Settle Memorial United Methodist Church

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November 6, 2026

Dear Settle Memorial United Methodist Church Member,

"Now…it's our turn." That call to action was at the end of all nine "Forward In Faith" capital campaign video testimonials shown over the last couple of months. In those videos…fellow Settle Memorial members shared what they love most about our historic church. Some stories were from decades ago…other experiences were much more recent. All of them, however, spoke of how God has blessed us with beautiful worship and programming spaces—from the iconic sanctuary and chapel with the splendor of beautiful stained-glass windows to the more modern and contemporary spaces such as the Shepherd Center and the Renewal and Outreach Center.

The "it's our turn" call to action reflects on the courage and faith of Settle Memorial saints dating back to 1880 who sacrificed and had deep faith in God when construction began on our earliest buildings at 4th and Daviess Streets in Owensboro. Our "Forward In "Faith" capital campaign is intended to preserve, repair and maintain our church structures for generations to come. Settle Memorial's trustees have painstakingly worked to identify "needs" versus "wants" or "wishes". A list of the most immediate "needs" identified are included with this letter. Estimates for completion of these projects total $2.5 million.

Please also find enclosed a "Forward In Faith" capital campaign pledge card. You will note there are a variety of ways to assist in this vital campaign—from one-time gifts, to pledged giving over the course of three years, or even transfers of appreciated stock. As Settle Memorial's Finance Chair…I want to assure you that Pastor Mark Dickinson and Settle Memorial Church Administrator Alecia Meyer run a tight ship. Every dollar is stretched to the max and "doing more with less" is an everyday mantra. With this in mind…please know we are making this request of you to be above and beyond your ongoing financial support for Settle Memorial. I also want to mention that we dug deep into our legacy/memorial funds in order to cover our deductible and to supplement insurance proceeds for repairs resulting from the devastating March 2025 hailstorm.

Sunday, November 22nd (just days before Thanksgiving) will be Commitment Sunday for our "Forward In Faith" capital campaign. Please prayerfully consider your commitment, complete the enclosed pledge card and bring it with you to worship on November 22nd for a combined service. We will worship and praise God together! There will also be a special time dedicated during the service for reflection and prayer at the altar where we will, as one combined Settle Memorial Church family, go "Forward In Faith" and leave our gifts/pledges. Gifts/pledges can also be left in the offering plates on Sunday, November 8th and Sunday, November 15th. Gifts/pledges can also be mailed to the church office.

In closing…I know how daunting the $2.5 million needed for these repairs and renovations to our beautiful church facilities is to all of us. I'm reminded, however, of a quote from the late and great Helen Keller—"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Now…it's our turn.

Your Brother in Christ,

Keith Sharber
Finance Committee, Chair