

*United Methodist Insurance Program
New Treasurers Meeting*

Wednesday February 4, 2026



United Methodist Insurance Program
Plan. Protect. Restore.





AGENDA

- UMIP Background
- Sovereign Background
- Treasurer's Role
- Market Update
- A Few Success Stories



Why Is There A UMIP?

- Mandated by the *Book of Discipline* ¶ 807.20
- “To institute, manage, and maintain an insurance program available, where approved by regulatory agencies, to all United Methodist local churches in the United States and, where acceptable on an underwriting basis, to all United Methodist annual conferences, agencies, and institutions in the United States.”
- Came from a survey that indicated that a high percentage of churches were not carrying adequate coverage.





Why Does UMIP Matter?

- Saving ministries amounts that far exceed UMIP revenue
- The savings accumulate year after year
- Coverage for nonrenewed churches and churches with lapsed coverage
- Place difficult to insure risks
- Able to serve the whole Connection
- Special programs and access to over 35 different carriers
- Recognized resource for risk management education and resources





A Brief History.

- Began in the 1970s
- Initially endorsed a single carrier that provided coverage
- Formed the Property and Casualty Trust (PACT) in 2005
- Reformed as United Methodist Insurance Company in 2010
- Ceased operations as a captive insurance company in 2019
- Switched to an endorsed agent model in 2019
- Hired Sovereign as agent in 2022



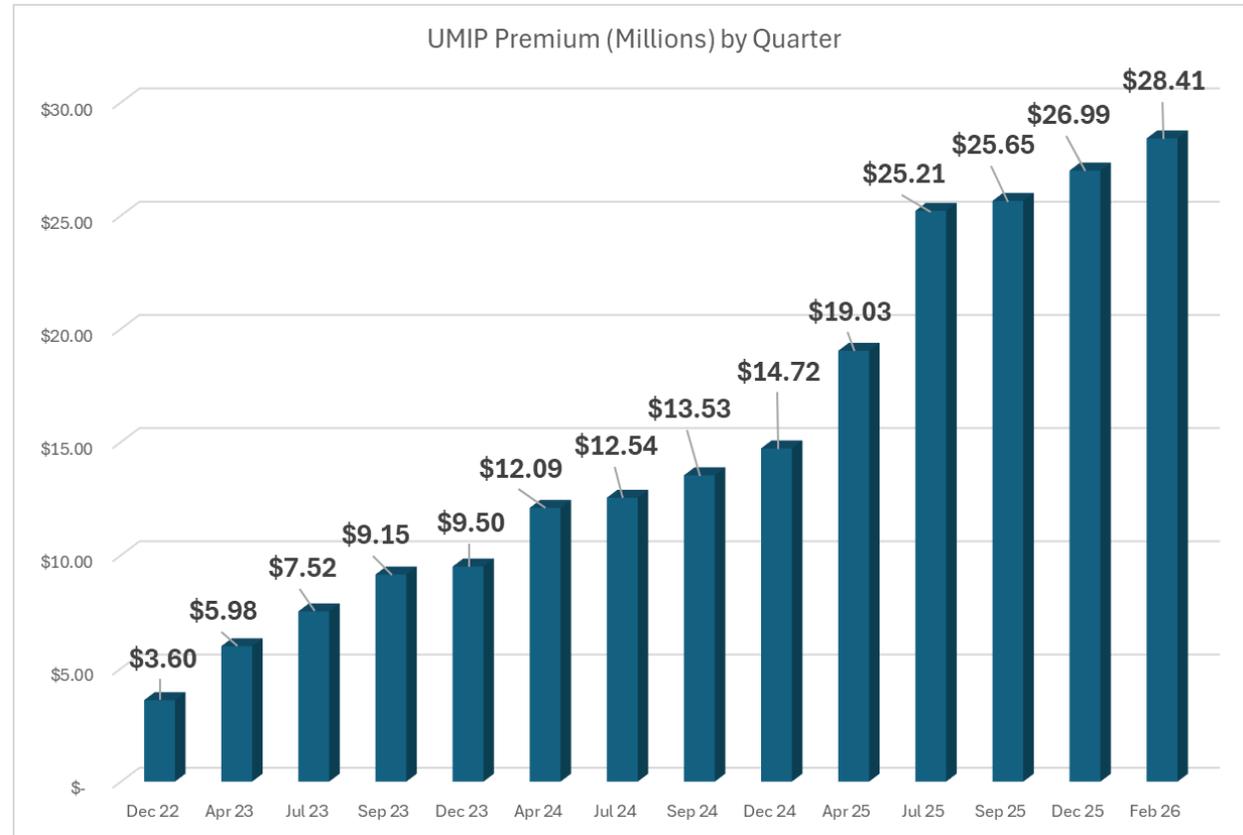


Why Sovereign Insurance Group?

- 60+ years of experience placing coverage for churches and nonprofits
- Access to 40+ carriers
- Manage over 20 group programs including 5 UMC Annual Conferences
- On the agent advisory board for GuideOne and Church Mutual
- Superior client retention rate
- Place difficult accounts (nonrenewed, claims, location, age, etc.)
- Special proprietary property program
- They can out perform local agents



What Has All This Meant?





Highlights.

- Added Desert Southwest, Iowa, Wisconsin, and New England ACs
- Many new accounts had lapsed, nonrenewed, or cancelled policies (50% of accounts with known buying reasons)
- Grew by 55% in 2024 and then by 85% in 2026
- Added conferences, camps, campus ministries, district offices agencies, foundations, conference offices, and schools

Treasurers Have Been Key

- Several have trusted us with group programs
- Almost 60% of our web leads come from AC referrals, events, and emails
- Our main challenge is that between 60% and 70% of churches do not know we're here to help
- Anything you can do help reach treasurers and district superintendents would be appreciated
- What can we do to help you?





State of the Market

- Carrier profits have stabilized
- Less non-renewals – more appetite for new business
- Excess & Surplus carriers are offering premium decreases
- Groups may have other options
- The rate of construction cost increases is slowing
- 2025 BLS Construction Cost Index 1.0% - still unpredictable



Small Church Win – Bethel

- Church unaware Southern Mutual policy lapsed
- Within a week had a solution for similar cost
- Increase coverage for abuse \$50k/\$100k to \$500k/\$1M
- Directors and Officers - \$500k to \$1M
- Employment Practices - \$1M – previously no coverage
- Employee Dishonesty - \$10k to \$25k



Midsize Church Win – Edge Park Fort Worth, Texas

- Insured was with State Farm
- Increased coverage through Church Mutual and Starr Surplus property
- Savings of about 22% (\$7,000)
- Annual premium of \$25,475

Large Church Win – McKendree Nashville, Tennessee

- \$88,000 annual premium
- Saved over \$25,000
- George Matthews (Trustee) was Jeff Koch's contact at the Maryland Injured Workers Insurance Fund
- George retired to Nashville and lives near Jeff

McKENDREE
CHRISTIAN LIFE
CENTER
350 COMMERCE STREET





Large Church Win – St. James Little Rock, Arkansas

- \$144,470 annual premium
- Church was being non-renewed
- Most carriers declined the submission
- RT Specialty offered a competitive property quote
- GMC improved on the other lines of coverage



First Methodist Church, Paris, Texas



THANK YOU

FROM UMIP

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