

This calendar year, the Church of the Red Rocks has been blessed with two significant, unanticipated financial receipts. The sale of the lower parking lot to the City of Sedona at the end of June netted the church a little over \$1.6 million. And completely by surprise, earlier in the year, we learned that we were eligible to apply for a government refund under the Cares Act. At the end of July, we received a Cares Act reimbursement check for \$123,263.

At this point the Church Council, in consultation with FEAM and the Transition Team have invested the money received from the sale of the lower parking lot in short term CDs. Since the Transition Team is finalizing their report, which will lead to the organization of a Search Committee; the two committees and Church Council have decided that it is best to wait until the Settled Pastor is in place, before we engage in a discernment process for the use of this ministry and mission enhancing receipt.

The Church of the Red Rocks received the reimbursement from the Cares Act because we did not lay anyone off during the COVID shutdown. Since we recently received the money transfer, the Finance, Endowment and Ministry Committee at its August meeting recommended to the Church Council to make a \$25,000 donation to the Hawaii Conference UCC in support of their ongoing relief/recovery efforts in response to the devastating wildfire in Lahaina. The Council decided that the remaining amount of money will be invested. As with the money from the sale of the parking lot, FEAM and the Church Council will take a prudent approach to deciding how best to move forward, all the while keeping the congregation informed and included in the decision-making process.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please contact one of your Church Council members. We are here to listen. In this time of transition, there is much to be grateful for as God continues to bless and challenge us into the future.

Peace and grace,

Pam Stabenfeldt Church of the Red Rocks, Moderator

If you feel moved to give monetary assistance to the Maui wildfires, our UCC Southwest Conference has suggested that donations be sent to the Hawaii Conference directly.

This can be done by going directly to their website: hcucc.org
Or mailing a check to:

Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ 700 Bishop Street Suite 825 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

