

Unity Presbyterian Church
Proposed Narrative Budget
For the Operating Year
July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026
\$1,731,661



Giving our Time, Talent & Treasure

“¹I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? ²My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”

~ Psalm 121:1-2

ADMINISTRATIVE

Budgeted Spending \$ 113,768

Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 243,998

Total Program Cost \$ 357,766



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

The Communications Team enhances communication within the congregation and expands community awareness of Unity’s mission. While the Stewardship Team provides support and oversight of all church resources of time talent and treasure.

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 \$ 4,825

Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 45,819

Total Program Cost \$ 50,644



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 multigenerational opportunities for learning and fellowship.

In the summer of 2024, we offered intergenerational Faith Formation on Sunday morning. We used the curriculum “Mr. Roger’s Neighborhood” exploring who are our neighbors. Activities were designed to 1) foster positive relationships and promote understanding and 2) build relationships with our families and neighbors helping to foster empathy, kindness and understanding.

Copies of the Upper Room devotional booklets are available free of charge year-round in the Narthex and church office.

There are two Messy Motherhood groups that meet on Zoom weekly for 6 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. There are currently five adult classes that meet on Sunday morning for Faith Formation, as well as a small groups, Bible studies, or book studies almost every other day of the week. Additionally, a variety of Sunday electives on selected topics have been added. These include topics such as, “The Bible in 45 Minutes,” a conversation with Olympic bronze medalist on sports and faith, and “The Bible as if for the First Time.”



BENEVOLENCE & MISSION OUTREACH

Benevolence Spending \$ 84,000

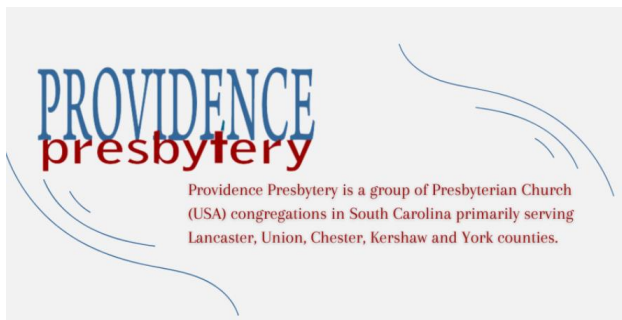
Outreach Spending \$ 60,350

Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 43,972

Total Program Cost \$ 188,322



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.



Go MAD (Make A Difference)

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.



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Budgeted Spending \$ 292,300
Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 143,507
Total Program Cost \$ 435,807



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.

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 ft² 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.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Budgeted Spending \$ 8,275
Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 97,530
Total Program Cost \$ 105,805



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-5th grade and their families.

This year, from our congregation, you gifted CEV Bibles to 16 third graders and *Growing in God's Love Story Bibles* to 11 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 4th and 5th grade fellowship group, in Mission Camp, and at Grands Camp.

In the fall of 2024, we added an additional children's Sunday morning Faith Formation class giving us three classes: 4K-5K, 1st-2nd Grades, and 3rd-5th Grades. Our older elementary children added a fun event for the whole congregation to our Spring Faith Formation line-up this year. In the Spring of 2024, they planned and performed their first wax museum sharing first person narrative accounts of *People Jesus Met*. They are planning their second one for the Spring of 2025 to share stories of *Old Testament Heros*. 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. Last winter, the GCs invited the congregation to help them collect items for clean-up buckets for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. With the congregation's support, the GCs put together more than 34 buckets full of cleaning supplies for those who have experienced a natural disaster. We watched a video from PDA about a flood that occurred some time ago in Eastern Kentucky. We learned that flood waters can make a BIG MESS that needs to be cleaned up when the waters recede. The buckets we packed were sent through Charlotte Presbytery to a PDA warehouse so they can be distributed as soon as a disaster occurs. This fall, following Hurricane Helene, we received a letter from a family in Montreat who had received one of our buckets. It was so meaningful for our children to know that the work they did last winter made a difference for people in a place we love this fall.



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, “Camp Firelight” 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. Eleven children and their adult chaperones attended Unity’s eighth year of PASSPORTkids! Camp, in Montreat. 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 fifth year of Grands Camp was also held this past summer. Our theme of God’s Story and Our Story reminded us that we are all created in the image of God; God created each of us with a unique story; and we all belong to the family of God. Each day, grandparents and grandchildren explored this theme through worship, story time, art, Legos, games and mission. We had several children and grandparents who have attended all five years as well as new grandparents whose grandchildren are finally old enough to participate. It is a highlight of the summer for many.



This fall, the Children’s Ministry envisioned a new event for families and children called Fall Family Fun Night. Like an old-fashioned fall carnival complete with a cake walk, and a hotdog supper, parents, grandparents, children and congregational volunteers came together for a fun Friday evening. From the very youngest to older children and adults, there was something for everyone. Participants could join in on a sack race, Go Fish for candy, play fall BINGO, make fall crafts and even participate in a mission project making treat bags for the Children’s Attention Home and Defend the Fatherless.

None of this wonderful ministry with our children and their families would be possible without the contributions of the congregation in their time, talent and treasure.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Budgeted Spending \$ 24,262

Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 267,789

Total Program Cost \$ 292,051



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 2024 was 395 in person and 248 online. So, nearly 650 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

YOUTH

Budgeted Spending \$ 17,215
Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 98,256
Total Program Cost \$ 115,471



Unity Presbyterian Church has long been committed to creating opportunities for 6th-12th graders to develop personal relationships with God and experience belonging in a safe, welcoming and inclusive community. Grounded in scripture, youth are invited to nurture and live out their faith through study, service, and intergenerational relationship building. We believe that youth are not simply “the future” of the church. They are the church of today. Thus, we boldly invite youth into leadership roles and equip them to utilize their gifts to serve as faithful disciples of Christ at church, home, school, and everywhere in between.

Together, as followers of Jesus Christ, we learn how to claim our language of faith. We identify important stories of God’s work in scripture, our lives, and the world, and we practice listening closely to the stories of others. And alongside all this faith formation, we experience moments of laughter and joy. We play games, travel together, and break bread around the table. We disconnect from the distractions of our daily lives to remember our common identity as God’s beloved children.

This year, you supported 15 8th graders on their confirmation journey as they learned from adult mentors, enjoyed a spiritually nourishing retreat, and shared faith statements with the session.

“Confirmation has helped me deepen my faith and have a stronger bond with God and the Unity community. It’s been a really fun journey of growth, love, and support.” -Willa, 2024’25 Confirmand

“I’m a mentor for an 8th grader going through Confirmation. Not only have I met some amazing youth, but I’ve also seen their faith in action. Seeing THEIR faith has strengthened mine.” -Vereen Brown, 2024’25 Confirmation Mentor

You helped our youth raise over \$2,000 to benefit Hurricane Helene recovery at Montreat Conference Center during our annual BBQ fundraiser. You helped us to increase our outreach opportunities for youth including two Hurricane Helene recovery weekend trips in Western North Carolina. You helped our youth engage in outreach projects to support our partners at Defend the Fatherless, Isaiah 117 House, Fort Mill Care Center, and more.



We are grateful to have seen growing participation this year across two Sunday School classes, weekly youth group, and Prayer Breakfast. Your gifts help us to purchase high quality curriculum and materials to ensure that this time is formative, relevant, and enjoyable.

“I am grateful for the church because I feel supported by everyone at Unity, because anyone is always welcome, because people here can always make me smile, because we work for the betterment of all people, because Unity provided me the best community to grow in faith, love and kindness.” -Current High School Youth

“I am grateful for Unity Youth because the first time I stepped in, I was welcome.” - Current Middle School Youth

With your generous gifts of time, talent and treasure, you support our young people as they seek to nurture a faith that will propel them throughout their lives. Thank you for the many ways you show up to nurture Unity Youth!

HOSPITALITY, CONGREGATIONAL CARE, HEALTH & NURTURE

Budgeted Spending \$ 11,845

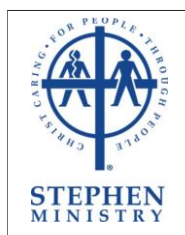
Allocated Personnel Cost \$ 88,949

Total Program Cost \$ 100,794



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
 - Graduate Sunday Breakfast
 - Ice Cream Social
 - And More ...



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.



Messages on Hospitality and Connection

My husband Dave and I moved from Watertown NY to Indian Land, SC in October of 2020. We have been life-long Presbyterians since childhood so we knew we wanted to continue with a Presbyterian church. We spent several weeks looking for a church home which of course was complicated by the pandemic. After a time, we decided to try that pretty church on the hill in Fort Mill.

We found Unity to be very welcoming and truly enjoyed the worship service and the weekly message. When we first visited Unity Church, the early service was being held outdoors. We enjoyed that experience and had the opportunity to meet many friendly people. It wasn't long before we got a call from Pastor Matt welcoming us to Unity. We continued to attend services (indoors) and after a few months attended the Connections Class after church and began our path to membership.

We enjoy attending the early Sunday service and find Pastor's Matt sermons to be dynamic and spiritually rewarding. Another favorite part of worship that we enjoy is the Children's sermon. It warms our hearts to see so many children in church and learning about God's love for them. We enjoy ushering when needed and I have volunteered at VBS.

Moving from NY to South Carolina was a big life decision for us retirees and was not done without a lot of prayer for God to guide us in this endeavor. Being part of the Unity Church family is definitely one of the ways God has guided us in our journey.

Laura & David Little

My son and I love Unity! We were welcomed warmly by Pastor Dr. Matt and many members, and we knew quickly that we wanted to join this community. There are so many ways to participate in activities and serve for all ages. I was especially drawn to the children's programs and activities for my son. He has joined Sunday school, singing in the children's choir, and we have volunteered some time with the Family Promise program.

I enjoy worship services here; Pastor Dr. Matt's sermons resonate with me. We are truly blessed to be part of this wonderful church, and I'm so glad it has reconnected us to our faith.

Becky Grossoehme

Our first introduction to Unity was through the Vacation Bible School when our daughter attended as a four-year-old. After the warm welcome and exciting week, we knew this was a place we wanted our children to grow up. From the sermons that make you feel like they are "speaking to you", to a wonderful children's music program, and all the opportunities for enrichment and Christian growth...Unity finds a way to make you feel at home. We look forward to all of the ways our children will grow as they continue to move through the faith formation that has been carefully planned and laid out for them throughout their school years. Most of all, we look forward to the smiling faces, friends, and neighbors, and the years of memories ahead.

Carolyn & Aaron Wright

Number of Family Units who visited Unity in 2024:
517.

Number of New Members in 2024: 77 new members,
plus 3 affiliate members, and 17 youth/confirmands
for a total of 97 new members.

In addition, to the 77 new members, of those families,
35 children/youth were added to our congregation.

WELCOME TO UNITY COFFEE

Connections Class: A Path to

Membership

New Member Shepherd

New Member Photography

Welcome Center

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! These classes offer varying levels of fitness that have fun with the exercises and enjoys the social aspect of exercising together as a group.

Our weekly fitness and yoga classes continue to be well attended and we have a group who likes to hike the local area.

We added two 50 minutes dance classes on Wednesday mornings. **RHYTHM and MOVES (9:30 a.m.)** is for those who enjoy all types of music and wish to improve their balance, flexibility and mobility.

LINE DANCE (10:30 a.m.) is for those with some dance experience. The fun is in the music, and a wide variety of musical styles will be used. We will learn line dances that incorporate ballroom, social and jazz steps.



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

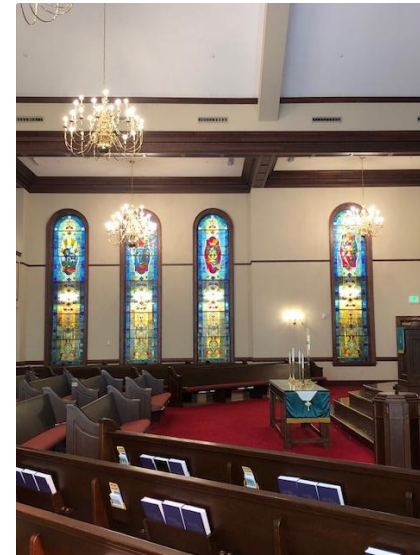
- Three Automatic External Defibrillators:
 - Narthex 2010 Sanctuary with pediatric pads.
 - Fellowship Hall.
 - Hallway outside the church office.
- 15 First Aid Kits including one for travel
 - The Choir Room, Fellowship Hall kitchen and above the AED near the narthex have blood pressure cuffs.
- CPR-AED classes for certification
- Care teams
- Medical Equipment closet
- Health tips/info in church newsletter
- AARP Senior Safe Driving course
- Mental Health events

Meetings are every other month. Come and join us.



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.

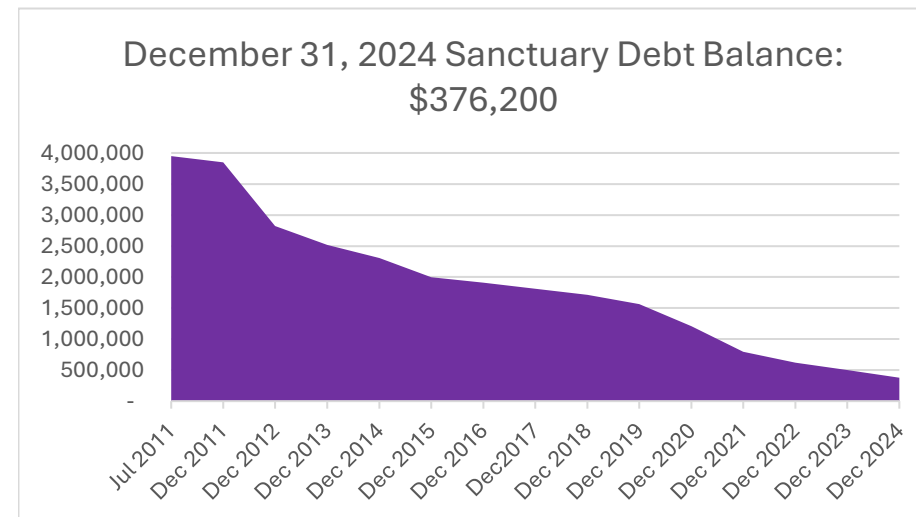
Our sanctuary provides a beautiful, sacred space for worship, weddings, funerals and special events such as the Festival of Carols performed by our area high schools; and the York County Choral Society Concerts.

Balance, December 31, 2024 \$376,200
 Interest rate 3.89%
 Debt retirement date based
 on current amortization December 31, 2030
 Balloon payment due June 5, 2027

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.



Unity Staff

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 Operations	Zeno Wall
Dir. of Youth Ministry	Liz Corsig
Dir. of Preschool	Linda Bunge
Financial Manager	Pam Bright
Administrative Assist	Anissa Lee
Communications	Michaela Krug
Receptionist	Stephanie Girardot
Assist. Faith Formation	Robin Medlock
Sexton	Albert White
Nursery	Angie Benjamin
Nursery	Sylvia Coleman

Unity Presbyterian Church is blessed to have dedicated, knowledgeable staff whose exercise of their callings enables Unity's many ministries through their work and their oversight of 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 Preschool, 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.