



SOUTH WEST DISTRICT
THE FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
The United Methodist Church
The Rev. Thomas L. Shafer, District Superintendent
Sandy Voigt, Administrative Assistant

January 7, 2021

First UMC
388 First Ave S
Naples, FL 34102

Re: 100% Apportionment Giving in 2020

Dear Rev. Mayeux and the congregation of First UMC,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior! I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Florida Conference and the SW District to express our deep gratitude and appreciation for the leadership and commitment your church has shown in paying 100% of your 2020 apportionments! Thank you!

Apportionment giving in a time of economic uncertainty and complexity is a sign of commitment to the mission of God through the United Methodist Church that is not always easy to accomplish, and we are well aware of that. Your faithfulness in fulfilling your financial responsibility towards our UMC connection is to be commended. Apportionments are a key part of our life together as members of this denomination.

The main way we support the ministries of the church is through our apportioned funds, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the churchwide budget to conferences and local churches. For United Methodists this method of giving has become a strong, generous tradition.

Together, through our connected congregations, we accomplish what no single church, district or annual conference could ever hope to do alone. In this way, each individual, each family, each congregation gives a fair share for the church's work. We combine our prayers, presence, gifts and service to make a significant difference in the lives of God's people.

We understand a 100% giving in apportionments reflects the commitment of the Pastor and a strong Leadership Team. Together, you have made a difference that will have an impact on people, churches, ministries and communities around the world.

We are grateful and proud of you and your church for honoring your financial commitment to our UMC's mission, vision and values, and pray for God's continual provision for all your needs, both spiritual and financial.

In Christ's amazing grace,

Thom Shafer
District Superintendent

*Thank you for your
leadership and faithfulness!*