



unfinished...

GROWING IN FAITH // TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY

manchester  umc



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...being confident of this, that God who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

- PHILIPPIANS 1:6

From Our Pastor...



What's your purpose in life? What are God's dreams for you? How can your life make a difference?

Finding answers to these questions is THE exciting thing about being a Christian. We are works in progress, shaped by our prayers, reflections and experiences. In other words, new chapters are yet to be written in the novels which are our lives: WE ARE **Unfinished!**

This fall our whole church will focus on helping each disciple begin a new chapter in her or his life. Our worship services will invite you to go deeper in such areas as trust, character, and amazement. The devotional in this booklet will highlight such themes, and feature the life stories of interesting Biblical characters. You will be invited to make this Bible study and reflection not just a part of your regular routine, but a catalyst for making daily life-changes.

I believe that as we commit to going deeper in our discipleship journey together, truly amazing things will happen in our church. You'll read about priorities God's placed before us for the coming years. These will enable us to reach out in dramatic ways to folks both inside and beyond our walls.



This learning is important because our church, too, is "unfinished." As you and I write new pages in our lives, we'll help God write new chapters for Manchester UMC as well. God WILL transform our church and community in new ways.

This transformation will take place if we have 100% engagement in this Unfinished series. No matter who you may be—new member, long-time member, regular attendee, younger or older—you are loved and you are important. I SO look forward to our journey together this fall!

Pastor Greg

Pastor Greg



Building History



1960's groundbreaking of the education building.

1984

Construction of administrative offices, marble narthex, youth and music rooms was completed.

1826

John Ball, founder of Ballwin, donated the first permanent place of worship to the Methodists.

1856

Construction of the brick Chapel.

1965

The education building was completed and connected to the Chapel.

1999

The new Sanctuary was consecrated on Feb. 14.

1798

Methodists begin meeting in our area.

1837

The congregation built a frame church on Woods Mill Road.

1969

The Sanctuary was consecrated on May 11

1993

The 1856 Historic Chapel was renovated and a re-dedication service was held on Dec. 4.

God has done amazing things through Manchester UMC in the 200+ years of our existence. No one in 1798, or at any of the defining moments of our history, would have dreamed of what we have become today. We are a vibrant 3200-member church following God's call to make a difference for Christ in our world.

Last year alone, approximately 8,000 lives were touched by Manchester UMC thru 25 different ministries. We saw people baptized, people join the church, people faithfully give, and more people than ever participating in faith formation classes and small groups. So far this year, we have reached over 25,000 people in social media efforts alone, and were featured on every major network TV station in St. Louis.

Our message is resonating because we are unique. Manchester UMC is not only a place to worship, it's also a place to grow in faith, to find like-minded friends, and to truly transform our community through meaningful ministry. But, God is not finished writing our story ... we remain **Unfinished**.

The chapel in 1856.



The congregation in 1942.



Unfinished...

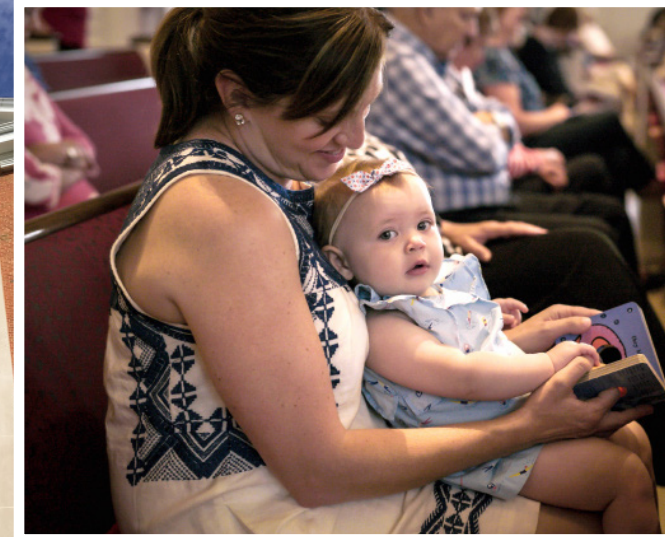
Growing in Faith ... Transforming Community



Unfinished is a two-year generosity initiative in which we will learn both individually and as a church what it looks like to understand that God isn't finished with us yet. It is a season where we are being called as a church to faithfully follow God's leading in our lives. Today, God is presenting us with quite possibly

one of the most life-defining moments we have ever been presented with as a church. We believe God has a vision for Manchester UMC to be an impact church, a church who transforms the landscape of our community, our region, and the world.

But it all begins with us. God is calling us to live lives of abundant generosity. To be a part of "Unfinished" means to be prayerful, listen to God's calling and direction, and be faithful and obedient to what God asks.



Specifically, God wants us to accomplish three things over the next two years:

- 1. Unfinished Missions** - expand our missions outreach, renovate our Youth Room, implement live video streaming, and transform our library into an inviting coffee house to reach local residents.
- 2. Unfinished Ministry** - continued investment in operational systems and people to fulfill our core mission of equipping the people of God for service in the kingdom.
- 3. Unfinished Church** - Let's face it, our church building is aging. We need to be good stewards of God's house by reducing debt and replacing inefficient & aging heating and cooling systems, controls, and lighting.

Writing the next chapter in our church's story begins with us. God is calling us to live lives of abundant generosity. To be a part of "Unfinished" means to be prayerful, listen to God's calling and direction, and be faithful and obedient to what God asks.

Won't you join us? Help us write the next chapter together as we live a life that is **Unfinished**.

Unfinished Mission

Our Two-Year Ministry
Investment Goal:

\$7,530,000

Unfinished Missions - \$2,195,000

Over the next two years, our goal for missions/outreach programming and projects is \$2.195M which includes capital investment of:

- \$190,000 - A new **Missions Facility** that will allow more lives to be impacted for Christ with the gift of a bicycle, transforming community with healthy activity, and practical transportation for neighbors in need. This space will serve as a first step in a vision to grow mission and outreach facilities that serve the people of God.
- \$30,000 - A newly renovated **Youth Room** that will offer a safe, fun and welcoming environment for our youth to grow personally and spiritually.
- \$75,000 - **Live Video Streaming/Audio Visual Upgrades**. This is a new frontier that can dramatically extend the reach of our message to community neighbors, the homebound, and potentially thousands more who are desperate for hope in their lives.
- \$198,000 - A new **Coffee House with Outdoor Patios** that will offer a welcoming space for people from the surrounding community, people who may never darken the door of a church otherwise...and will be an attractive meeting space for church friends, family, and small study groups.
- \$725,000 - **Apportionments**.
- \$977,000 - **General Mission** program funds, labor and administrative expense.



Unfinished Church & Ministry

Unfinished Ministry - \$4,635,000

An investment of \$4.635M in the operational systems and people that support ministry implementation is vital to fulfilling our core mission ... equipping the people of God to grow in faith, share the Good News, and offer a fruitful witness for Christ. This foundation for outreach includes day-to-day infrastructure like equipment, utilities, maintenance, supplies and innovative programming led by dedicated staff. MUMC's ministry team keeps our campus open and inviting to God's people as we continuously grow and improve ministry programming and missional service opportunities.

Unfinished Church - \$700,000

Let's face it, our church building is aging. We need to be good stewards of God's house.

- \$500,000 - Replace inefficient/aging heating and cooling systems, controls, and lighting. In the end, our estimated energy savings will free approximately \$40,000 per year for further ministry work. *Phase I of IV.*
- \$200,000 - Continue to reduce our debt so we're free to do ministry wherever God leads us.

Generosity Pathway



FIRST TIME GIVER

An First Time Giver is someone who decides to give for the first time, out of a response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trust God and the leaders of the Church with this gift.

OCCASIONAL GIVER

An Occasional Giver is someone who decides to give something and give it consistently to exercise the discipline of giving regularly. Often, someone who decides to make their gift an online recurring gift will be someone who is learning the behavior of consistency. Non-online givers can be occasional givers as well of course; it just requires more discipline.

INTENTIONAL GIVER

An Intentional Giver is someone who begins to think about their giving in relation to other things on which they spend their money. For example, this type of giver begins asking the question, "Why am I giving more to my smartphone provider than I am giving to God? Should I be giving to God more than I give for my mortgage each month?" This giver starts to make their giving an intentional choice that reflects how they prioritize and spend their money. This may be the point of intentionality when someone begins to tithe, reflecting intentionality about a certain amount/percentage they want to give to God.

FAITHFUL TITHER

A Faithful Tither is someone who recognizes Christ's eternal gift of life, love and Grace, and is dedicated to managing 100% of their resources in a way that puts God first. A Faithful Tither gives joyfully and in a way that changes them. Their giving governs their spending/saving rather than their spending/saving governing their giving. A Faithful Tither isn't concerned with what they ARE giving but more concerned with what they're NOT giving and why. They seek to honor God with 100% of what God has given them, whether direct monetary giving or a God-honoring use of an existing resource like a home or a vehicle.

EXTRAVAGANT GIVER

An Extravagant Giver is someone who thinks about the long-term effects of generosity rather than month-to-month generosity or even year- to-year. A Extravagant Giver makes decisions in the short term, which have longer term effects as it relates to their generosity capacity. They think of what home they buy, what car they purchase, how much savings they choose to keep, all in relation to their generosity capacity. An extravagant giver might be someone who has a lifetime giving goal, which governs their larger-ticket decisions. Much like a Faithful Giver makes a commitment that will govern his/her monthly and annual decisions, an extravagant giver makes a lifetime or longer-term giving commitment that governs his/her larger-item purchases like homes, cars, investments, and the like.

What We're Asking

So here is what we're asking of you...

We Want You To:

- Determine how God might be calling you to *grow* in your generosity to be part of our expanded investment in God's Kingdom through **Unfinished**.
- Join us for *worship* services over the next several weeks.
- Join us in a *small group* experience and personal devotions.
- Join together in *prayer* as a church during this defining time.

We are asking for your commitment to support the Unfinished work to which God is calling us through MUMC's **2018/2019** vision for Mission, Ministry and Church. In order to answer God's call to implement this ministry plan, your prayerful help is needed. United in Christ's love, all these things are possible!



One Fund

You may have been part of church campaigns in the past where you were asked to give a second gift 'above and beyond' your usual gifts to complete special projects. At Manchester UMC these have been used to make new buildings and ministries possible. In the past, you gave that gift to the "Building Fund" and you also continued to give to the "General Fund." This type of giving is potentially confusing to people who either don't have a baseline for their "usual giving" or who aren't able to really celebrate the total giving at Manchester UMC in one single number. We believe we're all on ONE MISSION together as a church.



The **Unfinished** Initiative will last two years. In those two years, every gift given to Manchester UMC will go to the Unfinished Initiative - to help us transform church and community through our *Mission, Ministry, and Church* vision goals.

We've included a Commitment Card with instructions so you can see how to make a "one fund" estimate of giving. Please take the time to think through this process so you are prepared to submit your card on or before Commitment Sunday.



Commitment Card

A guide to your commitment card

MY TWO-YEAR UNFINISHED COMMITMENT
PLEASE CALCULATE WITHIN THE WORKSHEET BELOW.

\$ WHAT I NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR

+ \$ MY ADDITIONAL ANNUAL GENEROSITY COMMITMENT TO UNFINISHED

= \$ X 2 YEARS = \$

+ MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, savings, etc.) \$

TOTAL TWO YEAR COMMITMENT = \$

Sample Commitment Card

This sample commitment card can be used as a worksheet as you consider your commitment to **Unfinished**.

Giving Table

Do you think your gift doesn't matter? Look at how your weekly gift adds up over two years!

Two-Year Giving Table	
Weekly Gift Of	Over 2 Years Equals
\$5	\$520
\$10	\$1,040
\$15	\$1,560
\$20	\$2,080
\$25	\$2,600
\$30	\$3,120
\$35	\$3,640
\$40	\$4,160
\$50	\$5,200
\$60	\$6,240
\$70	\$7,280
\$80	\$8,320
\$90	\$9,360
\$100	\$10,400
\$125	\$13,000
\$150	\$15,600
\$175	\$18,200
\$200	\$20,800
\$250	\$26,000

As you prayerfully consider your life and how God is calling you to grow in exponential ways, use these tools to think about your commitment. Ask God to make it clear. Ask God to help you. We encourage you to pray and to expect God's blessings when you follow God's lead.

Are You Ready to Take a Step?

Sacrifice

Would you prayerfully consider what God might be calling you to give up during the next two years to allow you to give more to God's Kingdom through the work of Manchester UMC?

Trust God

Will you join us by trusting God in a way we have never done before? We need every person at Manchester UMC to unite in faith that God will work out all of the details.

Everyone

We can't do this alone. We can't do this with half of our body. We need everyone in our church to join together in unity as we stand up, take a step and live a life that is **Unfinished**.

Pray

This journey is so much more spiritual than financial. Please pray for God's wisdom, God's courage and direction every step of the way.



Creative Ways to Give

Creative Ways to Grow in Your Generosity

Generosity initiatives rely on church members making gifts that expand and accelerate their current level of giving. The best path to increased giving is the spiritual path, where you set your heart on God's dream for all people. Financial priorities then take shape from the spiritual priorities.



One way of defining this is “Lifestyle Stewardship,” a term used to describe a level of giving that affects one’s living. The challenge of Lifestyle Stewardship is to find ways, boldly and prayerfully, to let your giving touch your living!

In 2 Samuel 24:24 (NIV), King David declared: “I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” David understood the gift that would touch the heart of God must first touch the heart of the giver! This is the spirit of Lifestyle Stewardship: If it is for my God, my gift must have value and meaning to me.

Often, Lifestyle Giving means giving up something in one area so that you can give more of yourself in another. The three keys to effectiveness in Lifestyle Stewardship are:

- Reassess lifestyle
- Rearrange priorities
- Reallocate resources

Many believers have been amazed at their ability to give more generously to their church. The following seven steps are offered to help you in this regard.

1. Practice priority budgeting

Many families will choose to rearrange their priorities and give up something in their current budget in order to give more to a generosity initiative. Priority budgeting may mean postponing a planned expenditure such as a new car, vacation, home remodeling or other major purchase. Many Christians giving to capital stewardship campaigns find a way to give through sacrificial commitments made in faith, coupled with priority budgeting.

2. Redirect present expenditures

Often, families have significant short-term expenditures for special needs. One example is the large expenditure a family incurs for a child to attend college. A family realized that their daughters would be graduating from college during the two years of the generosity initiative and, as a result, they were able to increase their commitment to the second year of the campaign by thousands of dollars by giving what they had been spending on their daughters’ tuition. Another example would be the cash flow that is freed up when a loan is paid off.

3. Increased giving with Increased income

Some people receive periodic increases in salary or bonuses from their employers. The temptation for many of us is to increase our lifestyle to fit the higher income. In many instances, families have decided that they will commit the full amount of salary increases.

4. Give from your excess

A young man decided that two collectors’ baseball cards worth over \$20,000, which he had been holding for a number of years, would be the most appropriate means of touching sacrifice for his family. Some families save money over a period of years for a special project. A couple had saved \$80,000 to build a lake cabin. When their church entered a generosity initiative, they decided the needs of the church were greater than their need for a second home.

5. Commit unexpected cash

Often, people pray for God to show them a way they can give beyond what they can presently see or afford. Sometimes, the answers come unexpectedly. A couple had been praying for weeks about their commitment to the church generosity initiative. Much to their surprise, they received an inheritance of several thousand dollars. They gave the entire amount to their church as part of their two-year commitment, in addition to a commitment from their regular income.

6. Sacrifice your extra time

Some family members have extra time they would be willing to use in a part-time job to be able to give more to the church. This is particularly true for families whose children are grown and away from home and for semi-retired or retired couples. A man was in the process of retiring when his church entered a campaign. He and his wife secured new jobs and gave the first two years of their retirement income to the generosity initiative.

7. Donate appreciated assets

Many people own stocks that are worth significantly more than the original purchase price. That is good news. The bad news is that if these stocks are sold, a significant portion of the gain would be lost to taxation.

Gifts of appreciated assets - typically investment securities or real estate - can be very advantageous to both the donor and to the church. By transferring ownership of the asset to the church, the donor avoids capital gains taxes on the sale of the asset. In addition, the donor receives an income tax charitable deduction for the full market value of the asset. That, in effect, makes these gifts less costly to make.



	Sell Assets & Gift Proceeds	Give Asset Directly
Value of Asset	\$12,000	\$12,000
Original Purchase Price	\$3,000	\$3,000
Amount of Appreciation	\$9,000	\$9,000
Capital Gains Tax*	\$2,340	\$0
Proceeds to Church	\$9,600	\$12,000

* Assumes 12 month holding period, 15% capital gains tax, 6% state income tax rate

A Final Word

Giving does not have to be in equal increments over the two-year period of the campaign. You might be able to give more in the second year than in the first. As you think about your financial commitment to the campaign, think not just of your potential to give right now, but also of your potential to give in the future. It might be that you can make a two-year commitment in which 35-40 percent is given in the first year, and 60-65% is given in the second year.

Finally, as you consider your financial commitment to the Lord's work, you might want to consider estate planning. Many sincere, committed Christian people have not made provision for God in their wills and estate planning. Now might be a good time to do that. It might be as simple as including a provision in your will that 10 percent of the value of your estate will be donated to the church holding your membership at the time of your passing. Or, it could involve a planned gift such as a charitable remainder trust. While such gifts do not provide immediate financial benefit to a generosity initiative, they are marvelous gifts of faith commitment to carry on the work of the church for future generations.

Giving Scenarios

Each of us embarks on the generosity journey at a different starting point. Here are a few hypothetical situations that may be similar to the one in which you find yourself.

Each example below illustrates how an individual or family can take the next step on the generosity journey, and how the Unfinished commitment card could be completed accordingly.

Which of the following giving scenarios fits you best?

INTENTIONAL GIVER

MY TWO-YEAR UNFINISHED COMMITMENT
PLEASE CALCULATE WITHIN THE WORKSHEET BELOW.

\$ 6,000	WHAT I NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR
+	
\$ 6,000	MY ADDITIONAL ANNUAL GENEROSITY COMMITMENT TO UNFINISHED
=	
\$ 12,000	X 2 YEARS = \$ 24,000
+	
MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, savings, etc.)	\$ 2,000
TOTAL TWO YEAR COMMITMENT = \$ 26,000	

Paul and Rebecca have given consistently to the church at a steady 5%. With a combined income of \$120,000, they contribute \$6,000 each year. Unfinished, however, has prompted them to tithe a full 10%. It will require some adjustments to give \$12,000 a year, but they know it's what God is calling them to do. Also, they've been saving for a boat but have decided to give the \$2,000 in that account as well. They are now planning to give \$26,000 to the church over the next two years.

FIRST TIME GIVER

MY TWO-YEAR UNFINISHED COMMITMENT
PLEASE CALCULATE WITHIN THE WORKSHEET BELOW.

\$ 0	WHAT I NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR
+	
\$ 1,300	MY ADDITIONAL ANNUAL GENEROSITY COMMITMENT TO UNFINISHED
=	
\$ 1,300	X 2 YEARS = \$ 2,600
+	
MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, savings, etc.)	\$ 500
TOTAL TWO YEAR COMMITMENT = \$ 3,100	

Michael is new to the faith and has never given before. He is now starting several spiritual disciplines, including generosity. It's a huge step of faith for him, but Michael has decided to give \$25 per week. Combined with \$500 from his savings, Michael plans to give a total two-year contribution of \$3,100 to the Unfinished initiative.

FAITHFUL GIVER

MY TWO-YEAR UNFINISHED COMMITMENT
PLEASE CALCULATE WITHIN THE WORKSHEET BELOW.

\$ 7,000	WHAT I NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR
+	
\$ 1,400	MY ADDITIONAL ANNUAL GENEROSITY COMMITMENT TO UNFINISHED
=	
\$ 8,400	X 2 YEARS = \$ 16,800
+	
MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, savings, etc.)	\$ 2,000
TOTAL TWO YEAR COMMITMENT = \$ 18,800	

Anthony developed the discipline of tithing years ago, and he has experienced God's provision again and again. Anthony will increase his giving percentage from 10% to 12% of his annual income of \$70,000, or \$8,400 a year. Over two years, with the addition of \$2,000 from the transfer of stocks that are no longer of interest to him, Anthony looks forward to giving \$18,800 to the Unfinished initiative.

OCCASIONAL GIVER

MY TWO-YEAR UNFINISHED COMMITMENT
PLEASE CALCULATE WITHIN THE WORKSHEET BELOW.

\$ 500	WHAT I NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR
+	
\$ 1,250	MY ADDITIONAL ANNUAL GENEROSITY COMMITMENT TO UNFINISHED
=	
\$ 1,750	X 2 YEARS = \$ 3,500
+	
MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, savings, etc.)	\$ 500
TOTAL TWO YEAR COMMITMENT = \$ 4,000	

Jennifer has witnessed changes in her own life through the ministry of the church. So far, she has been giving casually, if she has extra cash on hand during offering time. However, she now feels led to become more consistent in her giving by setting up a recurring gift online. Her plan is to increase her usual annual giving of \$500 by \$1,250, bringing her to \$1,750 a year. With the addition of \$500 from a vacation savings fund, in two years she will have given \$4,000 to the Unfinished initiative.

EXTRAVAGANT GIVER

MY TWO-YEAR UNFINISHED COMMITMENT
PLEASE CALCULATE WITHIN THE WORKSHEET BELOW.

\$ 13,500	WHAT I NORMALLY GIVE IN ONE YEAR
+	
\$ 1,500	MY ADDITIONAL ANNUAL GENEROSITY COMMITMENT TO UNFINISHED
=	
\$ 15,000	X 2 YEARS = \$ 30,000
+	
MY/OUR GIFT(S) FROM STORED RESOURCES (stocks, savings, etc.)	\$ 60,000
TOTAL TWO YEAR COMMITMENT = \$ 90,000	

Judy loves to give of her time, talents, and resources. She has set a lifetime giving goal for herself, and is excited to reach it. She has been giving 15% of her \$90,000 income (\$13,500) to the church in recent years, but is inspired to increase the annual amount to \$15,000. She has been considering the purchase of a new home recently, but she realizes that purchase may inhibit her ability to reach her giving goal. So Judy has decided not to move, and to give her down payment toward the Unfinished initiative instead.

Frequent Questions

How long is my commitment?

The **Unfinished** initiative is a **two-year commitment** from **January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019**. A two-year commitment is needed because **Unfinished** includes significant investment that requires long-term financial planning. It is our prayer, however, that **Unfinished** will inspire your continued giving relationship with God and your life be dramatically improved because of it!

How can I give?

There are many ways to give to **Unfinished**:

- Online giving - Using the *Community Login* on the church website, make one-time gifts or set up recurring gifts to be deducted from your bank account or charged to your credit card.
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) - Gifts are transferred from your bank account by the church treasurer on the 20th of each month.
- Direct your bank - Request your bank send gifts directly to the church, from your bank account.
- NEW! Text giving - Use your smart phone to message a contribution by text. Text "MUMC" to 73256. Click send, and follow the prompts.
- Personal check.
- Cash - Use a pew envelope and include your name and address.

Can I give real estate, stocks, bonds, and other assets?

Yes! Please consult the finance office on how these types of gifts work.



What about missions giving (Easter and Christmas offerings and special UMC Sunday offerings)? Will loose plate offerings go to Unfinished?

Missions gifts will be collected in designated envelopes for Easter, Christmas, and special UMC Sunday offerings. Although missions will be funded through the Unfinished initiative, you may also write "missions" or another specific designation in the "other" column on the offering envelopes located in the pew racks. "Loose plate" cash offerings will be counted toward **Unfinished**.

What will happen if we miss our target?

We have all of 2018 and 2019 to reach our goal, and reaching it is our priority! The Leadership Board will closely monitor the progress of **Unfinished** to ensure the most effective and efficient rollout of our Ministry Spending Plan. To that end, the Board will determine priorities based on the giving response by the congregation. If we do not reach our target, some initiatives may go unfunded.

What are you asking me to do?

First and foremost, we're asking you to pray. Think about your personal giving relationship with God. Consider what it might look like if we all joined together as one church body, united in our **Unfinished** mission. Be prayerful, and respond accordingly. Follow God's leading - nothing more, nothing less. Then complete your commitment card. If you have additional questions, please contact Pastor Phil Estes at phil.estes@manchesterumc.org or 636.200.4706.



Devotional

Sept. 24- Oct. 1: Unfinished Trust

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 12: 1-4A & GENESIS 13: 5-18

*BIG IDEA: God wants us to trust God completely.
God desires 100% surrender.*

Thoughts

1. *In what ways do you think Lot's life was unfinished? In what ways am I unfinished?*
2. *What prevents me from fully surrendering to and trusting God?*
3. *How can I trust and surrender to God more this week?*

What is God speaking to you?

Devotional

Oct. 2-8: Unfinished Sacrifice

SCRIPTURE: MARK 12: 41-44 & LUKE 18: 18-30

BIG IDEA: God wants us to give sacrificially in a way that changes our lives

Thoughts

1. *What is different about the widow's heart and the rich young rulers' heart?*
2. *When you create your family budget what is listed first? What does this say about what comes first in your family's life?*
3. *How different might your budget look if you budgeted your gift to God first and then the rest vs. budgeting everything else and giving God what is left over?*

What is God speaking to you?

Devotional

Oct. 9-15: Unfinished Surrender

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 9: 1-18 & 1 CORINTHIANS 13: 3-7, 13

BIG IDEA: God wants to transform our lives through the presence of Jesus Christ

Thoughts

1. When Saul surrendered his life to Jesus he took on a new name, Paul. What does that mean to you?
2. If you were to surrender more fully to Jesus, how might you look/be different, without having to change your name?
3. In what areas do you feel God is calling you to surrender your "old self" to a "new self"?

What is God speaking to you?

Devotional

Oct. 16-22: Unfinished Amazement

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 6: 1-14 & MARK 10: 13-16

BIG IDEA: God wants to accomplish much more through us than we could ever imagine or do on our own, if only we could see the world through the amazement/eyes of a child

Thoughts

1. Do we see the possibilities before us through the eyes of a child or through the eyes of the disciples?
2. How might your world be different if you could see it through the eyes of a child?
3. In what areas do you feel God is calling you to trust God and be amazed?

What is God speaking to you?

Devotional

Oct. 23-29: Unfinished Lives / ME?

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 15: 11-32

BIG IDEA: God wants us to celebrate God's finishing of unfinished lives

Thoughts

1. In the celebration, am I the lost son or the older brother? What does that look like for me?
2. How can I celebrate God's unfinished work in my life, and what might that look like in a changed me?
3. How might I use my resources to help make a greater impact in the world through my gifts to Manchester UMC?

What is God speaking to you?

Devotional

Notes



unfinished...

manchesterumc.org/unfinished

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