

WHAT IS FAITH PROMISE?

Faith Promise is what we call our collective community prayer during the year:

“Lord, how much would you give through me that you would not normally give to me for the sake of healing the world in Jesus’ name?”

As we pray this prayer, we trust God will provides “extra money” to us. We bring that “extra money” to the church. Our collected Faith Promise Funds are then sent out, 100%, to support our mission partners locally, regionally, and globally. This is giving above and beyond our regular, proportionate financial support of the ministries of First Church. The Faith Promise Fund is administered by the Outreach Committee and distributed according to their proposed spending plan for the year.

HOW DOES GOD ANSWER THIS PRAYER FOR “EXTRA MONEY?”

Most frequently, it seems, God provides this extra money in one or more of three ways when we begin to pray:

1. Re-aligning our personal budget so that funds formerly spent in other ways can be re-directed to the Faith Promise Fund.
2. New opportunities to produce income.
3. Unexpected money that “shows up”.

WE ONLY SPEND WHAT GOD PROVIDES TO US.

The Outreach Team only expends the monies we have actually received. No money is taken from other church revenue. No emergency appeal will be made. As God provides in response to our prayers, and as we individually pass along the money through our Faith Promise gifts, the Outreach Team sends out support to our Faith Promise partners. Generally, authorization is made for payment on a quarterly basis.

Outreach Team

Jill Kuhns • Joan Davis • Jacki Carrasco • Diana Friske • Michael Friske • Pam Lovejoy • Deb Heath • Julie Horvath • Beth Janczak • Jaynie Lawson • Brad Perkins



OUR MISSION PARTNERS

FROM **LOCAL** ^{TO} **GLOBAL**

PROPOSED FAITH PROMISE SPENDING 2024

Adult Spring Mission Trip \$2,500

Each spring, we take a team of adults on a short-term mission trip to aid communities needing support for poverty, disaster relief, and basic needs.

Appalachia Service Project \$20,000

ASP makes critical home repair and replacement options available for families in Central Appalachia. Each year, in September, a men's team from First Church serves at one of these projects.

Bethany Hope House (AFRICA) \$10,000

Back2Back Ministries provides love and care for orphaned and vulnerable children aging out of the orphanage and helps them transition to independent living at a residential family-style home.

Buddy Break \$3,000

Buddy Break provides a safe place every other month for special needs kids and their siblings to have fun and establish friendships with other kids and First Church Volunteers while their caregivers get a break.

Coventry School \$2,500

First Church is in partnership with Coventry Elementary school to provide the teachers, families and students with needed supplies.

First Church Quilters \$500

A volunteer group creates quilts that are used in Sherman Hospital's Special Infant Care Unit. Funds are used to purchase supplies that are not received through donations.

Food Ministries (Mobile Truck, Food Pantry) \$22,000

First Church provides groceries and volunteers every Friday for those in need (\$18,000) and supports the Crystal Lake Food Pantry (\$4,000)

Habitat for Humanity \$5,000

First Church partners with Habitat to build or improve homes in the Crystal Lake community. We provide funding for operational expenses as well as continue to send monthly teams to build on-site.

Home of the Sparrow \$2,000

Homeless women and children from the Crystal Lake area are provided with housing, shelter, support services, outreach and crisis prevention.

Interfaith Mental Health Coalition \$650 - PENDING

The Interfaith Mental Health Coalition is a McHenry County cluster of a larger Chicagoland initiative that seeks to educate all faith communities about mental and behavioral health.

Joy In The Harvest (AFRICA) \$2,000

Works to spread the Gospel in Africa among muslim communities by translating scripture, preaching through local, relevant media campaigns, and treating maternity patients through clinical counseling.

McHenry County CROP Walk \$150

Area churches collaborate on fundraising walk with proceeds being used to end hunger worldwide and help stock our local food pantry. These funds go to administrative costs.

Preschool Scholarships \$5,000

These funds are administered through the Preschool to assist under-resourced families with tuition.

Refuge for Women \$6,000

Refuge for Women is dedicated to empower sexually exploited women to live a life of freedom through faith-based, residential healing programs. Funds are used to maintain around-the-clock trained, compassionate staff to ensure each resident feels safe, supported and loved as they engage in their healing journey.

Retreat & Camp Scholarships (FIRST CHURCH YOUTH) \$5,000

Helping children and youth from First Church attend mission trips, retreats, and camps by providing support for those who may not have the means to participate otherwise.

Summoned2Serve \$20,500

An all-church Sunday morning event where we pack 100,000 meals in partnership with Kids Around the World to provide nutrition to challenged populations abroad.

UMCOR \$5,000

United Methodist Committee on Relief responds to natural disasters and humanitarian crises around the world to bring restoration and hope.

World Relief Chicagoland \$10,000

World Relief works with local churches to provide support and resources for refugees displaced by violence, injustice, and extreme poverty.

TOTAL FAITH PROMISE BUDGET: \$122,300