



Dear Sterling Friends:

The past couple Sundays we have been having conversations about God's money story as we examine and pray about our own giving for the new year.

You and I have a story. Some parts of the story are difficult; other parts are beautiful. Your story unfolds during your life and stretches across all aspects of your life, including your faith and financial resources.

This fall, we invite you to consider your story, particularly your money story, as we work for the future of your ministry at Sterling UMC. We invite you to be part of what happens next in your own story and in partnership with God at your church.

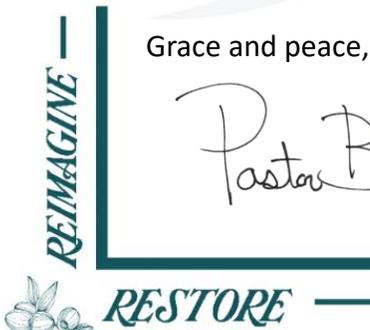
Each Sunday in November, you'll be invited to discover our money stories in light of God's money story of liberation, freedom, justice, and wholeness. I'll be reflecting on this in sermons, but you will also have other ways of considering this, including devotional reflections, the arts, journaling, group conversations with me, and more.

We are also inviting you to estimate how you will empower Sterling UMC's ministry through giving and service. Plans are being made for our next ministries in 2024, and adding your estimate of giving makes a huge difference in thoughtful, faithful planning. You can send your estimate at any time, but it would be very helpful to make it by November 26<sup>th</sup>.

You may have received a guide with estimate information and a card that you can use to let us know your estimate for 2024 in the mail last week. If you didn't and you would like one you may contact the office at [general@sterlingumc.org](mailto:general@sterlingumc.org) or you can also find an online form, a devotional journal, a giving calculator, and more helpful information at [sterlingumc.org/our-money-story](http://sterlingumc.org/our-money-story). As part of this, we have given a chart where you can locate your current giving level compared to the rest of the church. How does this fit with your story? What impact would adjusting your giving make?

Finally, thank you for continuing to give and make a difference. God has much more for us to do and has dreams for the impact we can have with our neighbors. Please join me in praying with an open heart for our next steps and the work before us.

Grace and peace,



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