BUDGET FAQS

HOW IS THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETERMINED? The Elders study the needs of the church for the coming year. A close evaluation of last year's spending is done along with an estimate of future giving for the coming year. Ministry plans and desired budgets are received from various ministries and considered. The final proposed budget is presented to the church and voted on by members at our annual meeting in December.

HOW DO YOU DECIDE HOW MUCH TO GIVE EACH MINISTRY? Some of the questions currently used to determine budget allocations are: (1) What was spent the previous year? (2) Are we balanced overall in our efforts to fulfill our purposes? (3) What are the ministry needs, goals, and priorities for the coming year? Major Ministry Directors (children's, students, men's, women's, etc.) are asked for their ministry goals and a total budget amount for the year. They are responsible to budget and manage funds for their ministry.

WHERE ARE THE PASTORS' & STAFF SALARIES IN THE BUDGET? All staff salary and benefits are reported in the "staffing" category. Due to the sensitive nature of a person's compensation, we do not openly publish individual salary information.

HOW ARE THE PASTORS' & STAFF SALARIES DETERMINED? The Non-Staff Elders meet to determine the Pastors salaries. Nationwide surveys comparing the size of church, budget, location, and other factors help to determine what compensation is fair. Experience, education, length of service, and ministry performance/effectiveness are also considered.

IS THERE OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO ME? Though we are not required by law, Southwinds has an open book policy so any financial information is available to members upon request at the church office, with the exception of the contribution records of others.

HOW CAN I SUPPORT SOUTHWINDS FINANCIALLY? We offer two primary methods of contributing to Southwinds:

online

Visit swcurrent.org to give, or log in to set up a recurring gift

on campus

Place gifts in offering bag during service or mail contribution