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FAQ - United Methodist Church

- 1. How does the Direct Pay ITC work for churches since we don't pay taxes?**
Churches and nonprofits qualify for Direct Pay, meaning the IRS sends a cash refund check to help cover the cost of the system. The monthly cost is always cheaper than your current bill.
- 2. When do I receive the Direct Pay ITC?**
The check comes from the IRS and typical lead time is 4-6 months
- 3. What if the IRS changes the rules? Will I still be eligible for the Direct Pay ITC?**
Yes, provided that the agreement is executed this year (before July 4th). Under Safe Harbor rules you will be guaranteed the Direct Pay ITC.
- 4. What is the total out-of-pocket cost for the church, and when are payments due?**
This depends on the payment option you choose, either cash or financing. Cash payments are made upfront, while financing begins after installation. A detailed cost breakdown is provided before signing. Ask about no out of pocket financing.
- 5. How much will the church actually save on its electric bill?**
Most churches see 60 to 90 percent savings after going solar. Your proposal includes detailed annual and lifetime savings estimates showing how much the system will offset your current bill.
- 6. What incentives or grants are available specifically for nonprofits or churches?**
Churches may qualify for Direct Pay ITC refunds, state battery rebates (SGIP), grid-support payments, and Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), all of which help lower the overall project cost.
- 7. What happens if the church wants to pay off a loan early? Is there a penalty?**
No. There is no prepayment penalty, and the loan can be paid off anytime.
- 8. How long does the installation process take from signing to completion?**
Engineering and permits take about 4–8 weeks, utility approval 2–4 weeks, and installation 2–3 weeks. Most projects finish in 8–12 weeks total.
- 9. Will solar panels damage our roof, and what warranties do you provide?**
No. Approved mounting systems protect the roof. Warranties typically include 30 years on panels, 15 years on batteries, and 30 years on roof penetrations.
- 10. How long do the solar panels and batteries last, and what are the maintenance costs?**
Panels last 25–30+ years, and batteries last about 15 years. Maintenance is minimal and mainly involves periodic cleaning and system monitoring which is included.



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11. Is the system guaranteed to produce a certain amount of power? What if it doesn't?
Yes. The proposal includes a 95% production guarantee. If the system underperforms, warranty and service teams will fix the issue.