

Living our Values at Blakemore United Methodist Church

This year, as a community, Blakemore has continued to live into the values to which we believe God is calling us. #WeAreBlakemore and with God's help we can do more than we ever dared dream.

Looking to 2018, we plan to continue to provide quality programming and ministry while being good stewards of the tithes and offerings given by our community. Below you will see a narrative description of our preliminary budget, and on a different sheet of paper you will find a line item budget. The budget looks very similar to 2017 with a few items of note. We are asking the congregation to give about \$9000 more in 2018 (see line item 4100). This is to cover our stair-step commitment of increasing \$10,000 per year toward our apportionments until we can give 100% of what is asked of us to support ministry across our conference and the world. The other noteworthy increase in expenditures is for our Pastoral Intern, but we anticipate covering this expense through income from the Endowment Fund.

We Value You...Just the Way You Are

Blakemore lives this value by:

- Providing a weekly depression support group open to the community
- Hosting 7 different 12-Step Groups weekly
- Supporting a dedicated Nurture Committee that regularly reaches out to all congregational shut-ins providing prayer as well as physical support for those in need

Total budget for this value in 2018: \$38,980

We Value Kids...Their Energy, Questions, Creativity, and Love

Blakemore lives this value by:

- Providing MORE Kids, a rich and diverse Christian education program for children of all ages including loving Sunday School, nursery and infant care, Wednesday night programming for children, and worship readiness for younger children.
- Offering StART from Scratch Camp (an art-focused vacation bible school open to the community).
- Supporting an active and engaged group of youth through Sunday School, Sunday afternoon and Wednesday evening programming, mission trips, church-wide and conference-wide retreats, and fun events.
- Supporting a nationally accredited Child Care Center widely seen as one of the best in the city
- Supporting an active troop of Boy Scouts

Total budget for this value in 2018: \$58,973

We Value a Good Conversation...and the Many Thoughtful Opinions about How to Walk a Faithful Journey

Blakemore lives this value by:

- Hosting a variety of regular community-building functions including Wednesday night meals, Tuesday Morning Table Talk discussions, and several small house groups
- Facilitating on-going conversations on race and community with Clark Memorial United Methodist Church
- Providing weekly newsletters, a vibrant Facebook community, an engaging and informative website, and other platforms to connect people to one another

Total budget for this value in 2018: \$44,688

We Value Our Neighbors...from West End to Uganda

Blakemore lives this value by:

- Supporting Raise the Roof Academy through shared space, support for Hike to Heal, and sponsoring 26 children in a village in Uganda.
- Providing a weekly newsletter available via email, Facebook, and hard copy mailed directly to the home
- Feeding the hungry who come to our door on a daily basis
- Clothing those in need through our Nearly New Store clothes closet and thrift store
- Providing shelter to those without through Room in the Inn during the winter months
- Helping children have a safe place to be and a focus on maintaining and building their literacy skills during the summer through Project Transformation
- Making Christmas possible for families with children who otherwise would not have the resources through the Last Minute Toy Store

Total budget for this value in 2018: \$56,980

We Value Life...As Forgiven and Reconciled People in God's Grace

Blakemore lives this value by:

- Offering weekly communion with an open table
- Supporting a diverse and vibrant weekly worship experience

Total budget for this value in 2018: \$55,944