

Unity Presbyterian Church  
Proposed Narrative Budget  
for the Operating Year  
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025  
\$1,653,897



**SHARING  
THE  
GOOD NEWS**



## Unity Staff

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

~ Matthew 28:19-20

Senior Pastor	Rev. Dr. Matthew A. Rich
Associate Pastor	Rev. Molly Spangler
Parish Associate	Rev. Dr. Mark Verdery
Director of Music	Margaret Monroe
Dir. of Christian Ed.	Kathryn McGregor
Dir. of Preschool	Linda Bunge
Interim Youth Dir.	Rev. Megan Watson
Dir. of Operations	Jim Tyndall
Financial Manager	Pam Bright
Administrative Assist	Anissa Lee
Communications	Michaela Krug
Receptionist	Stephanie Girardot
Sexton	Albert White
Nursery	Angie Benjamin
Nursery	Sylvia Coleman
Nursery	Carolyn Blair

## **ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Budgeted Spending \$ 107,725**

**Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 206,794**

**Total Program Cost \$ 314,519**

Our knowledgeable staff is essential to enable us to carry out Unity's many ministries and to organize our many volunteers. Each staff person's total personnel costs have been allocated to the ministries they serve based on annual estimates of time dedicated to each ministry.

Only General Budget giving for the fiscal year 2024-2025 is included in this narrative budget. Estimated contributions for special offerings and restricted gifts earmarked for use in the fiscal year 2024-2025 are not included.

We have other significant ministries that serve our mission but are self-funded and require little or no financial support, such as our Men's Ministry and Women of Unity.

Volunteers and staff also contribute many hours to glorify God through worship, nurture, and service to all people through Unity Presbyterian Church and its ministries.



The worship and work of an active church requires paper, copiers, information technology, computers, phones, postage, etc. It also requires a capable support staff to keep the operations of ministry working and keeping up with our changing work environment and systems updates.

The creation of sound policies and procedures are put into place so that the work of ministry can run safely and smoothly.

# ADULT DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

**Budgeted Spending \$ 3,305**  
**Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 52,638**  
**Total Program Cost \$ 55,943**



Not just on Sundays, but every day of the week, your gifts of time, talent and treasure provide opportunities to invite and inspire all people to explore their faith and find their connection to God and to transform their lives through the Living Word.

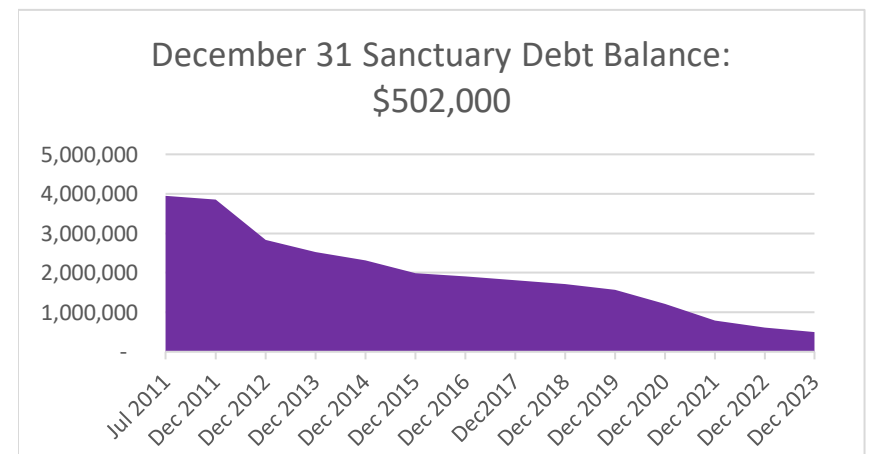
If you are not currently engaged in an opportunity to grow in your faith, there is a place for you in Adult Faith Formation. We offer groups that meet on Sunday mornings, weekdays, and evenings. Some groups meet in person, some online, and some offer a hybrid option. Your gifts support all-church reads, special programs, small group ministry, seasonal devotional resources, and a wide variety of multi-generational opportunities for learning and fellowship.



Our Music ministry is located on the first floor with instruments and practice space for our 40 adult, 35 children and 16 handbell choir volunteers.

Sunday nursery also meets on the first floor. We currently provide two rooms with age appropriate equipment and play available.

Finally, Unity Preschool meets here Monday – Thursday serving 54 children ages 2-5, which provides a caring, loving, safe, and developmentally appropriate Christian learning environment.



# DEBT SERVICING

Budgeted Spending \$ 85,000



Our beautiful Sanctuary building was built and furnished in 2010 for \$6.2 million. In addition to the sanctuary, with a capacity of 791 people, it includes a spacious narthex, sacristy, choir room, handbell room, four nursery/preschool classrooms, and additional storage.

Our spacious Narthex provides enough room to display information about our ministries and achieve a welcoming atmosphere for interpersonal connection.

Our sanctuary provides a beautiful, sacred space for worship, weddings, funerals and special events such as the Festival of Carols performed by our area high schools; Pedals, Pipes and Pizza directed by the American Guild of Organists; and the York County Choral Society Concerts.

Balance, December 31, 2023 .....	\$502,000
Interest rate .....	3.89%
Debt retirement date based	
on current amortization .....	December 31, 2030
Balloon payment due .....	June 5, 2027

In the summer of 2023, we offered intergenerational Faith Formation on Sunday mornings. Each week, we explored a different prayer practice. One participant shared, “Today's lesson and time with the labyrinth was wonderful. I have done labyrinths in various settings many times. This is the first time I have done one with small children. I learned many spiritual lessons that I could not have gotten any other way.”



Copies of the Upper Room devotional booklets are available free of charge year-round in the Narthex and church office. This year, we have increased our order of the large-print edition to provide this devotional resource to more people. The Messy Motherhood group continues to meet on Zoom weekly for 6-8 weeks at a time throughout the year to allow moms with young children the opportunity for study and prayer without having to leave their homes. Through our ‘God’s Story and Our Stories’ Annual Vision for Ministry, ADMT sponsored its first field trip off campus to invite people to listen to stories not often told. We hope to plan additional opportunities in the coming year. There are currently 5 adult Sunday school offerings on Sunday morning as well as a small group, Bible study, or book study almost every other day of the week.

# BENEVOLENCE & OUTREACH

**Benevolence Spending \$ 82,360**  
**Outreach Spending \$ 54,680**  
**Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 57,010**  
**Total Program Cost \$ 194,050**



We put into practice Unity Presbyterian Church's mission of glorifying God through service to all people through our mission outreach and benevolence programs. You support the outreach ministries locally, regionally, nationally and globally. You feed the hungry, care for the sick, house the homeless, set people's lives back on their feet and provide emergency financial assistance.



For those who like to get out into nature we also have the Unity Hikers.



This is a great way to build community with fellow hikers and explore hiking trails in the area.

Unfortunately accidents and illnesses do occur. Our health ministry's team provides and maintains:

- Seven first aid kits on the campus
- A travel first aid kit
- A digital blood pressure cuff
- Three Automatic External Defibrillators, one including pediatric pads.



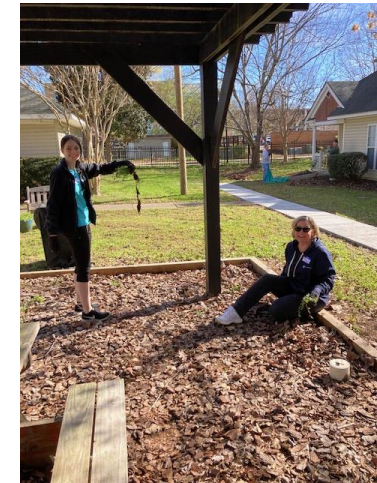
# Keeping Unity Healthy

Unity's Health ministry works to keep our members and the members of the surrounding community healthy.



Unity's Fitness Classes are well attended and are making a difference in the lives of those attending! It is an enthusiastic group of varying levels of fitness that has fun with the exercises and enjoys the social aspect of exercising together with the group.

- *I have back issues and this program has helped with healing*
- *Has definitely improved my balance, flexibility, muscle strength, and quality of sleep*
- *I am physically so much stronger and healthier. It has made a huge difference!*
- *Love the natural high from a steady hour of a well-calculated, professional, workout*
- *Class targets areas such as balance, abs, toes (yes, toes) and many more!*
- *Fellowship and bonding with others has been a blessing*



Go MAD (Make A Difference) work from Unity and at Pilgrim's Inn

Through contributions to Providence Presbytery, you join 55 other churches in supporting mission partners and projects around the world. Our benevolences also support the Synod of the South Atlantic, which connects 16 presbyteries in the southeast; the General Assembly, which connects all PC (USA) churches nationwide; and the Montreat Benevolence Ministry.

## Synod of the South Atlantic



## BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

**Budgeted Spending \$ 255,080**  
**Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 112,007**  
**Total Program Cost \$ 367,087**



An active church like ours needs a place to gather for worship, meetings, studies, and fellowship. And so do our neighbors - we open our six-acre campus and 51,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facilities to several community groups throughout the year.

Special work teams organize to perform cleaning, painting, handyman type tasks, mulching, pruning, and other related projects. This is an opportunity for fellowship among our members while maintaining our campus for members, friends, and visitors.

*We moved to SC in 1995 from my hometown. I remember scouring faces at the grocery store, looking for someone familiar. After joining Unity and participating in various activities, I thought as a shepherd, I could be a friendly face in a "crowd". We have received wonderful families as "sheep". Our grandchildren are grown and many are not local, so I've become really attached to some of the younger "sheep", attending baptism and birthday parties, breakfasts, lunches, and dinners, dance recitals, cross country meets, and Grands Camp. I am blessed!*

*~ Marcia Hardy*

Total number of Family Units who visited Unity in 2023: 446.

Total number of New Members in 2023: 58, including 10 confirmands.

### ***WELCOME TO UNITY COFFEE***

*Connections Class: A Path to*

*Membership*

*New Member*

*Shepherd*

*New Member Photography*

*Welcome Center*



## Messages on Hospitality and Connection

*“We moved to Fort Mill a little over a year ago, and upon moving one of the things we prioritized was finding a new church home. After touring a few local to Fort Mill, once we stepped foot into Unity we knew this was home. We have been so thankful for the children and family programs, events and worship opportunities for our family to participate in so our children can also know and grow close to Jesus.*

*Dr. Matt and Mrs. Kathryn were the first we met at Unity and they could not be more welcoming or kind to our family. After that we quickly met other members of the church through events, worship, and our favorite event of the year - volunteering at VBS! I love the small community of members - almost every time I leave the house I run into someone I know from Church and we know each other by name. It’s truly a special place and we are so blessed to call this Church family home.” ~ Heidi and Rad Hudson*

*Upon approach to my first church service at Unity Presbyterian, I stood at the Sanctuary door with hope. I hoped that my initial experience would not be disappointing. There were many other churches that I had attended in years past that I felt like a visitor, only. My experience with Unity Presbyterian was the opposite! I was welcomed warmly and with care! The Service was amazing, and my closing experience was one in which I felt appreciated for my visit. After attending several services, it occurred to me that ALL persons within the Church extended such care that I felt a sense of Family, Christian Family, that I had not felt in decades.*

*~ Jan Rogers*



Additionally, families or groups maintain defined areas of the campus in our Adopt a Piece of Unity program. Others concentrate primarily on columbarium care.

We are grateful to the volunteers who offer their gifts in providing gardening, yardwork, handyman and building projects to make our campus a safe and welcoming place.



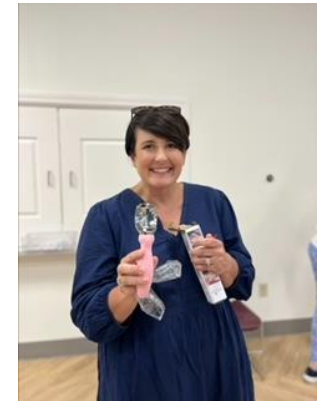
# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Budgeted Spending \$ 7,530  
Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 111,307  
Total Program Cost \$ 118,837



Our vision is that Unity Presbyterian Church be a nurturing environment where children and their families experience God in all areas of life and are empowered to live as disciples of Christ. Together, as followers of Christ, we are always growing, learning, and serving, believing that God loves all people and calls us to do the same. With a Christ-centered foundation for children and families, together we foster relationships that lead to a greater sense of community in a welcoming and inclusive church. With your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, you support our ministries for children birth-5<sup>th</sup> grade and their families.

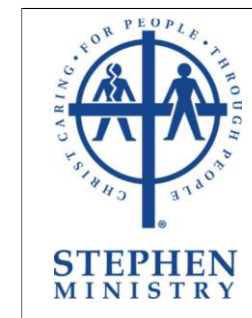
This year, from our congregation, you gifted CEV Bibles to 10 third graders and *Growing in God's Love Story Bibles* to 12 kindergartners. Our second graders learned more about worship, made the bread, and helped serve communion for World Communion Sunday. Our ministries extend out into the community through our Weekday Preschool for 2s, 3s and 4s as well as in the many ways our children serve the community in Growing Christians, our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade fellowship group, in Mission Camp, and at Grands Camp.



Activities support the Unity family through our connection with Christ and with one another by coordinating pastoral care, praying for others, visitation, providing meals or baking cookies, transportation, reaching out with a phone call or sending cards.

You provide for support groups for those who are grieving and those who are caregivers. Recently 18 people participated in these groups.

We coordinate Blood Drives, Lunch Bunch, Voting support, Yoga for Parkinson's, Prayer Chain, Meals or Cookies for members, Transportation, Visitation support, Congregational Breakfasts, the Ice Cream Social and we host the Scouts.



# HOSPITALITY, CONGREGATIONAL CARE, HEALTH & NURTURE

Budgeted Spending \$ 13,485

Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 112,351

Total Program Cost \$ 125,836



Pancake breakfast during Lent

You provide ministries of welcome and inclusion to Unity's visitors and offer love, support, and care to the entire Unity family through the following activities:

- Welcome Center and Connections Classes
  - Food & Fellowship
- Young Adult and Older Adult Ministries
- Presbyterian Women and Men's Ministries
  - Stephen Ministry
- Kitchen and Fellowship Hall Management

Including support for celebrations like Graduate Sunday and October's 235<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon.



This year, our nursey has expanded from one room to two with the need for additional care for infants as new families join and participate in worship at Unity. This required the addition of two adult volunteers each week.

You stepped up to answer that call. We have also seen greater participation in our two children's Sunday school classes. In the older elementary class, our children are learning more about how the Bible is put together. They are also using the skills they are learning to understand how the variety of stories about God and God's people found in the Bible apply to their lives today. Your gifts to the general budget assure that we can purchase quality curriculum and resource materials to help our children grow in their faith.





Our Growing Christians (GCs) enjoy fellowship with each other, seasonally, on Sunday afternoons. One of their favorite things to do is visit some of the older members of our congregation. They usually take a gift they have made and enjoy getting to know and learning about the life of people with whom they might not normally come into contact. The relationship connections have been quite special. Here's the note we received after one such visit:

*“You hit a home run with today’s group. I loved these girls—thanks for letting me be a part of this. I am not as actively involved in the activities at Unity as I once was but love being around young people. As a teacher, they were a big part of my life for many years. Thanks for sending them to visit with me today.”*



**High School Prayer Breakfast**

You are a vital part of supporting Unity’s Youth Ministry. Your gifts provide many opportunities for the Youth. Some of these opportunities are Sunday school, youth groups, fellowship activities, service projects, summer mission trips and Montreat Conference trips, confirmation, prayer breakfasts, and a Youth Leadership Team, and other opportunities to grow in faith.



**2023 Confirmation Retreat at Bethelwoods Camp & Conference Center**

# YOUTH

**Budgeted Spending \$ 17,945**

**Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 104,777**

**Total Program Cost \$ 122,722**



**2023 Youth Sunday**

Unity Presbyterian Church has long been committed to creating opportunities for youth to develop personal relationships with God in a safe, welcoming and inclusive community. With a foundation grounded in Scripture, students express the faith through fun, fellowship, and service with all generations in the church.



**2023 Youth BBQ Fundraiser**

Summer is filled with a variety of camp programs for our children. This past summer, VBS provided four days of fun and Bible learning around the theme, “Hero Hotline” for over 100 children. VBS wouldn’t be possible without the support of the entire congregation. Your gifts of service, donations, and general budget funding make VBS a meaningful summer tradition at Unity. Fourteen children and their adult chaperones attended Unity’s seventh year of PASSPORTkids! Camp, hosted this year at Brevard College in North Carolina. For many of the children this was their first experience spending the night away from home without family. These experiences build confidence and resilience in our children all while having fun and growing in their relationships with God and their church friends.



Our Grands Camp welcomed its largest group of grandchildren and grandparents ever this past summer. Here is one grandmother’s reflection on the week:

*“I have many favorite parts of Grands Camp. I love the singing! The mixed generations in the Church should sing more! The way you incorporated the main idea into a Lego creation was so fun. Storytime was deeply satisfying with beautiful selections and wonderful readers. I love the well-chosen snacks that enhanced each parable. And the crafts, Manna Bags and games... everything strategic, everything meaningful! God is answering this grandmother's prayer for her grandchildren partly through Grands Camp. Thank you.”*

None of this wonderful ministry with our children and their families would be possible without the congregation sharing their gifts and supporting our general budget.

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

Budgeted Spending \$ 16,780

Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 254,118

Total Program Cost \$ 270,898



Each Sunday and with special worship services throughout the year, you provide for worship services for all who desire to hear and respond to the Word of God in our beautiful sanctuary, the refurbished Historic Sanctuary or accessed online from our website. Worship is enriched through acolytes, banners, flowers, seasonal decorations and various music ministries, including a Chancel Choir with 40 members, Covenant and Cherub Choirs with a total of 35 participating, Handbell Choirs consisting of 16 ringers, and a variety of talented instrumentalists share their musical gifts against the backdrop of our majestic Opus 944 pipe organ.

*Unity Presbyterian Church is a very special place and I am thankful to call it my church home. It is a place where I can reset my thoughts and mood, and re-direct my week. That is huge for me. This is done through prayers, either alone or together, the thoughts that are shared, and by the music – played and sung. Music has always been important to me. It affects my mood. Singing has always been a release – something that was different from my job or playing, coaching, or announcing sports. My Mom was right. A time did come when I was no longer involved in athletics – but, I am still singing and, as she said, I will always have music. I'm thankful to get that inner peace as we worship God together in Unity.*

**- Jim Lester**



Our average weekly worship attendance for 2023 was 340 in person and 253 online. So, more than 590 people are engaged with the gospel through worship at Unity Presbyterian Church each week. Worship is vital to our life together as it gives glory to God and provides inspiration for all of life:

*No matter how I'm feeling - physically, mentally, emotionally or spiritually - when I come into worship I am re-centered. Fatigue, to-do lists, anxiety, emptiness disappear and in their place, "holy presence" begins to fill me: joy, peace, assurance, and hope. In this oneness of believers each of us plays a special part in worship. Gathering together, we affirm each other. Music and singing inspires and soothes. Prayers in unison or as individual thoughts are a sweet incense raised to GOD. The Word is convicting and encouraging. Worship is pleasing to GOD and I need it. May it continue, always.*

**- Maggie Bost**