



## 2023 Narrative Budget



# God wants to partner with you!

A message from our Pastor, the Reverend Doctor Peter Thompson

Opportunities of "Celebrating God's Grace and Inspiring the Next Generation for Christ" abound and God is calling YOU to partner in sustaining and growing First Presbyterian Church's ministries of worship, education, and outreach in 2023. I truly believe God has been and will continue to work through every member of the congregation to provide the necessary resources to faithfully answer God's call for us. I pray this brochure will illustrate how First Presbyterian Church, with God's help, seeks to be at work in the lives of those within our congregation and our neighbors throughout our community and around the world.

YOU are invited. Are YOU in?

## "Let's Go!"

(Matthew 28:18-20)

## How will you fulfill your pledge to God and God's Church?

### FINANCIAL GIFTS

Commit to give by completing a pledge card.  
Making a one-time gift.  
Giving electronically ([fpcly.org](http://fpcly.org)) or by check.  
Arranging for planned or estate gifts.



### PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION

Come and engage in opportunities to worship, grow, love, and serve at FPCLY and in the community.



### LEADERSHIP

Share your time and energy teaching a class, serving on a committee, volunteering to answer the phones, hosting lemonade and cookies, inviting others, or leading in another way.



### PRAY

"in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, make your requests be known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will keep and guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

*Philippians 4:6-7*

You are encouraged to submit YOUR 2023 PLEDGE COMMITMENT no later than October 23, 2022; however, your pledge to partner with God and God's church is welcome anytime. A special thank you to all those who have partnered with God and God's church here at First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg in previous years. We look forward to partnering with ALL in 2023!

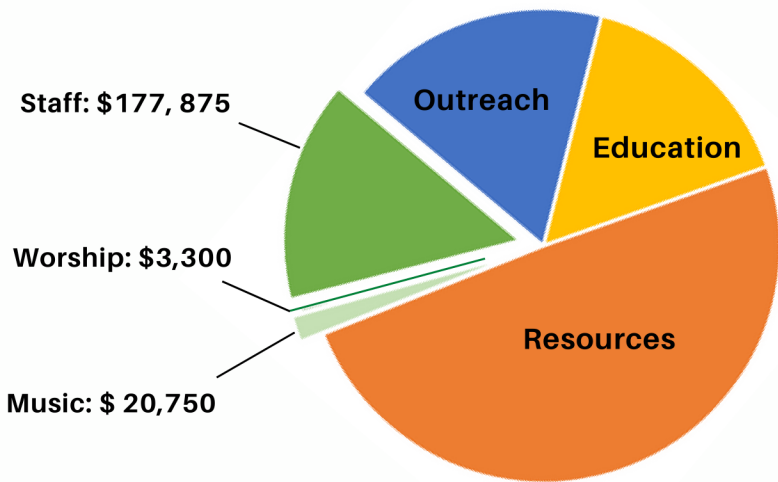


We're sharing the 2023 budget in a new way! The staff at FPCLY has been asked to work with four *initiative* teams to imagine what God is calling us to do in each of the respective areas. In response, a **\$1.1 million budget** has been developed that aspires to expand our ministry programs to be fully effective and responsive to our congregation and community needs. This budget is organized by *initiative* in alignment with our church and Session committees. As you consider your support to First Presbyterian Church in the year ahead we invite you to learn more about each initiative's vision for 2023.

## Worship

The beauty and power of the worship experience at First Presbyterian is made possible through the sharing of musical talents, the proclamation of the Word, and presence of the Holy Spirit. Sunday worship is a time that we, as a community, join together to praise and worship God whether experienced in-person in our beautiful Sanctuary or virtually via livestream or the radio. Worship opportunities are supported with sermons and sacraments, musical anthems from the Chancel Choir & Chancel Ringers and our children (accompanied by the piano and organ), and the volunteers who serve. We also celebrate the breadth of musical programs supported by choir soloists and section leaders, guest musicians, and our annual *First Pres Presents Fine Arts Series*, which strives to reach beyond the walls of FPCLY and into the community.

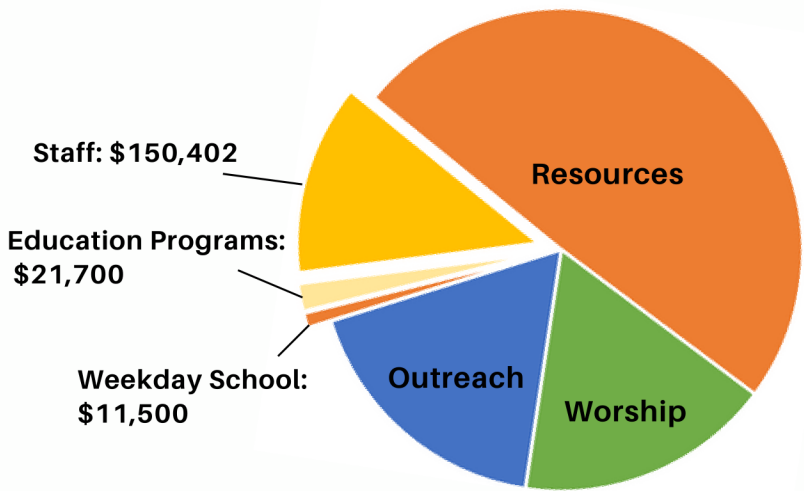
In 2023, we pray your support will help us continue to praise and worship on Sundays and special services throughout the year. The worship initiative seeks to enhance worship by purchasing new music, employing section leaders to the choir, hosting more guest musicians, and reinvigorating the Offterdinger-Williamson Preaching Series. The *First Pres Presents Fine Arts Series* will invite dynamic groups of musicians to perform in multiple concerts throughout the year.



## Education

Together, we are learning, living, and proclaiming God's word as we strive to strengthen and deepen our faith. Educational opportunities are the core support to this growth. This fall, we celebrate classes for all ages on Sundays (*five for children and middle schoolers, two offerings for high schoolers and college-age young adults, and two adult classes*) and multiple opportunities throughout the week (*three classes for adults and one College Cares gathering*). We are filled with joy as we serve alongside the FPC Weekday School with daily care and support and weekly Chapel and Music. We cherish the opportunity to host a ministry program at Westminster Canterbury each week and for the Presbyterian Women to gather monthly in community and study.

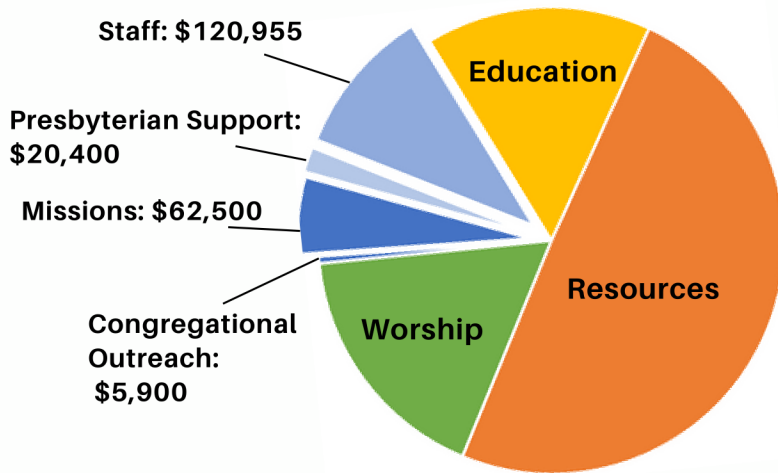
As we seek to inspire more spiritual growth within this church community, we aspire to strengthen existing programs and explore new opportunities. In these dreams, we have incorporated modest 2023 budget increases to bolster the Middle and High School Youth Programs and to enhance the Vacation Bible School experience. As we continue to identify meaningful ways to foster growth with our Weekday School, we seek scholarship assistance for the children of teachers and to provide opportunities for a more diverse community.



## Outreach

The call to us in Scripture is abundantly clear, and often repeated: love and care for others in a way that produces right relationships. Within the Outreach Initiative we are exploring how to love and care for our current membership, potential new members, and the multitude of neighbors served by our more than a dozen partnering organizations locally and around the world. We recognize that the mission of the church is both *in here* and *out there*; it is both *supporting those in the field* and *showing up in the fields ourselves*.

In 2023, we look forward to your support to offer more resources to community partners like Daily Bread, Meals on Wheels, and our friends in Malawi. We seek to offer more congregational outreach through programs like Members Helping Members, sending birthday cards and notes of encouragement, enjoying cookies after service, and fellowship dinners. We're striving for more IMPACT events to serve shoulder to shoulder with others and learn more about the needs of folks around us.



## Resources

Praising God through worship and music, growing spiritually in classes, and building relationships *in here* and *out there* are our foundational ministry areas to celebrating God's grace and inspiring the next generation for Christ. However, we do recognize that the ministry of these initiatives cannot be completed without the support provided by our resource platforms--our finance, administration, facility and communications teams. We have a large building that requires relentless upkeep in the form of cleaning, routine maintenance, and unexpected needs. The administrative and communications needs include office supplies, postage, printing, website fees, signage, and other things. The finance team of church staff, Elders, and volunteers manages church investments, contributions, and the overall budget.

As we build toward 2023, your support will help these important departments continue to offer critical strategic and real time tools and resources to help our worship, education, and outreach ministries thrive. With those three areas thriving, we will walk in stride with God's call for us to worship joyfully, grow spiritually, serve faithfully, and love boldly.

