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Church Family -

This week, our newsletter reflects a new weekly need of \$9,241.61. We recognize that this number is substantially higher than what has been stated in our budget for the last 18 months.

I want to address this with you and explain the reason for this increase:

First and foremost, we are growing substantially. With more people comes more expenses. We are also experiencing a price increase of 30-40% for most everything compared to just two years ago. Additionally, we now have two full-time salaries on our budget, which we did not have 18 months ago. And, if you remember, not too long ago, we purchased our building.

Another reason for the increase is that we have not had a formal and detailed budget review recently. That all changed about five weeks ago when we hired an accounting company called "Simplify Church." They specialize in church bookkeeping and best accounting practices for a non-profit. We have had two outside accountants take a deep dive into our expenses and how we can improve our spending and budgeting.

A great way to look at this is to consider that this new budget is "catching up" with our rapid growth. We hired Simplify Church to ensure we do things correctly. The new budget was formed in partnership with them. We also believe that when 2025 approaches, working with this company will give us an even better handle on our financial picture. We are excited about that.

Finally, thank you to all who consistently give to our church. Your generosity has made this budget growth possible. If you are not a consistent supporter of our mission, we pray that you would consider having the faith to do so. Obedience leads to joy, and joy leads to generosity. Remember: As we say each Sunday, giving is an act of worship.

Please contact our Elders if you have any questions. We are happy to provide a copy of the budget upon personal request.

You are loved.

Pastor Daniel
