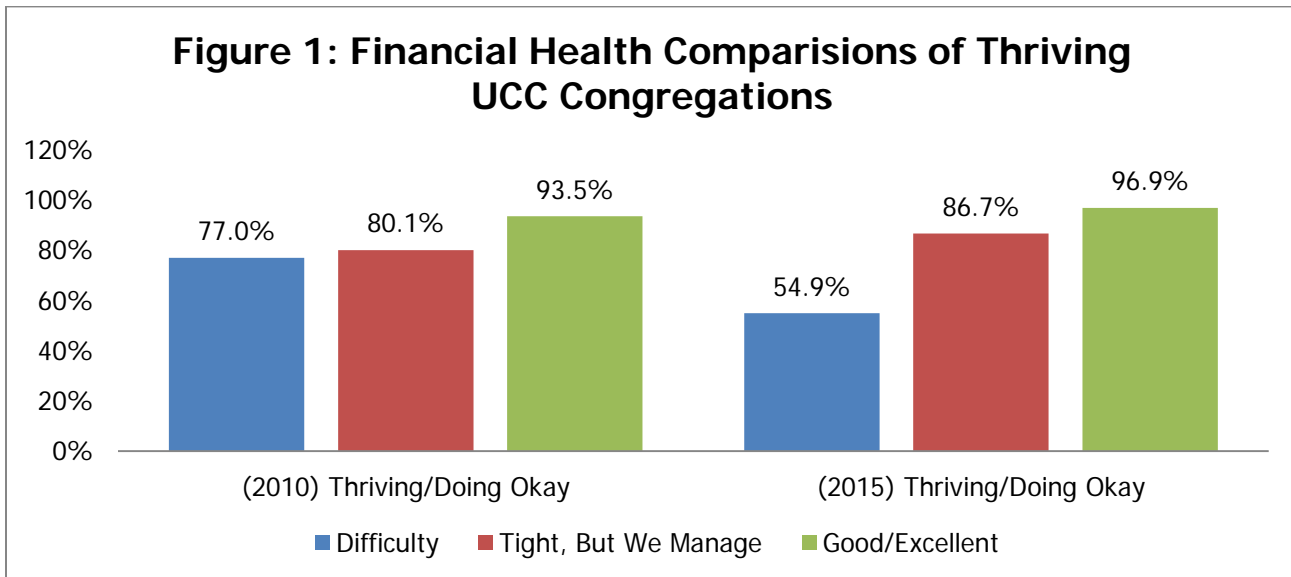


# FACTS ON FINANCIAL STABILITY

Findings from the United Church of Christ 2015 Faith Communities Today (FACT) Survey of Congregations



- The overall average total budget for UCC congregations in 2015 was \$188,140 (the median was \$125,000).
- When comparing 2010 church financial health to 2015, “thriving or doing okay” congregations experienced marked improvements. There was a 28.7% decrease in these churches experiencing financial difficulties (from 77% of churches in 2010 to 54.9% in 2015) and a 3.6% increase in these churches experiencing good/excellent financial health (from 93.5% of churches in 2010 to 96.9% in 2015). (Figure 1)
- The percentage of “struggling” congregations experiencing financial difficulties nearly doubled in the past five years (from 23% in 2010 to 45.1% in 2015).
- More than half (54.9%) of congregations in good/excellent financial health reported gearing their web efforts to a blend of both members of the congregation and people not related to their congregation, compared with only 40.8% of congregations experiencing financial difficulties.
- When comparing financial stability with vitality marks, nearly half (47.9%) of churches experiencing financial difficulties “disagree/strongly disagree” that their church is intentional about maximizing the number and variety of small groups offered, compared to only one-fourth (25.6%) of churches in good/excellent financial health.
- Eight in ten (79.8%) congregations in good/excellent financial health “agree/strongly agree” that they have a clear mission and purpose, compared with only 52.4% of congregations experiencing financial difficulties. (Figure 2)

