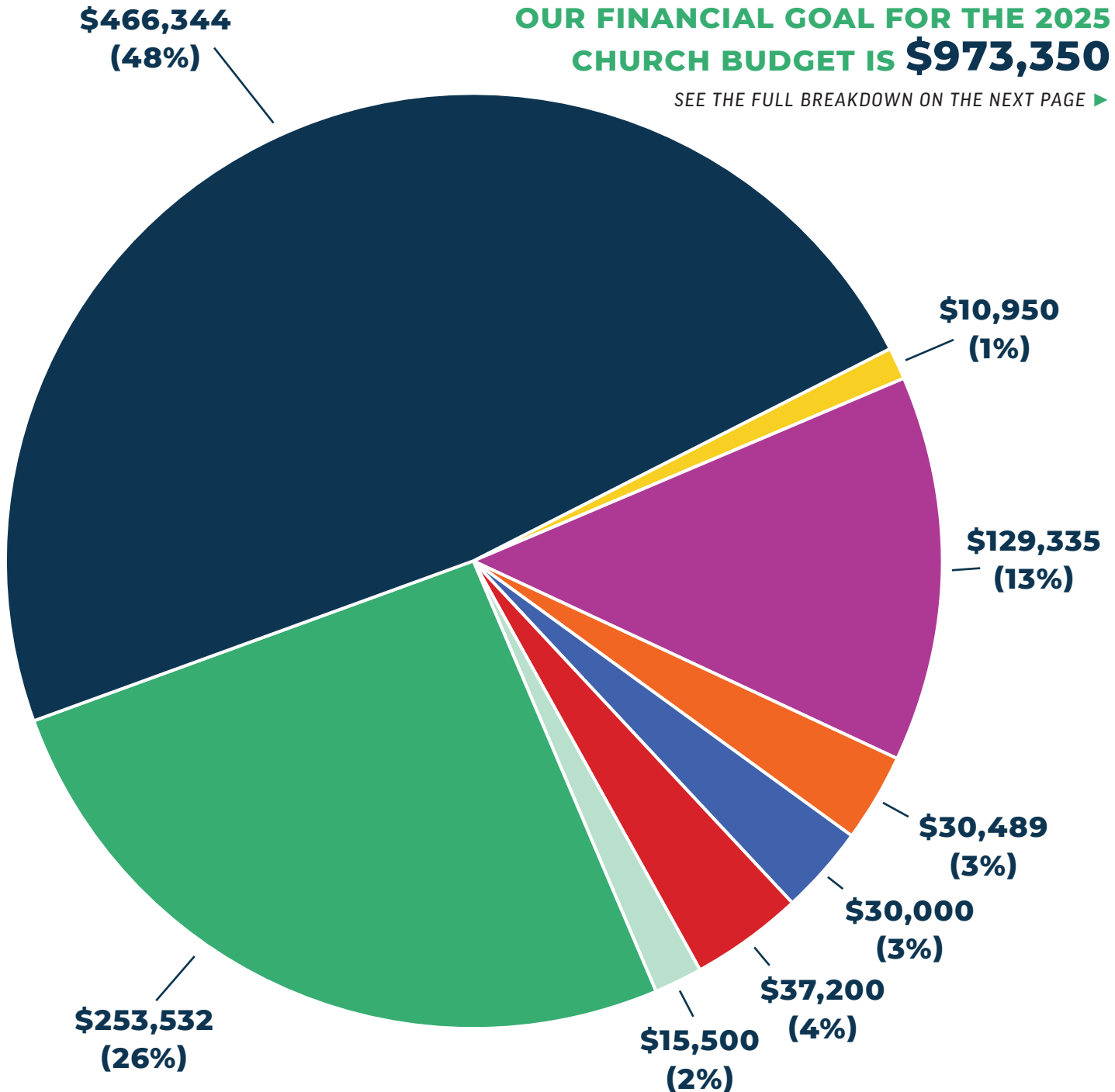
HOW DO I HELP?

What will your part be in God's vision for Five Forks Methodist Church in 2025? Pray how God may use you, your family, and your spiritual & financial gifts in building up the Body of Believers. Reflect on the blessing God has given us and how we can do our part to give sacrificially. You are vital to the ministries of Five Forks Methodist Church. Please consider how God plans to use you in 2025 as you view the commitment cards included in this booklet.

TOTAL ESTIMATED 2025 CHURCH BUDGET

OUR FINANCIAL GOAL FOR THE 2025 CHURCH BUDGET IS **\$973,350**

SEE THE FULL BREAKDOWN ON THE NEXT PAGE ►



2025 NARRATIVE CHURCH BUDGET

Our financial goal for the 2025 church budget is \$973,350. Below is a brief description of our anticipated ministry goals and expenses for Five Forks Methodist Church.

■ Our Board of Trustees projects a property and grounds budget of **\$253,532 (26%)**. This amount does include our lease agreement requirements, utilities, and general maintenance for our current location.

■ Our technology line item includes anticipated costs for additional computers for future staff, website maintenance, subscription services, and additional equipment upgrades in the amount of **\$15,500 (2%)**.

■ Our nurture ministries include music, worship, hospitality, and adult small groups (Journey Groups). This accounts for **\$37,200 (4%)**.

■ Our children and youth ministry areas are in their fledgling stages of growth. We anticipate a budget amount of **\$30,000 (3%)**. This will allow us to meet and exceed both the present and future needs of both our children and youth ministries.

■ Our office administration line item includes all the necessary functions for running an effective church office. The line item amount is **\$30,489 (3%)**.

■ Outreach through servant evangelism (missions) is the way that we touch and transform lives in our community and world. This budget line item includes monies for local, state and global initiatives along with a 4% connectional giving amount that supports both the Global Methodist Church (1%) and the Global Methodist Church of South Carolina (3%). The total amount to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world is **\$129,335 (13%)**.

■ This event-focused line item includes seed money, advertising, community events, Behold (annual conference gathering), and evangelism efforts in the community. This amounts to **\$10,950 (1%)**.

■ Our Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) continues to identify and hire for both present and future needs of our congregation as we continue to grow spiritually and numerically. We currently have a staff of three full-time employees (appointed GMC Pastor, Worship Director, and Director of Finance & Administration). The SPRC is currently in the search process to hire a full-time Director of Family Ministries that will support our children, youth, and adult discipleship ministry efforts. Our hope for 2025 is to hire a full-time director of communications and a part-time children's ministry director mid-year. Our personnel budget line item is **\$466,344 (48%)**. This includes salary and benefits for each of these staff positions (both present and future).



1% CHALLENGE

At Five Forks Methodist Church, we want to help each of you to be able to tithe 10% of your income. The 1% Challenge is designed to help everyone increase their giving by 1% each year until they reach 10%. We have laid out 10 simple steps to follow and get you there. Please take a few minutes to set God as a priority and step through this. An example is provided below.

1. Say a brief prayer for God to help you determine what you should give from your heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion (2 Corinthians 9:7).
2. Write your Annual Gross Family Income here _____.
3. Write the amount you currently give each week _____.
4. Multiply the number from step 3 by 52 and write in this blank _____.
5. Divide the number from step 4 by the number from step 2. This is the percentage that you are currently tithing. Currently tithing _____.
6. If you are not at 10%, then here is your challenge. Add 1% to the number in step 5. This is your goal for 2025. Goal percentage _____.
7. Now, to figure out how much that 1% increase is in dollars, divide the number from step 2 by 100 and write that here _____.
8. Now add the number from Step 4 to the number from Step 7 and write that number in this space _____.
9. Take the number from Step 8 and divide it by 52. That is how much you should give each week to help you take on the 1% Challenge. (Repeat this yearly until you are at 10%) Weekly giving goal _____.
10. EXTRA CREDIT - Now go to Five Forks Methodist Church's Realm and set up a recurring gift for the amount you determined, and TRUST GOD!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

JENNIFER YARBROUGH & WENDY OATES

IHS@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

All persons serving in Children's Ministry must agree to have a background check completed and be Ministry Safe trained (provided by Five Forks Methodist).

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday Morning at 9:30 AM – CM1

Children's Ministry volunteers provide a safe, nurturing space where kids, ages 3-2nd Grade, engage with Bible stories and hands-on activities. We offer curriculum, training, and supplies, requiring just one hour of your time once a month, along with minimal preparation. Join us and witness our children's spiritual growth in a secure and loving environment!

Sunday Morning Support Team – CM2

Children's Welcome Desk Volunteers are a warm, welcoming presence to help parents check-in their children for nursery and Children's Ministry, keep things organized in the halls, and assist as needed during worship. Children's Ministry will provide you with the training, and supplies. The commitment is one Sunday per month, along with some basic preparation. If you are welcoming, interested in sharing ministries, and passionate about making a real impact in the lives of our youngest members, we'd be thrilled to have you on board!

Nursery – CM3

Nursery Volunteers work with infants to three-year-olds. They play a crucial role in creating a nurturing, safe, and secure environment for our youngest members. Your responsibilities include engaging with the children to ensure they feel loved and cared for during their time in the nursery. This commitment involves serving one Sunday per month, with minimal preparation, making it a manageable yet impactful opportunity to contribute to Five Forks Methodist.



ADDITIONAL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Children's Ministry Team – CM4

Becoming a Children's Ministry Team member is your chance to inspire and shape memorable moments for kids in our community and Five Forks Methodist. You'll be part of organizing special events such as the Fall Carnival, Birthday Party for Jesus, Easter Egg Hunt, and themed nights, all while nurturing our children's spiritual growth. We ask for a one-hour commitment once a quarter to attend planning meetings - your dedication will be greatly appreciated and will help create meaningful experiences for children.

Vacation Bible School Team – CM5

You're invited to be part of the VBS Team, a dedicated group committed to planning, coordinating, and organizing our exciting VBS event in July of each year. We offer numerous opportunities for you to contribute, such as serving as crew leaders/assistants, greeters, registration leaders, and more! Join us in creating a memorable and spiritually enriching experience for children and families.



YOUTH MINISTRIES

KELLY BLACK

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All persons serving in Youth Ministry must agree to have a background check completed and be Ministry Safe trained (provided by Five Forks Methodist).

SUNDAY NIGHTS

Greeter – YM1

Youth Night Greeters welcome students at the door as they arrive for Youth Night from 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM.

Ministry Safe Volunteer – YM2

Ministry Safe volunteers are essential to the Youth Ministry! To make sure we are protecting our youth and following the Ministry Safe guidelines, there must be more than one adult with a valid background check and be trained on our Ministry Safe policy. That is what our Ministry Safe volunteers are there to do. Ministry Safe volunteers also have the opportunity to connect with the youth and lead small group discussions if they so choose. The time commitment for Youth Ministry is from 5:15

PM - 7:15 PM. on Youth Nights at least once per month. Ministry Safe volunteers who want to lead a small group are asked to volunteer at least two Sundays a month.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Special Event Volunteer – YM3

Youth has many special events throughout the year. Events may include 5th Quarter Events, Quarterly Off Campus Events, Meet Ups, and Outdoor Activities. The time commitment for special event volunteers varies by event.

Retreat Chaperone – YM4

Youth goes to various retreats and mission trips throughout the year. Some of those retreats and missions include Rooted, Serve the City, and Salkehatchie Summer Service. Retreat chaperones join the youth on these trips to provide supervision and connect with the youth as they learn more about Jesus. The time commitment for retreat chaperones varies by event.

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YOUTH MINISTRIES

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Bible Study Host – YM5

Bible studies are a great way to dive deep into Scripture with our youth. Bible Study hosts plan and lead a bible study for a particular age (ex., middle school girls, high school boys, co-ed high school, etc.) group outside of the church. This can be in their home, at a local coffee shop, at a local park, or at another local destination that works for your group. The time commitment for Bible study hosts is flexible and will vary by group.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Mentor – YM6

Each year, our 6th – 8th graders go through the confirmation process to learn about the church's beginnings, what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus. The

confirmands need to have a relationship with someone who is committed to Christian discipleship and who can be honest and open about their faith. This is the role of the Confirmation Mentor. The time commitment for each Confirmation Mentor varies. Mentors are asked to meet with their confirmand at least three times, attend confirmation sessions when possible, sit with their confirmand during worship when possible, and stand with their confirmand and their family on Confirmation Sunday. Confirmation sessions start in January and continue through Confirmation Sunday in May.

Youth Ministry Team – YM7

Becoming a Youth Ministry Team member is your chance to inspire and shape memorable moments for our youth in our community and Five Forks Methodist. You'll be part of organizing special events all while nurturing the spiritual growth of our students. We ask for a one-hour commitment once a month to attend planning meetings - your dedication will be greatly appreciated and will help create meaningful experiences for students.



JOURNEY GROUPS

(SMALL GROUPS)

STEVE FOGLE

IHS@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

Journey Group Facilitators/Leaders – JG1

Facilitate faith and Bible-centered discussions and activities for an adult Journey Group during our fall and spring semesters. Training is provided twice each semester. Church-approved curriculum list will be

provided. Time and involvement will depend on each Journey Group. Journey Groups are in a 6-to-8-week rotation.

Journey Group Participant – JG2

Participate in a weekly or monthly journey group. Groups begin in the fall, winter or spring of each year. Journey Groups last from several weeks to several months. Interest surveys are provided each semester to gather groups.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

CHURCH OFFICE

IHS@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

Meal Team – CC1

Help provide a meal or reception for the family of church members at the time of the funeral/memorial service. Prepare our purchase of a food or beverage item, help with set-up, host/serve, or clean-up. This is an as-needed basis in coordination with our church office.

Adopt A College Student (Caitlin Sanders) – CC2

Help us show our college students how much we care

for them by 'adopting' a college student. Throughout the school year, send them cards of encouragement and care packages! Time commitment is determined by the volunteer.

Adopt A Senior Adult – CC3

Help us show our elders how much we care for them by 'adopting' a senior adult. Talk to them on Sundays, send them cards, letters, or call them throughout the year to check on them and give them encouragement! Time commitment is determined by the volunteer.

PRAYER MINISTRY

SUSAN MARTIN

IHS@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

Prayer Group – PM1

Wednesdays at 5:30 PM at the church. Send prayer cards to individuals and families.

Congregational Prayer Team – PM2

Pray from home for the needs of our members, church staff, and ministries when requested. Prayer requests are

emailed to you, and the time commitment varies based on the specific prayer request.

Prayer Shawls and Lap Blankets (Nanci Istock) – PM3

Prayer shawls and lap blankets have been an intricate part of church ministry. They provide warmth and comfort to the recipient. Those who create and deliver the shawls pray over them and for the recipient. Time commitment is determined by the volunteer.



SERVANT EVANGELISM (MISSIONS)

TIM STEELE

IHS@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

Servant Evangelism (Missions) – MT1

Be a part of the team who plans and coordinates all servant evangelism opportunities throughout the

world. This group helps determine how the overflow offering will be used to help aid and spread the Gospel locally, nationally, and internationally. The missions team will initially meet monthly and then move to a quarterly meeting format.

HOSPITALITY

BECKI FOGLE

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Greeters – HM1

Be the smiling face each Sunday as our family members and guests arrive to be a part of our worship service. There is a rotation schedule. Help guests connect to various ministry groups within our church.

Parking Lot Team – HM2

Be the first person that guests and family members meet when they come onto our campus at Five Forks Methodist. Help guests and young family park and arrive to the children's area and worship area.

Special Events Team – HM3

Be a part of the group who helps coordinate, plan and execute special events after our worship time. These events are quarterly.

Emergency Response Team – HM4

Team members are responsible for responding to medical emergencies on Sunday mornings when needed. Must be basic first aid, CPR and AED trained. Team members will be responsible for providing basic first aid, performing CPR and use of AED as needed until the first responders can assume care. Time commitment will be on a rotation basis one Sunday per month.



MUSIC AND WORSHIP

KYLE BRAZELL

WORSHIP@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Chancel Choir – TW1

Participate in the FFMC Chancel Choir. No audition is necessary; however, the ability to read music (or learn to read music) and commit to weekly rehearsals are essential. Weekly rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Additional time is required for special seasons such as Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter.

Children's Music – TW2

All persons serving in this Ministry must have a background check completed and be Ministry Safe trained (provided by Five Forks Methodist). Participate in worship throughout the academic year (September-May). The choirs are for children K5 through 5th grade and meet every....(TBD) during the academic year. Music for Children focuses on the role of music in worship through scripture, hymn studies, hand chimes, Orff instruments, and choral singing. Children offer musical offerings in worship throughout the year for special services and an annual Christmas worship service.

MODERN WORSHIP

Worship Team – MW1

Participate in the 9:30 AM worship service. Auditions are required. Positions needed weekly include vocalists, lead and rhythm guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, drums, percussion, or additional instruments approved by the Director of Worship. Weekly rehearsals are on Tuesdays

at 6:30pm (1 hour), as well as personal practice time throughout the week. Scheduling is on a monthly basis, and worship team members can be scheduled as much or as little as desired. Additional time for special seasons such as Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter.

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Altar Guild and Sanctuary Stewards – WM1

Altar Guild members serve FFMC worship services. The rotation schedule is a 1-month commitment on a yearly basis or as needed based on the number of volunteers. Altar Guild members are paired in teams of two persons and are responsible for changing paraments (as needed and seasonally), refilling candles with oil, and other seasonal tasks. Time commitment is approximately one to two hours weekly. Sanctuary care for our worship spaces is needed on a weekly basis. Sanctuary Stewards care includes replenishing supplies in the chair racks (pens, Connect Cards, envelopes, prayer cards). Rotation is generally one to two times per month for 30 minutes, depending on the number of volunteers. Children and Youth are encouraged to participate in the Sanctuary Steward Ministry

Advent Decorating Team – WM2

The Advent Decorating Team gathers the week before Advent each year to adorn the church campus with beautiful greenery, wreaths, flowers, Christmas Trees, and a Chrismon Tree. Decorations are taken down following Epiphany Sunday. The Coordinator for Advent Decorating schedules the various teams to work in tandem to decorate the church campus.



MEDIA MINISTRY

KYLE BRAZELL

WORSHIP@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

Media Production Team – MM9

Provide broadcast quality, hands-on technical and creative support for worship services and other events (weddings, funeral, concerts, VBS, meetings, and special

church events) by operating software for presentation, audio and lighting consoles, and various video cameras. Experience with computers, cameras, theater, or video production is helpful but not required. Comprehensive training is provided. Rotation is one Sunday per month for Worship Services. Support for other events is on an as-needed basis and varies by event.

COMMUNICATIONS

AMANDA CHARLES

INFO@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

Communications Team – CT1

Assist the current communication volunteers and the future Communications Director with copy writing, copy editing, photography, graphic design,

social media, and/or website design. At times, assist with print materials and handouts, setting up banners, or other communications needs for Special Events. Time commitment varies by project, but we do ask you commit to liking and sharing all public social media posts. Meeting as a creative team will be as needed.





OUR FUTURE MATTERS TO GOD

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

CHRISTI YENSER & DALE YARBROUGH

FINANCE@FIVEFORKSMETHODIST.ORG

Our church is excited to be at 901 Holland Road in Simpsonville. The lease for our current location is for the next 28 months. Our Building & Location Team is looking for land for our church to build on and expand in the Five Forks Community. The team has looked at more than fifty properties that are both on and off the real estate market.

We are asking for you to help us achieve the goals below by committing to give towards our capital campaign for the next three years. On your commitment card, you will have the opportunity to give a yearly amount to this effort for the next three years.

Our monetary goal for land acquisition is \$1.3 million dollars. We are currently raising this amount. You can give directly to the capital campaign at any time online or Sunday morning worship.

Once we acquire the tract of land, we will begin our building program. Our building phase will range in cost from \$4 million to \$6 million.

These two phases of expansion will involve a town hall meeting for the congregation, a charge conference vote, a church conference vote and much prayer.

