CPFUMC Technology Fund Proposal

Background

Hardware and software technologies are increasingly important to the current and future functioning and support of the mission and ministries of CPFUMC. It is difficult to predict the need for new technologies or replacement of existing technologies due to ministry emphasis changes, technology evolution and an uncertain life cycle. When some piece of technology breaks, becomes obsolete, or when the need for the addition of new technology is identified, it can be a difficult financial decision because the operating budget typically has no provision for these types of unexpected expenses unless they are relatively minor.

We already have a Capital Maintenance & Repair Fund to provide for expensive repairs or replacement of physical plant equipment and structures such as HVAC and roofing. Why not establish a similar fund to provide for capital repair or replacement of our technology infrastructure?

Technology Fund Proposal

We Trustees hereby propose to establish a CPFUMC Technology Fund with the following characteristics:

1. The Technology Fund is used to fund off-budget (i.e., unexpected or unbudgeted) technology – hardware and software replacements or additions – to support the operation and ministries of CPFUMC.
2. The types of technologies covered by this fund include, but are not limited to, computer hardware and software (such as computer system units, monitors, webcams, adapters and related peripherals), audio/visual equipment (such as projectors, televisions, CD and DVD players, remote controllers, adapters and related equipment) professional sound equipment (mixers, amplifiers, wired or wireless microphones, speakers, equipment racks and power distribution units), printers and scanners, networking equipment (such as routers, switches, wireless access points, patch panels, network attached storage devices and uninterruptible power supplies), any Wi-Fi -enabled control device (such as thermostats, doorbells, irrigation controllers, security systems, motion or lighting controls), livestreaming hardware and software (including video cameras, transformers, splitters, adapters, signal converters and related devices), telephone and communications equipment (including handsets, surge protection and base stations/private branch exchange equipment) and future technological evolutions not currently existing or envisioned.
3. The Technology Fund can also be applied for installation of new technology or renovation of existing technology including cabling, wiring and labor costs.
4. The Technology Fund is a Designated Fund for accounting purposes: Any balance carries over from year to year.
5. The Technology Fund is used to fund capital replacements or repairs typically greater than $200 which are not otherwise covered in the annual operating budget for maintenance and repairs.
6. The Technology Fund is used to fund individual unbudgeted technology additions typically greater than $500, which are not otherwise covered in the annual operating budget for equipment.
7. Any income from re-sale or salvage of existing technology equipment or software is added to the Technology Fund balance rather than the General Operating Fund.
8. Use of Technology Fund resources is authorized by the Board of Trustees of CPFUMC.

Approved: December 7, 2020