

## **Miracle Sunday Campaign FAQ Questions and Answers**

### **1. What is the monetary goal of the campaign?**

The target goal of the Miracle Sunday Open Door Campaign is \$150,000, proportionately divided among the four "Pillar Funds" as described in the brochure.

### **2. How many members does our church have?**

Our church is supported by about 110 contributing households. This number represents about 400 members and friends of the church.

### **3. In terms of the "Close the Gap" portion: has the budget for 2009 been examined and trimmed?**

Yes, stringently. When the "gap" between the church's needs and the proposed pledged income first became apparent, the already bare-bones budget was carefully examined and reduced, in careful consultation with all committee chairs. All program areas, from the Pastor's compensation package to the landscaping allocations, to each committee's budget were rolled back, just short of disheartening repercussions to our dedicated staff and volunteer leadership, and to the Sunday morning experience.

Some expenses, like insurance and our apportioned payments to the larger mission of the United Methodist Church, are not able to be cut.

The budget had been sacrificially cut back before this campaign began.

### **4. What exactly does the Crawford House do?**

Crawford House is a "half way house", a place of recovery and training in life skills for women recovering from drug and alcohol addiction. It is located just down the street from our church. The "triumphant women of the Crawford House" are truly our neighbors - spiritually and physically. They have become part of our church family.

### **5. Doesn't the Crawford House have other sources of funding?**

Yes, it does. Government and foundation money cover many basic needs. However, some very important needs are going unmet, especially due to recent cutbacks in the Crawford House budget.

### **6. What exactly will we be trying to do to help the women at Crawford House?**

The **Abundant Life Fund**, the fourth Pillar of the Miracle Sunday campaign, will help with 1.) medical and dental treatment payments for women who are not eligible for Medicaid; 2.) new "work clothing" - white shirts and khaki slacks for instance, and personal clothing items; 3.) needed food items; 4.) occasional recreation opportunities, such as a movie or bowling - things the rest of us might take for granted - are simply not affordable to them during their six month stay without help from a fund like this one.

### **7. Can I support just one or two of the "Pillars?"**

Yes. Just notate your preference on the "My Part of the Miracle" card, along with your gift, and it will be apportioned accordingly.

### **8. Is Miracle Sunday and the "Open Door Fund" part of the stewardship campaign for 2010?**

No. There will be a regular "Consecration Sunday" stewardship campaign this fall as there is every year.

**9. What if the goal of \$150,000.00 is not reached?**

We are hoping for success on Miracle Sunday. We are hoping not to have to scale back the projects. However, even if we fall short of our target goal, all monies collected will be allocated proportionately across the four Pillar funds and used as promised.

**10. What if more than \$150,000.00 is raised?**

If more than the goal amount of \$150,000 is raised, we will all jump and shout a great Hallelujah.

Seriously, if the goal amount exceeds the needs of the campaign, the Administrative Council will solicit suggestions from the congregation as to how those funds may be spent.

**11. Is my gift tax deductible?**

Yes.

**12. What if I can't be there on Sunday June 14th?**

You are welcome to mail it to the church. Gifts mailed in advance of Miracle Sunday are especially helpful. Please be sure to memo your check, "Miracle Sunday".

**13. Can we give after June 14th?**

The Miracle Sunday goal date will enable us to begin our work and help our neighbors right away. But if this is not possible for you, please know that your gift is always appreciated.

**14. Can I combine my regular Sunday offering with my Miracle Sunday gift in the same check?**

**Please** use a separate check for your Miracle Sunday offering! This will greatly help our accounting process.

**15. How should I make out my check?**

Please make out your check to "Montgomery UMC" or "MUMC". **Please** be sure to memo the check, "**Miracle Sunday**".

**16. Can I contribute stocks or bonds?**

Yes. Please call Mass Barnes (908-251-7673) for more details.

**17. Will the donors and honorees be recognized?**

Yes. We intend to recognize the names of the donors and their honorees in a lasting, visible and dignified way. Of course, we will honor the wishes of those who wish to remain anonymous.

**18. If I have a question that is not addressed here, or if I need more information, is there someone I can speak with?**

Yes. Please call Miracle Sunday (and Finance) Chairman, Mass Barnes (908-251-7673) or Pastor Tony's cell phone (908-295-2252) with any questions you may have.