TRANSFORMED *by Grace*








2026 MINISTRY REPORT

+ 2027 ANNUAL GIVING

HAMLINE CHURCH
UNITED METHODIST

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,
serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.
- 1 Peter 4:10, NRSVUE

Beloveds,

God's grace meets us where we are, but it does not leave us unchanged. Through the love we receive, the relationships we build, and the gifts we share, grace invites us into a new way of living. Our stewardship theme, **Transformed by Grace**, asks us to consider how that invitation is shaping our lives—and what becomes possible when we respond together.

At Hamline Church, we see this transformation in the life we share. This has been quite a year. We welcomed 32 new members including eight confirmands. Our youth deepened their faith through service at the Cheyenne River Reservation and connections with young United Methodists from around the world at the Global Young People's Convocation in Dublin. Our Wednesday night meals brought generations together, and our garden produced approximately 2,000 pounds of fresh food for elders in our neighborhood. These ministries offer more than programs and activities. They create opportunities to belong, discover our gifts, and learn to love one another more fully.

We experienced that love in a particularly powerful way during Operation Metro Surge. As fear and uncertainty touched our community, ordinary people brought their courage and care together to stand up for our immigrant and refugee neighbors. Hamline Church gathered for prayer and public witness, hosted neighborhood groups, stood vigil at local mosques, protested in the streets, offered community dinners, provided rent relief and legal support, and partnered in community trainings. Each person's contribution became part of a shared response: neighbors showing up for neighbors, putting compassion into practice.

No one person could do everything. But together, we could make space for connection, learn how to stand alongside our neighbors, and bear witness to their dignity. This was not only an opportunity to serve. It was an experience of being changed ourselves—learning to trust one another, discovering courage we might not have found alone, and allowing our neighbors' lives to become more deeply connected with our own.

Your generosity sustains the community where this transformation takes place. It supports worship that renews us, ministries that nurture all ages, and relationships that help us navigate difficult seasons. It provides the people, spaces, and resources that turn our desire to care into a faithful, organized response. Long before a crisis arrives, your giving helps build a community ready to meet it with love.

As we prepare for 2027, I invite you to prayerfully consider how you will share your time, talents, and financial resources. Our goal this year is a stretch: $700,000 in pledged support to sustain Hamline Church's mission and ministry in the coming year.

Please return your annual giving commitment by November 15, and join us on November 22 as we bless our commitments and share a Thanksgiving celebration together. Every gift matters, and everyone belongs, regardless of their ability to give financially.

I am deeply grateful for the ways you have shown up this year: sharing what you have, caring for one another, and making room for your lives to be changed by God's love. May we continue to say yes to grace, growing together into the people—and the church—God calls us to be.



With deep gratitude and abiding hope,

Rev. Mariah Furness Tollgaard

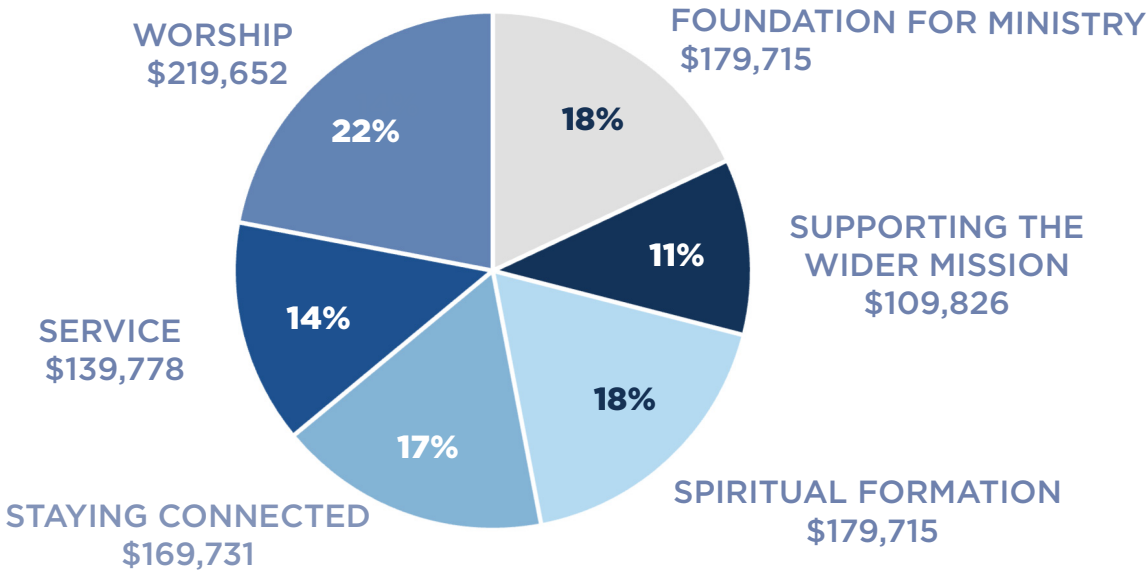
Rev. Mariah Furness Tollgaard
Senior Pastor



2026 IMPACT SUMMARY

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE MISSION & MINISTRY

Your faithful stewardship has been a powerful force for change. Together, we're nurturing a vibrant faith community and extending our impact far beyond our walls, renewing our church and changing lives every day.



INCOME

- Our annual budget depends heavily on pledged income/regular contributions from you, our congregation. Your generosity provides a critical and essential piece of how we live out our mission.
- 77% Pledges and donations ($718,000)
- 14% fundraisers, grants, investment income ($130,000)
- 9% building and earned income ($84,500)

TOTAL: $932,500

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!







WORSHIP & MUSIC

2026 IMPACT $219,652

We cultivate worship that brings people together through creativity, music, and spiritual growth.

"I feel so comfortable being myself among our church family. There are certainly days I come without an ounce of peace, but in hearing the melodies, meditating on the scriptures, and following the cadence of Pastor Mariah or Pastor Heather's message, I am able to breathe a little deeper and rest in the promise of Christ, that I am loved and accepted beyond measure." - *Michaela Rolseth, Hamline Church Member*

AT A GLANCE

6% In-Person Worship Attendance Increase *(12% over the last 2 years!)*

8 Children's Choir Performances

11 Handbell Choir Performances

10 Lay-led Taizé Worship Services

CELEBRATIONS FROM THIS YEAR

- **10 broad-ranging worship series** and music led by over **75 musicians.**
- **Young people leading in worship:** Expanded children & youth participation through readings, communion service, music, performances, worship technology, and 4 youth-led worship services.
- **God on Broadway:** Returned for a second season featuring *Rent, Fiddler on the Roof, and Frozen* across three summer worship services.
- **Music & Arts Series:** Launched two author events for the 2026–2027 season, featuring Austin Channing Brown and a panel with church members Kent Krueger, Heather Bouwman, and David Purcell, moderated by Pastor Mariah.







750+

God on Broadway attendees!



LOOKING AHEAD

- **Congregational Singing:** Use survey feedback and new resources to enhance congregational singing and engagement.
- **Music & Arts Programming:** Expand opportunities to collaborate with and showcase the creativity and talent within the Hamline Church community.
- **Hamline University Partnership:** Strengthen ties with the Music Department through a Choral Scholar Program and additional student musicians for worship and special performances.

SERVICE

REACHING OUT TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

2026 IMPACT $139,778

Living out our faith by transforming belief into action—championing justice, compassion, and care for all of God's creation.

70K

Given out from our Barnabas/Neighbors in Need fund in 2026, assisting individuals and families in need.



PUTTING FAITH INTO ACTION + PARTNERSHIPS



Helped provide more than **2,000 meals** to unhoused neighbors through more than 100 volunteer shifts at **Dorothy Day Center**.

Welcomed more than **1,000 people for Monarca and UNIDOS trainings** and other community organizing activities, creating space for learning and collective action.

Brought **more than 50 church members** into public witness with ISAIAH, including the Day of Truth and Freedom on January 23 and the Palm Sunday Faith Action March.

Community Conversations Ecumenical Consortium (CCEC) hosted forums on the faith community's response during Operation Metro Surge and the historical and ongoing importance of protecting voting rights.

Supported Emma Norton Services through Dining Hall proceeds, holiday gifts and basic needs drive, and a youth led bingo party for Restoring Waters residents.

Deepened understanding of **Palestine, Israel, and Christian Zionism** through a three-part forum series. Continued ministry partnerships with organizations including **Face2Face's SafeZone Program, McVay Youth Partnership, St. Paul Interfaith Action (School Tools Drive), ISAIAH, Keystone Emergency Services, MN FoodShare, MN Interfaith Power and Light, and Hamline Midway Elders,** expanding our collective impact.

MINISTRIES AT WORK

- **Celebrated 129 years of our Hamline Church Dining Hall** with **600+ volunteers** serving thousands of fairgoers at the Minnesota State Fair.
- **Hamline Women hosted** 3 Community Markets and continued meeting local needs through the Mitten Tree and a basic needs drive. Priscilla Luitjens and Virginia Anderson attended the national United Women in Faith Assembly.
- **SPROUT Garden** continued our partnership with **Hamline University** and **Hamline Midway Elders**. 4 HU interns joined our ministry—helping plant, harvest, and deliver 2,000lbs of fresh produce to local seniors and the HU Food Resource Center with the joyful help of Hamline's children on Sundays.
- **Plarn Players** made dozens of handmade sleep mats for neighbors living outdoors.



- 11 Adults traveled to **UM Manos y Juntas** at the U.S.–Mexico border to build homes for asylum-seekers and deepen cross-cultural understanding through hands-on service.
- **Hamline Story Collectors** gathered community stories for the MN Truth Council to document Operation Metro Surge, creating space for people to be heard through small group and community events.
- **Hamline Church Earthkeepers** led Earthkeeper Sunday and hosted a forum by the Rise & Repair Coalition about data centers & environmental efforts in the MN legislature.
- **Sacred Reckonings Team** facilitated Reparations Conversations to explore how we repair harms from our history. Celebrated Indigenous People's Day with The American Indian Magnet School in St. Paul.

"The winter of 2026 brought harm to our community and Hamline Church became my place of healing and purpose. I found solace in sermons, music, vigils, small groups and coffee hour! I found purpose in all the ways Hamline Church supports our neighbors through community meals, mutual aid and the generosity of our neighbor fund. Hamline Church is my intergenerational faith family and I am grateful to give my financial support."

- JoEllen Ambrose, Hamline Church Member

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

2026 IMPACT $179,715

This past year we've learned, grown, and deepened our life as disciples of Jesus.

"My favorite moment was when my son, Freddie, received his Kindergarten Milestone. He was so excited and was beaming with pride to have the Milestone. I just love and appreciate how much Hamline does to love, celebrate, and involve kids."

- *Sarah Hagge, Hamline Church Member*



NURTURING & EXPLORING FAITH FOR ALL AGES

- **50 children in Sacred Studio and the Frolic Room**.
- Gathered **12 seasonal small groups** in conjunction with our worship series Tell Me Something Good (Lent), Creation Care (summer), and Both/And Faith (fall).
- **11 ongoing faith and connection groups**, including Centering Prayer, Men's Breakfast, Racial Justice Book Group, Fiction and Fellowship, Sunday Morning Faith and Fellowship, Mahjong, book studies, covenant groups and more.
- Connecting with **NEON at Hamline University and the Wesley Center** to provide spiritual formation for college students. Events partnered for NEON Night's and our back to school bash - **BOUNCE connecting us with 100 Students!**

AT A GLANCE

7	Juniors & Seniors on our new Youth Council!
12	Confirmation Students
2	Bread & Prayer Retreats
107	Total Retreat attendees! *Women's Retreat, Winter Family Camp, Summer Family Camp & Confirmation Retreat*











30

Kids attended VBS supported by 12 Adult & 10 Youth Volunteers!



14

Youth and 4 adults on service trip to Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota





26

Sacred Studio Volunteer Teachers



8

Confirmands Confirmed in June 2026

2.5x

Increase over last year's weekly Youth Group attendance!



5

Youth & 2 Adults traveled to Dublin, Ireland for the GYPC Conference!





15

Campers at Northern Pines - UMC Summer Camp



7

Baptisms including 5 professions of faith by teens & adults

LOOKING AHEAD

- Continued commitment to youth leadership development as we build upon the **Young Leaders Program, Youth Council, and a new teaching internship.**
- **Host two intergenerational faith, fun and service events** to deepen connections across different ages and serve side-by-side.
- **Continue to support LGBTQ+ youth and young adults** through a partnership with Hamline University Drag Club to bring Drag Story Hour quarterly.
- Deepen collaboration with Hamline University as **Pastor Mariah and Pastor Heather were named interim chaplains for HU** to provide spiritual leadership and care during the 2026-27 academic year.

STAYING CONNECTED & CARING FOR OUR CHURCH

2026 IMPACT $169,731

We are devoted to nurturing deep connections with God and each other through every season of life.



"As a member of Hamline's Care Team, I've seen how important it is to connect with one another. Sharing stories and memories, and simply being present for others, benefits both the giver and the receiver. In these moments, God is present. What a privilege it is to be part of a community where faith is put into action and caring for others makes a difference. Thanks be to God."

- Barb Brown, Hamline Church Member





HOW WE'VE SHARED LOVE THIS YEAR

- **Brick Oven Team baked and shared thousands of delicious treats** at church and neighborhood events!
- **20+ Care team members** regularly showed care through prayer visits, outreach to our church family.
- Used social media to **advance our mission** during Operation Metro Surge, connecting our community with service opportunities and events while sharing updates on Pastor Mariah's arrest and congressional testimony. Multiple posts reached **6,000–8,000 views.**

AT A GLANCE

32	New members including **8 confirmands!**
400+	**New followers** on our Hamline Church Dining Hall social media during the MN State Fair 2026!
94	Volunteers & **30 soups** provided for our winter Community Dinners to support our neighbors.
8	Generations received care and support from birth to 101 years old.



1000

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS SERVED

Providing community and a space for both adults and kids to grow spiritually and together!



LOOKING AHEAD

- **Expand the production of our church gardens** to feed more folks *(physically and spiritually)* through our relationship with the land.
- **Extra pastoral care & care team support** from Rev. Sally Johnson & Rev. Gayle Wilcox.

FOUNDATIONS FOR MINISTRY

2026 IMPACT $179,715

Financial resources from our operating budget, endowment funds, and generous donors help sustain our facilities and create spaces that support ministry and community.

"The garden ministry at work on the grounds of Hamline Church creates an outdoor sanctuary for the entire community to enjoy! The bi-weekly gardening small group from this past summer helped me get to know some other plant enthusiasts and connect with them on another level with a shared interest!"

- Stephanie Engebrecht, Hamline Church Member

AT A GLANCE

- SPROUT Garden Rennovations
  Fencing, accessibility & tool storage
- Roof Repairs to Sanctuary & Commons
- New Flooring in lower level & Parlor upgrades
- Fire Alarm & Intrusion System Replacement

LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR MINISTRY

- New Garden Ministry helped rehab & care for the Greenway.
- Worked with **All in One Accounting** to streamline accounting procedures & monetary best practices
- **Realigned endowment fund** annual allocation to better support capital needs & established annual campership fund
- **Awarded $20,000 grant** from the Minnesota Historical Society for the mechanical systems assessment and concept planning.
- Committed financial support to 6 United Methodist Special Offerings (UMCOR, Student Day, etc.)
- Boiler maintenance & repairs to ensure proper functioning.

50+

Youth & Hamline University Students helped grow and tend to our renovated SPROUT Garden







PLANTING FUTURE SEEDS

- **Focused water abatement** on the east side of the building and continued repair of Community Room walls.
- Begin planning for a capital campaign to **celebrate 100 year anniversary of Sanctuary.**
- **Creatively utilize vacant education wing** space for ministry, community partnerships, and revenue.

SUPPORTING THE WIDER MISSION

2026 IMPACT $109,826

We're grateful for our connection to the United Methodist Church, whose shared mission and generosity extend our ministry far beyond Hamline's walls—across Minnesota and around the world.

CELEBRATIONS FROM THE MINNESOTA UM CONFERENCE

- Pastor Mariah was awarded the first ever Wesleyan Way Award for her leadership on the local, state, and national stage. This included organizing local mutual aid efforts, being arrested while protesting ICE at MSP Airport in January, testifying before Congress on the truth of what happened during Metro Surge in Minnesota, and offering the invocation for Governor Tim Walz's State of the State address.
- Pastor Sharon become a Certified Local Pastor and was officially appointed to serve Hamline Church and Christ UMC Maplewood.
- Beth Beaty, Hamline Church Member and Certified Lay Minister was elected Conference Lay Leader!
- Walker Brault, serves on the General Commission on Religion & Race, was selected to participate in the Bishop's Leadership Gathering in Calgary.









COLLABORATED IN MISSION & MINISTRY

- Celebrated the faithful service of 2 **Certified Lay Ministers, 3 Lay Servants, and 5 Lay Speakers** who offered leadership within both Hamline Church and the broader conference.
- Offered **conference-level leadership** through Hamline Church members and clergy who serve faithfully on the Committee on Episcopacy, Committee on Finance and Administration, Conference Lay Leadership, and as Trustee of Hamline University.
- Partnered with other local UM churches to **host over 200 worshippers for a Community Prayer Vigil** as part of the Day of Truth and Freedom on January 23 with Bishop Lanette Plambeck preaching.
- **Hosted a gathering for Black United Methodist Clergy Women** to meet with author Austin Channing Brown before her Music & Art Series book tour event.
- Participated in **Cluster Charge Conference** with five other United Methodist Churches from the Aurora Sky District.



15

Participants at PRIDE celebrations & walked the Twin Cities PRIDE parade in June!

WHY MAKE AN ESTIMATED GIVING CONTRIBUTION FOR 2027?



This year, help us create and sustain community by estimating an annual gift that is both responsible and significant based on what God is calling you to give.

At Hamline Church, our single most important source of funding for our ministries comes from the estimated giving contributions during our annual stewardship campaign. We are deeply grateful for the faithfulness of our congregation, as we have consistently received at minimum 95% fulfillment rate for all promised commitments. These commitments provide us with a forecast on which we build our expense budget for the coming year. We acknowledge each gift to be as unique as the individual giver, and we strive to be exceptional stewards of the resources entrusted to us.







OUR GOAL FOR 2027

Our goal for this year's annual giving campaign is $700,000 in pledged support. This goal reflects the bold vision laid out in the preceding pages for how Hamline Church will serve our community and the world in 2027. This goal also allows us to balance our budget, fairly compensate our hard-working staff, and keep up with the steep costs of inflation that impacted all of us this past year.

PROPORTIONAL GIVING CHART

Percentage of Giving to Consider as an Annual Gift

ANNUAL INCOME	2%	3%	5%	7%	10% *(tithing)*	15%
$20,000	$400	$600	$1,000	$1,400	$2,000	$3,000
$50,000	$1,000	$1,500	$2,500	$3,500	$5,000	$7,500
$75,000	$1,500	$2,250	$3,750	$5,250	$7,500	$11,250
$100,000	$2,000	$3,000	$5,000	$7,000	$10,000	$15,000
$130,000	$2,600	$3,900	$6,500	$9,100	$13,000	$19,500
$150,000	$3,000	$4,500	$7,500	$10,500	$15,000	$22,500
$170,000	$3,400	$5,100	$8,500	$11,900	$17,000	$25,500
$200,000	$4,000	$6,000	$10,000	$14,000	$20,000	$30,000
$250,000	$5,000	$7,500	$12,500	$17,500	$25,000	$37,500

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE
SHARING OUR BLESSINGS

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION & COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 22
CARDS DUE NOVEMBER 15

Please turn in your Annual Giving Commitment by November 15. You can turn your cards in on Sunday mornings, by mail or online at **hamlinechurch.org/give** on or before November 15. Then join us on November 22 to bless our commitments and share in a potluck together!

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about stewardship at Hamline Church please contact Sharon Fields, Associate Minister of Executive Operations. If you have questions about your annual giving, please contact Gregg Dahlke, Lead Financial Secretary. If you are experiencing financial hardship, don't let your inability to give at this time keep you from participating and serving in church. God honors your faithfulness and your acceptance is not based upon your capacity to give financially. Please feel free to let one of our pastors know of your situation so that they can pray for and support you.



LEGACY GIVING

The Hamline Church Endowment Fund provides a way to further your lifetime commitment and stewardship by supporting your church through planned giving. This involves remembering Hamline Church in your will, trust, retirement accounts and/or life insurance designations. To learn more, check the box on your commitment card below.

If you are 70½ or older, a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** from your IRA can be a tax-smart way to support Hamline Church. It can count toward your required minimum distribution and generally is excluded from taxable income. Contact your IRA administrator or tax adviser to arrange your gift, and notify the church office.

CONNECT WITH US
Sign up for our weekly newsletter: ***bit.ly/HamlineNewsletter***
@hamlinechurchum **@hamlinechurch**
humc@hamlinechurch.org

HAMLINE CHURCH
UNITED METHODIST
ALL ARE WELCOME
1514 Englewood Avenue | Saint Paul, MN 55104
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2027 ANNUAL GIVING COMMITMENT

Name_____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email_____

Phone Number _____

Total Annual Giving Commitment: $_____

OR SCAN TO PLEGDE ONLINE:

GIVING OPTIONS *(select only one)*

❑ **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**
Please set up EFT for me/us. I have included a voided check, if signing up for the first time. Please select timing of electronic funds transfer

- ❑ Monthly — the 5th of each month.
- ❑ Monthly — the 18th of each month.
- ❑ Please increase my pledge by $ _____ per month.

❑ **Cash or Check**
(Offering envelopes are provided in the pews. If you prefer personalized pre-printed envelopes please circle YES)

❑ **Hamline Church Online Giving**
I/We will set up a Realm account or already have one.

- ❑ I/We will increase my pledge by $_____ Weekly/Monthly*(circle)*
- ❑ I/We will contribute towards Hamline Church's processing fees *(1% for ACH + 2.84% for cards)*
- ❑ I'd like Hamline Church staff to help set up this payment, starting in Jan 2026.

❑ **Non-Cash Gift**
I/We would like to make a gift of securities, mutual fundshares or IRA charitable rollover. *(Please have someone contact me.)*

LEGACY GIVING

The Hamline Church Endowment Fund offers a meaningful opportunity to enhance your lifelong commitment to stewardship. By including Hamline Church in your will, trust, retirement accounts, or life insurance designations, you can continue to support your church through planned giving.

- ❑ I/We have remembered Hamline Church in our will or legacy gift.
- ❑ I/We would like information on how to provide for Hamline Church in my/our will.

Please bring your Commitment Card to worship on Sunday, November 15, or complete your card online: hamlinechurch.org/give before November 15, 2026.

_____ _____
Signed **Date**