

A Note from the Pastor, November 13th, 2025

Rev. Emily can be reached at 510-815-9816 and revemily@davisumc.org

In the past few weeks, we have been using a worship series on stewardship using the theme “Our Money Story.” We all have a money story, whether we recognize it or not. Perhaps we are living from a story of fear or shame. Or a story that the church is dying and no longer relevant. Or a story that our actions won’t have an impact. Or a story that we don’t have enough.

While we have come to accept some limited narratives about ourselves and what God is capable of, our scriptures tell a different story. Again and again, God provides: manna in the desert, protection in wilderness and exile, a small gift of food multiplied to feed a crowd of 5,000, the body of Christ given abundantly in wine and bread.

This theme invites us to discover and tell our money stories in light of God’s money story of liberation and justice. This series encourages us to transform our stewardship practices into more full expressions of who we are and what we believe.

This theme is intentionally direct—it invites us to name exactly what we’re talking about and not skirt around it. Money and possessions are one of the most common topics in scripture, and Jesus talked about money more than faith and prayer. Our money story, therefore, is a spiritual story. Thinking about God’s money story should be liberating, inviting, and transformative.

This stewardship season, we invite you to **remember**, **release**, **reimagine**, and **restore** your money stories so that we can write the one God is calling us to live into. As we spend four weeks reflecting on stewardship in worship.

In this season, may we remember God’s loving and liberating work. May we release that which binds us. May we reimagine this world to see what God sees. May we be restored to the love of God and neighbor.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Emily E. Pickens-Jones". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Rev. Emily Pickens-Jones
Pastor, Davis UMC
revemily@davisumc.org