



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking,



## COMMUNITY OF HOPE 2020 MEMBERSHIP & FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

***Because of you,  
our church changes lives!***

### Commitment through Membership

Membership is a not a static condition but rather an active commitment. In that spirit, we ask for an annual membership renewal. Each person who wishes to be a member of Community of Hope for the coming year, with its attendant privileges and responsibilities, is asked to sign below. To the extent they are able, members covenant to:

- regularly attend worship and the celebration of the Lord's Supper;
- grow in faith;
- share in the life and ministry of the Church;
- provide financial support for the Church's ministry and mission;
- contribute to the spiritual welfare of the membership and community.

**Yes, I intend to be a member of Community of Hope in 2020, and ask God to help and guide this commitment.**

No, not at this time.

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **I/we have also made a membership commitment to Advent Lutheran.**

*Those who wish to be members of Advent Lutheran in addition to Community of Hope should also fill out Advent's commitment form.*

Stewardship pledges will be received in worship on **Sunday, November 3**. However, you may turn them in to the church office in hardcopy or electronically any time before then.

# Stewarding What We Hold in Trust for God

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Our giving supports the mission and ministry of God as it is embodied through our congregation, the Madison Christian Community, and the wider church. We are called to be faithful and effective stewards of our time, talent, and treasure. Generosity is a vital spiritual practice, a response to an abundant and generous God. Our faithful contributions allow us to be bold together in covenanted ministry as transformational agents with God for the sake of the world.

## **Because of *you*, our church changes lives!**

We, together, touch the lives of many, both within and beyond our walls. Our love impacts neighbors across the street and around the world. In what ways has your own life been transformed as a result of your participation at Community of Hope, Madison Christian Community, and the United Church of Christ?

May you prayerfully discern how you are being led to share your blessings of time, talent, and treasure.



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## Commitments of Time & Talent

- I/we have reviewed and updated my/our Time & Talent offerings in the online Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP) tool.**

**-OR-**

- I/we need assistance with the Time & Talent process in the following way:**

- Please have someone contact me at: \_\_\_\_\_  
(phone or email)

- I/we have filled out a paper Time & Talents form and would like office staff to update my MSP profile based on my selections. I have included that form here with my pledge information.
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# Commitments of Treasure

*Confidential page for the Community of Hope Treasurer*

**General Fund**—supports *all operational expenses* of Hope’s ministries, including our share of the MCC operational budget and our portion of basic UCC support.

I/we pledge toward the **General Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year

**Designated Mission Giving**—giving beyond the congregation for specific programs with which Hope has a long-standing relationship. We give to each based on actual monies received. *Note: checks for these during the year should be made out to Community of Hope, with the name of the program in the memo line.*

*Backyard Mosaic Women’s Project* \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year

*Haiti Allies* \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year

*Harvest of Hope* \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year

*Lussier Community Education Center* \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year

*Madison Area Jail Ministry* \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year

*Madison Area Urban Ministry* \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year

***Special Fund***

*Used for urgent needs in our community  
such as rent, utilities, etc.*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year

I/we have prayerfully discerned and joyfully offer my/our gifts for God’s ministries, understanding that I/we may increase, if able, or decrease, if needed, this estimate of giving at any time during the year.

**Signature(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**I desire information about adding legacy giving to Hope through my will.**

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## As Followers of the Way of Jesus We Are ...

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stewards of the Gospel</b></p> <p>For Christians, being stewards of all life begins with being stewards of the gospel. It is in the gospel that we find the meaning of our lives and the purpose of all our endeavors. The word "gospel" comes from the Greek word meaning "good news." This was the word used by the New Testament writers for the great announcement by Jesus of what God was doing for humanity.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stewards of Self &amp; Family</b></p> <p>Being a steward of one's own life means being responsible in caring for the body and developing the mind. It means being responsible in whatever we do for a living and in how we use money and possessions. And it means being responsible for cultivating the life of the spirit within our own household and extended family.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stewards of Earth &amp; Space</b></p> <p>Caring for earth and space as the basis of life and as the household in which all humanity must live, protecting the environment against all forces that abuse it, exploit, or threaten to destroy it.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stewards of the Church &amp; Its Mission</b></p> <p>The stewarding of the life that comes to us through God's grace is the mission on which we are sent as the church. The abundant life for all is the exciting vision for which the church exists and labors as the stewarding community. The abundant life in the Gospel according to John is equated with the "kingdom of God", and Jesus is presented in the Fourth Gospel as the bearer of that life.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stewards of Society &amp; Humanity</b></p> <p>Being stewards of our society means using our time, energies, and money for directly aiding the afflicted and bringing about justice. But it also means keeping stewardly vigilance over the formulation of tax policies and the expenditure of our tax dollars at local, state, and national levels. The money we pay in taxes, as all of our money, is an extension of ourselves and should reflect, as far as we can have any influence, our values and beliefs. Our stewardship of society is to be a caring and a vigilant stewardship.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stewards of History</b></p> <p>We are stewards of history when we move into the margin of freedom that we have as individuals and groups to initiate creative acts, foster, reconciliation, generate good, and open up new chapters in history. Above all, we are stewards of history when we acknowledge that it is God who makes both creation and history possible, that God is in the processes of life and in the order of things, providing new beginnings and new opportunities for bringing good even out of evil.</p>