

2025

# ANNUAL REPORT



**First Presbyterian Winchester**



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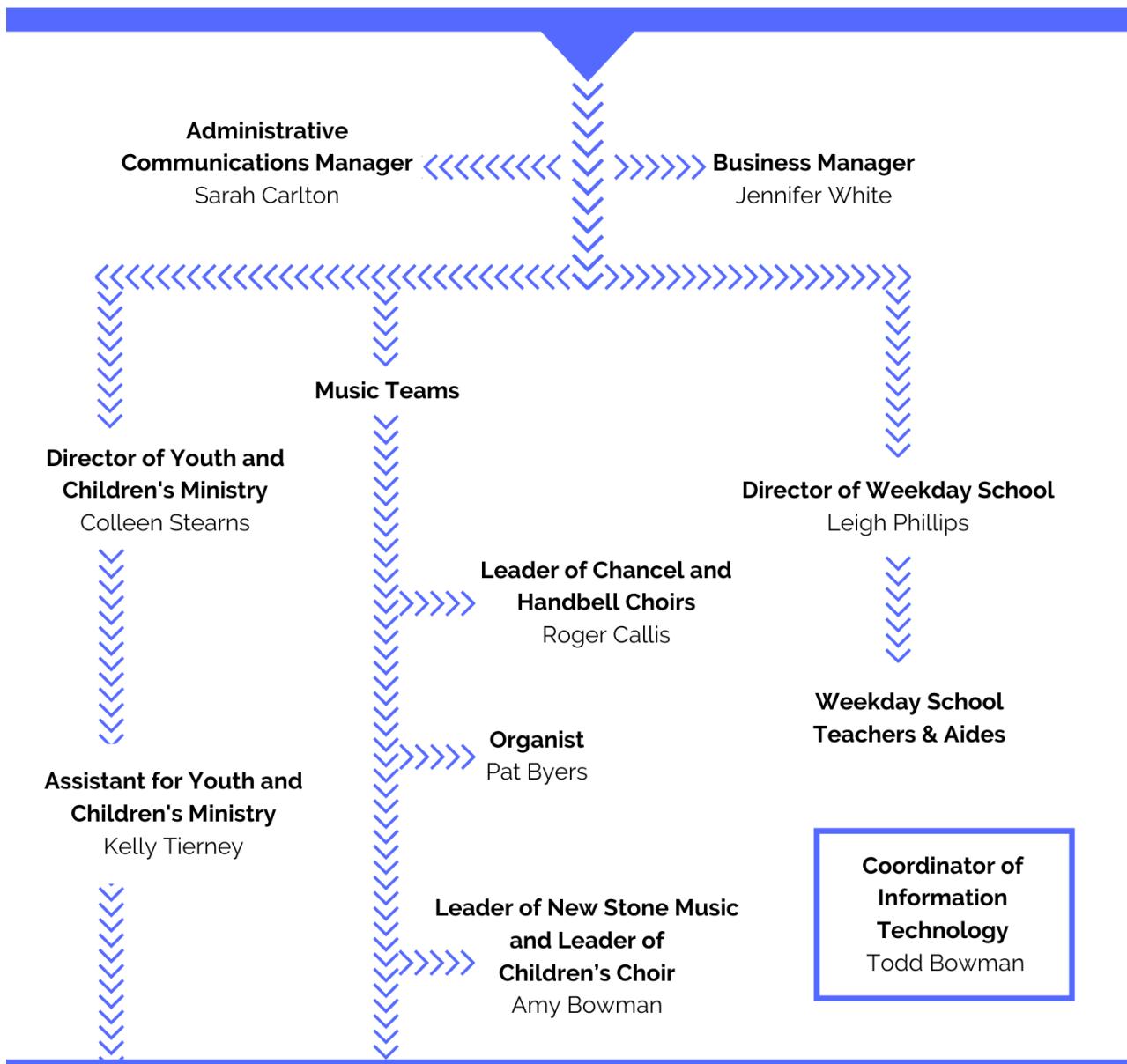
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## First Presbyterian Church Staff

# First Presbyterian Church Staff

### Pastor/Head of Staff

The Rev. Dr. Evan R. Smith (effective March 2, 2026)



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

*Serving Christ & Neighbor in the Heart of Winchester & Beyond*

# Current Session for FY 2026

Rev. Dr. Evan R. Smith, Moderator (effective March 2, 2026)

John Fisher, Clerk

Mike Thompson, Treasurer

## **Administration Council**

Moderator – Dave Lawall, Class of 2026

Vice Moderator – Patti Keeton, Class of 2027

Ann Burkholder, Class of 2028

## **Facilities Council**

Moderator – Dave Cress, Class of 2026

Gordon Stearns – Class of 2027

Terry Frye – Class of 2028

## **Mission Council**

Moderator – Bob Lizer, Class of 2026

Vice Moderator – Debbie Alverson, Class of 2027

David Baxa – Class of 2028

## **Worship & Discipleship**

Moderator – Jenny Bruening, Class of 2026

Vice Moderator – Lynn McCauley, Class of 2027

John Crandell – Class of 2028

## **Congregational Life**

Moderator – Glenn Burdick, Class of 2026

Vice Moderator – Libby Solak, Class of 2027

Beth Kane, Class of 2028

## From the Pastors' Desks

### Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas [Head of Staff/Pastor]

2025 marked my final full year and season as your pastor. As I write my report, I am reflecting on the wisdom from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8:

"For everything there is a season and a time for  
every matter under heaven:  
    <sup>2</sup> a time to be born and a time to die;  
    a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is  
        planted; <sup>3</sup> a time to kill and a time to heal;  
    a time to break down and a time to build up; <sup>4</sup> a  
        time to weep and a time to laugh;  
    a time to mourn and a time to dance; <sup>5</sup> a time to  
        throw away stones and a time to gather stones  
        together; a time to embrace and a time to  
        refrain from embracing;  
    <sup>6</sup> a time to seek and a time to lose; a time to  
        keep and a time to throw away;  
    <sup>7</sup> a time to tear and a time to sew; a time to keep  
        silent and a time to speak;  
    <sup>8</sup> a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war  
        and a time for peace."

As an avid lover of musical theatre, I also cannot help but reflect on the following lyrics written by Jonathan Larson from RENT:

"Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes

How do you measure, measure a year?

In daylights, in sunsets  
In midnights, in cups of coffee  
    In inches, in miles  
    In laughter, in strife

In five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes

How do you measure a year in the life?

How about love? Measure in love---seasons of love." Seasons of Love

So dear friends, I'd like to use some numbers to reflect 2025 among y'all.

- 40 sermons: Including summer sermon series on: Creation Care, The 4c's of Church: Christ, Connection, Care, and Community, Women in the Bible, and the Best Christmas pageant ever advent/ Christmas series.
- 6 Lenten luncheon and prayer services in chapel: We held reflective, candle lit prayer services and then shared fellowship over soups and breads. Thank you to Congregational Life Council for coordinating the delicious lunches.
- 1 Holy Week which included hosting our Downtown churches' Good Friday service.

- 1 youth mission trip to New Bern: I enjoyed traveling back to New Bern with our youth. I continue to be impressed with their work ethic, dedication, and leadership.
- 35+? Times being dunked in dunk tank at youth fundraiser carnival: I was happily dunked at least 30 times (I stopped counting after that 😊) to help raise money for youth ministry.
- 1 mission trip to Guatemala: It was a joy to be able to travel to Guatemala to be with our partners for a week in April. We were able to visit one of our sisters' villages and church as well as see first-hand how the women of Guatemala and Faith Stories Project use theatre to teach and share important stories in their communities. They use theatre to share stories from scripture as well as the importance of clean water and good health practices. This is relational ministry and mission in practice and I've loved getting to know the women involved and our partners in Guatemala.
- 12 session meetings. 1 session training session and 1 deacon training session: Please remember to pray for your elected leaders of session as well as your deacons. 2025, like any year held some difficult and joyful times for each group.
- 2 nights calling BINGO at WATTS - what an incredible mission of Winchester and surrounding communities!
- 7 baptisms: One of my favorite parts of worship and being a pastor.
- 1 pet blessing on the Old Town Walking Mall: complete with kisses from a variety of pets. 😊
- 12+ council meetings: These councils work hard to make sure things happen at church and all councils are always looking for new members.
- 12 gatherings with fellow Downtown Clergy Fellowship to support local mission partners as well as local fellow clergy.
- 1 fantastic week of Vacation Bible School with elementary Bible adventures.
- 1 year serving on Presbytery's Committee for Mission and Outreach. This committee brings joy as we are able to allocate presbytery funds to serve our neighbors in presbytery and all around the world through various missions.
- 1 incredible celebration of 225 years: Thank you to all who helped make this celebration a success!
- 10 visitation team meetings: This quiet ministry works alongside deacons behind the scenes to help make sure everyone is loved and cared for.
- 350 "Little" Jesus figures hidden around worship spaces---remember to look for Jesus at work in world and life always.
- 10 gatherings with Presbytery clergy group to strengthen relationships including one reading retreat we shared together.
- Working to model good boundaries and help manage expectations as FPC transitions from multiple pastors to one.
- Countless visits, phone calls, and relational ministry hours: From planning memorial services, to hospital visits, home visits, home-communion visits, lunches, and everything in between, it was a sacred privilege to hold hands and pray with and for those experiencing a variety of ups and downs of life.
- Countless staff meetings leading a talented and thoughtful staff throughout the year while we navigated a transition.
- An immeasurable amount of love both given and received: Thank you and please always remember you are all so loved.

To conclude my report, I leave you with some encouragements and reminders, along with prayers as the congregation moves through 2026 and beyond:

- Continue to tell the unique story of FPC Winchester. Us pastors deeply love the church, but one day move on. Only the congregation can tell the whole story and cast visions of where the church desires to go in future.
- Continue to take care of one another. Our deacons have a year of experience and are wonderful. Our visitation team is stellar. However, with one pastor, taking care of each other is vital.
- Remember our call to be good stewards of gifts God has given us.
- Please take care of the staff. They are all dedicated and work tirelessly with love on behalf of the congregation. Please know that transitions are often hard on staff in ways not everyone may notice. Provide grace and love. Ask how you may help. Volunteer.

It has been a joy to serve as your pastor at FPC since June 2018. There were, of course, challenges; however, I have learned and grown as a person and pastor in my time with y'all. I will carry FPC like a handprint on my heart going forward.

Love in Christ,  
Pastor Amanda

## Calendar of Events

*Respectfully Submitted by Sarah Carlton, Administrative Communications Manager*

These snapshots and highlights from 2025 offer a glimpse into the life of FPC over the past year. They reflect only part of the abundant participation, care, and commitment shared by our congregation. While not exhaustive, this overview honors the many ways our church community remained active and engaged.

**January 5** One service at 11:00 am and Hymn Sing in Fellowship Hall with Desserts coordinated by Congregational Life Council

**January 19** Elder Ordination and Installation Service & Annual Meeting

**January 25** Duck Donuts fundraiser for the Weekday School

**January 26** WATS prep during the Sunday School hour

**January 28** Book talk deriter(s) event for Brenda Nelson, the author of "Life and Times of Robert Orrick". Robert Orrick was one of the most prominent African Americans in Winchester during the 19<sup>th</sup> century

**February 2** Congregational Meeting: Election of Deacons and Annual Meeting at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary

**February 8** Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter (WATS) hosting week began

**February 9** Mission Council highlights Local and Global mission opportunities during the Sunday School hour in Loudoun Hall. Soup-er bowl of caring collection for CCAP sponsored by Youth Ministry. Deacon installation and recognition of Troop 2 during the Sanctuary Service

**February 16** Open forum in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 am to discuss the latest FPC transition updates. Children's and Youth Sunday School cancelled.

**February 18** The WDS began extending their school day to 2:00 pm until the end of the school year due to snow cancellations

**March 2** Helper Fund Benefit Concert featuring Shenandoah Singers

**March 9** Congregational Meeting to present the new terms of call for Rev. Thomas and daylight savings spring forward

**March 5** Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm in Sanctuary & Start of weekly Lent Prayer Service at 11:30 am in Chapel with Soup and Conversation to follow in Fellowship Hall

**March 21** Youth Ministry babysitting fundraiser for the summer mission trip and CCAP Easter donations due

**March 7** PNC's first communication to congregation and announcement of FPC's renewal as an Earth Care Congregation through the Friday Newsletter

**March 15** Facilities Council installs new energy efficient light fixtures in the Stine Room with the help of volunteers!

**March 21** Winchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Gala Celebration. PNC announces the 30 Stages of Completion for the Pastor Nominating Process in the Friday Newsletter

**March 23** Coffee, Cake, and Thanks for Pastor Michael in the Fellowship Hall and Children's Choir at 8:30 am Service

**March 25** Book talk deriter(s) event with Dr. Glenn Burdick, author of "*The Right Man: The story of Jacob L. Johnson, Superintendent of Winchester Public Schools 1965-79*". Dr Johnson served Winchester Schools during a period of unprecedented social, political, and educational change.

**March 28** Worship and Discipleship announces thanks for the volunteers who helped install the new A/V mixer board for the Sanctuary and Breaking Bread Together initiative begins recruiting for Spring season

**March 30** Youth Sunday – One Service at 11:00 am with Brunch following in Fellowship Hall

**April 2** 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Weekday School Spaghetti Dinner Scholarship Fundraiser at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall

**April 3** Guatemala Team Faith Stories Project weeklong Mission Trip

**April 5** Children's Ministry Family Easter Event and Egg Hunt

**April 6** One service at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary with Rev. Bronwen Boswell, General Presbyter of Shenandoah Presbytery and PB&J making for the CCAP Community "freedges" during the Sunday School hour

**April 7** The Weekday School began celebrating *The Week of the Young Child* with a week full of activities and enrichment events

**April 13** Palm Sunday, Annual Fire Drill at 10:15 am, and Walking Mall Community Blessing of the Palms at 10:30 am

**April 26** VBS Decorating Day at 10:00 am and Weekday School fundraiser at Red Fox Creamery

**April 27** Question and Answer with Session members during Sunday School hour. Rev. Colleen Earp, Program Director at Massanetta Springs, serves as guest preacher. Children's choir at 11:00 am Service

**May 4** Annual Red Wagon Ministry Drive for CCAP kicked-off for the month of May!

**May 11** Confirmation Sunday and special Creation Care Sunday School class for Mother's Day

**May 17** Mission Council hosts a table at the Community Kindness Family Fair – event sponsored by the Valley Interfaith Council

**May 18** Congregational Meeting to elect a new elder to fill a vacancy on Session

**May 24** Last day of school for the WDS!

**May 24** Mission Trip Car Wash Fundraiser at 2:00 pm

**May 25** Graduating Seniors were recognized at Sunday services, Last Day of Sunday School

**June 1** Start of Summer Worship Schedule (8:30 am and 10:00 am services only)

**June 7** Youth-Led FPC Fundraiser and Carnival

**June 9** HIS Week (*Hands in Service*) began for Youth Ministry

**June 12** Children's Story Time and Book Drive for the Malawi Preschool, led by Youth Ministry

**June 14** Children's Ministry Committee and Congregational Life hosted a temporary tattoo station at the annual Kidz Fest on the Old Town Walking Mall!

**June 16** Start of Vacation Bible School; *Theme: True North, Trusting Jesus in a Wild World*

**June 22** Vacation Bible School Music and a VBS Children-Led Children's Moment at 8:30 am Service & special VBS sermon at both services

**July 6** Youth Mission Trip to New Bern, NC and Commissioning during 10 am Sanctuary Service. Annual Bright Future's School Supply and Food Drive kicked-off!

**July 20** Bible & Music Conference at Massanetta Springs begins, Hymn-Sing at 8:30 am Fellowship Hall service, and start of 2-Part sermon series on Creation Care

**July 23** 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Energy Efficient Window Replacements. This year's rooms are: 210, 211, 212, Stine, and Scout

**July 27** Blessing of the Animals on the Old Town Walking Mall

**July 29** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck Meal in the Fellowship Hall following 10:00 am combined service

**August 17** Backpack Blessing Sunday

**August 23** 5<sup>th</sup> Annual participation in the CCAP Benefit Bike Tour

**August 26** open-call jam session for those interested in joining the New Stone Praise Band

**August 28** Winchester Star publishes article on First Pres's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, "Downtown's First Presbyterian celebrating its 225th anniversary" by Brian Brehm

**August 31** Rev. Dr. Don OMalley serves as guest preacher

**September 7** A joyful 225th Anniversary FPC celebration and luncheon was sponsored by Congregational Life, along with many dedicated community contributors. A called meeting of the congregation was held to elect the Elder Nominating Committee members

**September 14** Rally Day, end of Summer Worship Schedule and Youth Group Kick-Off

**September 21** Guatemala Market and Presentation during the Sunday School hour

**September 28** Helper Fund Hymn-Sing and potluck fundraiser

**October 4** Family Fun Day sponsored by Children's Ministry at Marker Miller Orchards & FPC hosts a table at the Annual Winchester Pride event

**October 12** Rev. Kes Amena visits from partner church in Mettu, Ethiopia

**October 14** FPC members participate in the Interfaith Justice Revival Road trip in partnership with Braddock St. Methodist Church

**October 18** Children's Ministry hosts car at the YDC Trunk-or-treat event

**October 19** Q&A with Session Members during the Sunday School hour

**October 26** Mission Trip with Shenandoah Presbytery to Western North Carolina

**November 1** Men on a Mission: Annual Highland Food Pantry Fundraiser in Fellowship Hall

**November 2** All Saints Sunday. FPC's New Global Mission Malawi Preschools for Vulnerable Children highlighted during the Sunday School hour and daylight savings fall back

**November 3** FPC Movie Night hosted by Youth Ministry – Movies: The Lorax and Monsters Inc. and CCAP Thanksgiving Donations due

**November 9** Congregational Meeting to elect Elder and Deacon nominees and Elders

**November 15** Two high-school youth attended the Shenandoah Presbytery meeting to share about FPC's Youth Ministry!

**November 21** Youth Ministry attended the 3-Day Keep Awake High School Conference

**November 27** Community Thanksgiving Dinner Take-Out and Delivery hosted in Fellowship Hall

**November 30** Youth Ministry Blessing Bag and Bright Future's Chrismon Tree donations due

**December 5** Wreath Making at 8:30 am in Loudoun Hall. The Valley Chorale held their "Making Spirits Bright" Christmas Concert in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm

**December 7** Christmas CCAP donations due, Bethlehem Artisan Craft fair before and after services, and PB&J making for CCAP community "freedges"

**December 10** Chik-fil-a Youth Ministry Fundraiser at the Pleasant Valley Road location

**December 11** Window Decorating at 3:30 pm in the Sanctuary

**December 14** Christmas Music with MiKayla and Amy benefitting the FPC Helper Fund

**December 17** Children and Youth Christmas Craft Night

**December 20** Facility Council and volunteers changed filters throughout the building

**December 21** The Longest Night Worship Service at 4:30 pm

**December 22** Christmas Movie Night: *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*

**December 24** Christmas Eve Services were held at 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, and 9:00 pm

## Annual Statistical Report

FY ending December 31, 2025

### Active Membership

Active Members since December 31, 2024	590
Deaths	-9
Certificate Losses	-7
Deleted from the Roll for any Other Reason	-68
Certificate Gains	+2
Youth Professions of Faith	+12
Professions of Faith and Reaffirmations	+9
Active Members as of December 31, 2025	529

### Active Members Deaths

Clint Jones  
Adolene Long  
Bill Clement

David Russell  
 Louise Nelson  
 Gary Smith  
 Chuck Hester  
 Melanie Oates  
 Donna Dick

## Children Baptism

June Noelle Howery	February 23, 2025
Bruce Carter Glaize	May 11, 2025
Seamus Richard Rau	May 11, 2025
Lily Robb	May 11, 2025
Marley Alison Baxter	May 11, 2025
Hunter Reed Baxter	May 11, 2025
Alvin Amban	June 29, 2025

## Communion

Chapel Service (7:30)

- January 12, 19, 26
- February, 9, 16, 23
- March 2, 9, 16, 23
- May 11

Sanctuary

- January 12
- March 9 – First Sunday of Lent
- March 5 – Ash Wednesday
- April 17 -- Maundy Thursday
- June 8 – Pentecost
- July 13
- September 7 – One Service for 225<sup>th</sup>
- August 10
- October 5 - World Communion
- November 30
- December 14

Fellowship Hall

- January 12
- March 9 – First Sunday of Lent,
- March 30 – Youth Sunday
- June 8 – Pentecost
- August 10
- October 5 - World Communion
- December 14

## Administration Council

*Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Painter, 2025 Moderator*

The administration council was made up of session members, Patti Keaton (member), Dave Lawall (vice moderator), Mike Thompson (treasurer) and Dennis Painter (moderator). Pastor Micheal Hafele attended for the months he was here.

The council met monthly to discuss the financial position of the church and provided actions to keep the financial goals on track. The monthly treasurer's report provided data for revenue from congregational giving and expenditures from the five councils. In 2025 giving missed budgeted expectations but only by \$1600 and expenditures were over budget by \$705. As a

result, we had a deficit but less than anticipated due to actions taken by session in moving to a one pastor model.

The church's investments and designated fund balances were also monitored.

A primary responsibility of the council is budget preparation for the upcoming year. Based on current pledges and expected operational expenses we will expect a shortfall.

The annual giving stewardship campaign was developed using our church's history and used the theme of "225 years of joyful giving". We set a goal of 225 giving units pledged but received only 123 as of 12/31/2025. We realized from the results more time and effort need to be directed at this task for the 2026 campaign.

Several outdated policies regarding budget preparation and nominations were rewritten to represent current policies and operations. The Session adopted a new communications policy in May, which has been added to the policy manual. Additionally, the Administrative handbook was updated for mileage rates.

Hottel & Willis, P.C. were engaged to conduct the annual examination of the church's financials for 2024. Their audit consisted of examination of our general ledger and balance sheet. In addition to routine agreed-upon procedures that verify the accuracy of our balance sheet, the Administration Council requests the firm to review one or two areas in deeper detail. To control audit costs, we have a procedure that audits all facets of financial operations and selects one or two randomly each year but ensures to cover all areas within a three-year period. This year the church and Weekday School payroll was audited. No major exceptions were found but a couple of suggested changes will be looked into. Thanks to our business Manager, Jennifer White.

The membership rolls were reviewed and updated, with 67 members who did not meet participation requirements and did not respond to the outreach letter being moved to inactive status. At the same time, members who have renewed their participation in FPC activities were reinstated throughout the year. An accurate roll is very helpful when making staffing and programming decisions. Staff, Admin Council, and Session members reviewed the membership roll to see if any of the member involvement indicators (attending, giving, participating) had been met at least once in the last two years. Those identified as not meeting involvement criteria were contacted.

## Congregational Life Council

Congregational Life Council addresses ways our church family can connect with each other, have a welcoming presence for those who enter our doors and encourage new people to join us in our church mission of serving Christ in our community and beyond.

This year we offered three 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday covered dish meals following a one church service Sunday. During Lent season a soup/bread lunch was weekly offered in conjunction with Rev. Amanda's Lenten program. For our church celebration of 225 years of existence in September, a picnic style covered dish lunch meal was provided.

Breaking Bread Together, a way to meet people in the church thru attending a meal in someone's home, began with small groups meeting every two months.

Holy Grounds Coffee team continues to provide hot coffee every Sunday morning for people attending the New Stone worship service.

Our Bereavement team has provided a reception following a funeral service at our church several times this year.

To address specific populations in our church the council provides the following:

DERIETERS, a social group for retired people that coordinated some activities this year.

Men's Tuesday Morning Breakfast at Chick Fil-A.

Pub Theology – evening gathering outside the church with a topic for discussion.

Card outreach: pastoral cards sent out regularly to individuals/families experiencing a hospitalization, extended illness, rehabilitation/treatments or a death in the family. Additionally, birthday cards are sent to all in our directory.

Visitation Team – monthly outreach to church members who can no longer attend church activities regularly.

To address evangelism within our church our council provides name tags for each new member. A gift bag is offered to all new people who attend a service at our church. We have provided volunteers to greet families coming

Respectfully Submitted, Libby Solak, 2025 Moderator

to Vacation Bible School and to cover a church information table for the Kids Fest on the walking mall.

A class was offered during the Sunday School hour “Getting to Know FPC” for new people. A red vest information program was set up to show a presence in our church hallways during Sunday morning services to welcome new people and answer questions.

With the assistance of our church communication director our council submitted information to our local newspaper about church activities and be listed in the church directory the paper publishes.

Our council is always open to new ideas to improve on ways to help people connect within church activities and be a welcoming presence to people wishing to try out our church and learn what we do.

Please consider how your talents might help us by achieve these goals by attending our meetings and volunteering to help.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Solak, Moderator  
Congregational Life Council

## Mission Council

Respectfully Submitted by Gordon Stearns, Moderator

2025 was a typically active one for First Presbyterian’s Mission Council. As in previous years we supported and shared with friends far and near, with a council composed of many dedicated and knowledgeable church members, and with the support of our excellent staff and Pastor.

Our wide-ranging portfolio included well-known friends and programs in Ethiopia – two congregations and seminary, Guatemala - Faith Stories and CEDEPCA programs, and Winchester – Highland and Sherando Food Pantries, CCAP, WATTS, our Helper Fund, Valley Interfaith Council, and our own Weekday School, to name a few of very many. We entertained new possibilities – understanding the Palestinian dilemma and Malawian Pre-Schools, among others. Programs ebb and flow – food bank attendance grew as immigrant placement dropped, for example. Our church gave generously in the three special offerings,

which our church shared with Shenandoah Presbytery and PCUSA. In return, we benefited from grants funded by the Presbytery. Despite all our best efforts it is abundantly clear that we will never have enough energy, dedication, and money to solve all of the problems that we would like to address under the Missions umbrella.

As the year began PCUSA presented us with a unique opportunity when it cancelled the longstanding system of sponsored coworkers in geographic areas of the world. We found ourselves with funds we could not spend in the usual way. At the same time, we were approached with a new Mission opportunity in the nation of Malawi, as Carolyn Kruger and Wally Johnson requested funds and attention for a program they had long supported personally. We were able to provide funding for this excellent program, and to increase in 2025 our donation to the Ketta and Metu partner congregations in Ethiopia.

Another change to our funding came as we continued support for former co-worker Karla Koll, now teaching at the Latin American Biblical University in Costa Rica. I am sure our familiarity with Karla made the transition into our funding her work at the University an easy choice.

As we approached our 2026 budget we voted to continue our international funding of the Biblical University, CEDEPCA (Faith Stories & Women's Program), Ethiopia and Malawi.

One interesting opportunity came from the Rotary Club of the Northern Shenandoah Valley, offering a chance to host a Peace Pole on church property. Proclaiming "May Peace Prevail on Earth," the pole has four sides. In honor of our relationships with partners overseas and welcomed Afghan refugees, we have chosen to send that message in English, Spanish, Dari and Oromifa. The Pole is to be placed near the southwest corner of the sanctuary when the ground warms up in the Spring.

In addition to the funds allocated to the Mission Council from the church's budget, our congregation rises to help others at astonishing levels. Our generous endowed funds and personal donations supported so many. These included:

- Combined donations of \$5,440.48 for the One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, World Communion/Peacemaking and Christmas Joy Special Offerings.
- \$2,316.09 towards our Ethiopian partners, and \$13,559.15 in support of our Guatemalan programs.
- \$1,700.07 donated to Bright Futures' school and Christmas programming
- \$11,765.62 of scholarships for camp attendance, \$18,200 for Seminary & College scholarships, and \$6,541.25 in scholarships for children attending our wonderful Weekday School.
- \$47,592.20 to support Needy Families, funded by the Helper Fund of First Presbyterian and administered through Highland Food Pantry.

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***At the risk of failing to describe some of our many, many programs, the following highlights are best presented in the words of Council members - who have often devoted years supporting these particular programs as part of our Mission Council outreach***

**We share in providing food, clothing, funds and shelter**  
 (also, Froggy's Closet and Youth Blessing Bags):

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## **CCAP 2025**

I would like to highlight some of the giving last year that made a difference in the lives of those seeking food, clothing and assistance at CCAP. Our congregation played a big role in supporting the numbers listed below. In May FPC had an extremely successful Red Wagon Ministry diaper drive with 3539 diapers and a whopping 10,844 wipes collected. The congregation stepped up in a big way to provide food at Thanksgiving and at Christmas. Monetarily, CCAP received \$9,000 in mission funds from FPC along with an additional \$5,547.52 in pass through money during the course of 2025. CCAP receives manpower from a great number of our parishioners from administration to pantry and clothing helpers and driving.

In 2025, CCAP served 9113 individuals in the food pantry with 2712 being new. Over half of the clients used the pantry no more than two times per year and only 2% used it monthly. In the clothing house there were 5451 served with 1593 being new. They gave out 155,083 items of clothing. As far as financial aid was concerned 2986 individuals received assistance with 673 being new to CCAP. All in all, there were 5694 clients that received services in 2025 who were from Frederick County and 5361 live in Winchester with 53% between the ages of 18 and 59.

We thank everyone in the First Presbyterian Church who contributed to CCAP in 2025 and hope and pray that the need will be less in 2026.

L. Lynn McCauley, CCAP Church Representative

## **Community Thanksgiving Dinner**

The Community Thanksgiving Dinner is a mission outreach, of First Presbyterian Church, that operates totally with volunteers and donations. Leadership and host church are provided by First Presbyterian Church. On Thanksgiving Day 2025 in collaboration with corporate sponsors, church partners, business supporters, faith communities and all those who volunteered and donated 1200+ free meals were provided to all who requested in Clarke, Frederick, and Winchester. Our motto is:

*Ordinary People, Extraordinary Purpose, Achieving Extraordinary Results.*  
 Respectfully Submitted by Bob Cleaver

## Jubilee Kitchen 2025

Jubilee Kitchen had another successful year in 2025. Our goal is to serve a hot meal, every Saturday to anyone who wants or needs one. Although our numbers are far less than they had been prior to the Pandemic, we serve a vital function to our guests, providing not only a nourishing meal, but camaraderie and conversation to many who have become accustomed to being ignored.

This past year we served 1969 meals and seconds to 1464 people. On those occasions where we had food left over, those meals were donated to the William and Henry Evans Home for Children and the Winchester Mission.

In the past we have been unable to serve on the Saturday of Apple Blossom due to functions around the church and the Saturday following Thanksgiving. However, this year the Community Thanksgiving Dinner donated 50 full meals and through the volunteer commitment of one of our volunteer groups, we were able to serve a full Thanksgiving Dinner on the Saturday following.

We have four dedicated teams to head up each weekend: Patti Keeton, Susan and Wayne Kagey on the first, Kelly Thompson and Amanda Simmons on the second, Chuck Alverson and Al Miller on the third and Tara and Chris Holmes on the fourth Saturday.

These teams also rotate to cover the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays. These volunteers provided over 540 man-hours of work to prepare and cook and oversee the setup, serving and cleanup.

First Pres is responsible for our volunteer workers on the first of each month. This past year, the FPC Youth handled four of those Saturdays. Prosperity's Promise, a family group dedicated to service, has been covering the second Saturday for over 30 years. The other slots are handles by Opequon Presbyterian Church, Kernstown UMC, Burnt Factory UMC, Mt View Christian Church, Love in Action (formerly Love Church), Scout Troop 3, and Frederick County Rotary. In addition, we have had volunteers from Millbrook High School and the community at large. All in all, these volunteers provided over 1.530 man-hours of labor to make Jubilee Kitchen happen.

Respectfully submitted by Chuck Alverson, Jubilee Kitchen Coordinator

## Helper Fund 2025

Many years ago, the Helper Fund was created by a single individual from our Church to help meet the financial needs of people in our community who had exhausted all other resources. Several years ago, after the donor moved away, the Helper Fund Team was created by the Mission Council to oversee this important ministry. The Helper Fund Team has worked to make the Helper Fund part of First Presbyterian's culture. The Helper Fund assists neighbors on the margin with financial aid for housing, medical expenses, rent and utilities primarily.

Jennifer White coordinates with financial aid counselors at the Highland Food Pantry to identify individuals eligible for assistance and ascertain their need.

In 2025, the Helper Fund served over 360 individuals or families, an increase of almost 100, to meet emergency household needs. What began as one person's vision to help those with critical needs has become supported by our entire congregation. By all of us working together, we were able to give out over \$45,000 to share our love for Christ in a very tangible way, an increase of about \$14,000 from 2024. Most of the aid went for Utilities - \$21,400/174 families. The rest was split between Lodging - \$10,000/78 families, and Rent- \$21,500/174 families.

The end of year balance in The Helper Fund was over \$62,000, an increase of over \$20,000 which is about \$12,300 more than the prior year. We held a series of 3 fundraisers in 2025 which raised over \$4,000. Total receipts were \$66,000 which is much higher than last year.

The Helper Fund ended 2025 in excellent financial shape, helped by strong support from Direct Contributions consisting of a large bequest of over \$30,000 and several larger donations. Looking forward to 2026, we plan to be able to increase total distributions and families served. We have already planned a large community-oriented fundraiser for May and may do another in the fall.

Thank You - Mark Schroeder, Helper Fund Team Leader

### **Highland Food Pantry 2025**

The pantry served over 9900 Households which was approximately 32,000 individuals. We helped 462 individuals with Emergency Aid of \$45,685.00. By partnering with First Presbyterian Helper Fund we were able to distribute a total of \$92,930.00 for Emergency Assistance in 2025. Each month we are packing approximately 210 bags to be delivered to seniors who are not able to come to the pantry because they do not have transportation or are not physically able to come to the pantry. We also partner with Family Promise, the Winchester Drug Treatment Center which is a methadone treatment center, and the Salvation Army for their clients who are food insecure. Thirty First Presbyterian Church members volunteer weekly at the Pantry for our regular food distribution and as a group on one Tuesday evening a month. First Presbyterian hosted the pantry's signature annual fundraiser, Men on a Mission, on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Thalman

### **Refugee Resettlement**

Members of the refugee resettlement team have continued to support Church World Service in services to new neighbors to Winchester. Members of FPC have provided transportation and English language tutoring for individuals and families who have arrived in previous years and helped to integrate them into the community. However, as of Jan 20, 2025 refugees no longer arrived in Winchester.

However, because of the end of the work of setting up housing for refugees, this group morphed into a new non-profit organization, Valleyhaven Furniture Bank. The furniture bank continues to collect and distribute furniture, household items and financial donations to provide furniture and other housing items to the larger community of the Northern Shenandoah Valley—extending beyond refugees to include others experiencing homelessness or other urgent need as determined by partner agencies. First Presbyterian Church member are a core of the volunteers for Valleyhaven and donations from First Presbyterian members and friends are welcome. Financial contributions previously made to the Refugee Resettlement team continue to be used only to provide for the needs of refugees as identified by partner agency Church World Service.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Thalman

### **Sherando Food Pantry 2025**

2025 marked the 6<sup>th</sup> year of the operations of Sherando Food Pantry. Located in the former Sherando Presbyterian Church building on Fairfax Pike in Stephens City, SFP is open the first and third Thursdays of each month from 6-8 pm. The majority of our clients reside in the southern part of Frederick County, and we also service people from neighboring Warren and Shenandoah counties.

We are a small Pantry and are affiliated with the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and are USDA food providers.

This past year, we served 16,763 pounds of food to 280 families comprised of 1230 individuals. This is our largest distribution year since the Pandemic.

Our biggest challenge this year has been a decrease in food availability from the USDA, and protein has been especially challenging to find.

In October we acquired a partnership with Food Lion of Strasburg, and each week, pick up any deli, bakery, produce and excess items that have reached that point of still being a good quality but too limited a shelf life for them to sell. These items are then frozen and donated. This has added a welcomed variety to the foods that we can offer our clients.

We have a very dedicated group of volunteers that readily help our guests. This includes bilingual volunteers who can communicate with our Spanish and Dari- speaking guests.

Respectfully submitted by Chuck Alverson

### **WATTS Report for 2025 Annual Report**

During the 2024-2025 Winchester Area Temporary Transitional Shelter (WATTS) season, First Presbyterian Church hosted from February 8<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. As we did the prior year, we kicked off our week with a Superbowl party for our guests. The Shelter opened early that day

and everyone enjoyed Superbowl snacks before dinner. Our week also included Valentine's Day, so the guests were treated to Valentine bags and handmade cards crafted by the children and youth of FPC.

We hosted approximately 35 guests each night. A hot dinner, grab-and-go breakfast, and snacks and drinks were provided for each guest daily. One change we implemented was offering showers 3 nights for our guests, an increase over the 2 showers we've offered in the past. The WATTS team decided since our church has the facilities, we should try to utilize them more. Our guests also enjoyed Bingo – the winners were treated to gift cards.

Our guests, as always, were very appreciative of the volunteers. We had over 250 volunteers who donated 400+ hours to work on site during the week, along with countless others who donated supplies and funds.

This was the third year we dedicated time during a Sunday School hour to prepare for our WATTS week. People of all ages were able to help – making cards, decorating placemats, preparing food in the kitchen, organizing supplies, and more. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to pitch in and help.

FPC has been involved with WATTS since its very first year. Our church family is thankful for the opportunity to serve our community in this way. Special thanks to the WATTS team: Courtney Warner, Gordon Stearns, Becky Bush, and Debbie Lawall.

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Warner

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**We share our faith with those both far and near**

(also, our desire to educate ourselves about  
the Gaza & Israel/Palestine dilemma,  
and Vacation Bible School support for Tanzanian Clean Water):

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**Ethiopia Partnership 2025**

Mission Council contributed \$1,750 to each of our church-to-church partners, the Mettu and Ketta congregations. In October, we had a visit from Kes Amena, the President of the Illubabor Bethel Synod, who brought greetings from our partners in Mettu and Addis Ababa during our Sunday services, attended the high school Sunday School class, and met with the Mission Council.

Respectfully submitted by John Fisher

**Guatemala Mission**

Four members of FPC's Guatemala team traveled to Guatemala in January to meet with the Guatemalan women of the Faith Stories Project, which FPC has supported for fifteen years.

The purpose of the visit was to learn more about Guatemala, learn more about the Faith Stories Project and engage with the Faith Stories Women as they continue to develop their plans to use theatre to help members of their communities learn about topics of interest to their communities. A trip to Guatemala in April 2025 is in the planning stages. In addition, FPC has provided financial support so that the women can have reliable phone service, and travel funds so that they can travel to communities to plan for and present their programs.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Thalman

### **Genesis Malawi Preschools: 2025**

During 2025, a new mission was added to FPC's Global Missions that supports two preschools for orphans and vulnerable children in Malawi. GENESIS International, a non-profit established by two FPC members, helps communities in high level poverty areas in Africa to provide health, nutrition, and education for orphans and vulnerable children (ages 3-5 years). Manja Orthandiza Preschool in Blantyre Malawi maintains an enrollment of 80-100 children and the Maliwata Preschool in Balaka Malawi an enrollment of 30-35 children. The goals of both schools are to: 1) Strengthen the sustainability of education, nutrition, and health objectives, 2) Promote resilience to economic challenges and climate change, and 3) Promote outreach to mobilize community support. The preschools ensure quality implementation of the Malawi Early Education and Development Curriculum and adhere to the standards of the Under-five Health Clinics on the health, nutrition and safety of the children.

GENESIS and FPC developed a connection with the Mount Olive Church in Blantyre, a member of the Church of Central Africa Presbytery (CCAP) whereby both Youth Ministries initiated support for the two preschools by establishing Children's Library Corners. The FPC Youth Ministry gathered appropriate used books that were shipped to the preschools to initiate the process of fostering a reading culture and enhancing early child development. Spaces in the existing buildings are being constructed to house storage of books, as well as comfortable areas for reading activities. A community outreach program is being initiated to encourage volunteer Mother and adolescent groups to support reading activities for the children.

To promote sustainability for the nutrition programs, both preschools plant community vegetable gardens. In addition, a two- acre maize garden is being prepared for the biannual planting seasons. A proposal was accepted by the FPC Presbytery to help fund construction of a well (bore hole) to sustain a supply of water during the frequent droughts and improve the maize crop output. The above activities will continue during year 2026.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Kruger and Wally Johnson, GENESIS Founders

### **Valley Interfaith Council**

The Valley Interfaith Council sponsored two major events in 2025. One was the Community Kindness Fair, held at the Friends Meeting House on May 17. The objective was to celebrate the range of cultures represented in our local community through shared ideals like kindness, mutual respect, and love of food, dance, and music—there were many groups represented from nonprofits to businesses and city services, to support and share with all our neighbors.

The second was the Interfaith Justice Revival in October. The VIC co-hosted this along with the local chapter of the NAACP. Participating organizations were the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP), Virginia Poverty Law Center (VPLC), and the state office of the NAACP. The goal of the event was to spur civic engagement before the November election and to enable local groups to hear from the statewide groups, and to join in their work at the state level. The groups have overlapping legislative priorities, but often local groups don't get involved in the state legislation, which affects the whole state.

Respectfully submitted by Charles Uphaus

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**We support learning for all ages**

(including support for Literacy Volunteers  
and Winchester Day Nursery):

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### **Bright Futures**

First Presbyterian Church continued their partnership with Bright Futures of Winchester-Frederick County in three distinct ways in 2025. Just recently, the Holiday Assistance Program, we provided gifts and monetary donations for specific students from families in need via our annual Angel Tree in the hall gathering space. In July, we participated in our annual Back to School Supplies Drive and also their Food Pack Program which including generous donations of school supplies, food, and monetary donations. Below is a recap of their outreach:

Bright Futures Frederick/Winchester Vision Statement- Inspiring community partnerships that open a way for all children to learn, lead, and serve to their full potential now and in the future. Mission Statement-Together...committing all that we are to enrich the life of a child. Bright Futures Frederick/Winchester operates under the belief that when a community invests its time, talent, and treasure into its schools, students are more likely to stay in school through graduation, have a higher degree of self-worth and confidence, and set and reach goals for the future. In turn, this inspires students to become better neighbors, quality employees, and impactful leaders in their communities. Bright Futures Frederick/Winchester has a strategic plan that centers on three critical objectives: to increase the amount of time the community provides for the needs of the children, to foster an environment where the community lends its talents, and to collect and apply treasures to address unmet needs. History- Bright Futures Frederick/Winchester was officially started in March 2014, with

two schools and 69 students in the food pack program. In August 2015 the current distribution center was launched. Winchester Public Schools was added in March 2017. Currently, more than 1,500 students across 28 schools in Winchester and Frederick County are supported by Bright Futures programs.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Bowman and Pam Brannon

## First Presbyterian Church's Weekday School



The Weekday School continues to be a top preschool in the area. In its 78<sup>th</sup> year, the school currently has 105 children ranging in age from infant to five years old. This is up slightly from last year but in line with the 2024-2025 school year. We attribute this drop-in numbers to the fact that both Winchester and Frederick County Public Schools have opened up more preschool classrooms. The children are currently housed in 10 rooms in the building. Various class offerings meet our families' needs, including 2-day, 3-day, 4-day, and 5-day options. This year, we started the after-school care program. We currently have 9 children enrolled, and we expect that number to grow next year. Each classroom has a teacher and an assistant teacher. The staff's credentials include doctoral, master's, bachelor's, and associate's degrees, as well as a nurse practitioner.

We continue to incorporate our electronic platform for school management called PLAYGROUND. This allows us to manage student attendance and data within a secure site. Parents check in and out using a QR code. Teachers can communicate with families and share daily events. Billing and registration features are included in this platform.

We have a variety of old and new fundraisers this year. We continued with Lunch Bunch once a month, a book fair, family-prepared meal options, a t-shirt fundraiser, and our annual spaghetti dinner to fund our scholarship account.

Our school remains accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and remains the only preschool in the area with this accreditation. We pasted our renewal in 2025 and have been working to make sure the school is up to the NAEYC standards. The renewal is valid through 2030. The Virginia Department of Education continues to be the state regulator, we passed their standards and inspections in September of 2025 and will renew in September of 2026.

We continue to use the Creative Curriculum, which provides a framework for our learning and teaching at the Weekday School by considering *how and what children learn, how children develop, the learning environment, the teacher's role, and the family's role*. Our curriculum has not been updated since 2011, we are working on fundraising ideas to get us to \$3000 so we can update our version of Creative Curriculum. Conscious Discipline is a hallmark of our school's program and the staff completes yearly training in this area. Conscious Discipline is a

comprehensive classroom management program and a social-emotional curriculum. It is based on current brain research, child development information, and developmentally appropriate practices. In addition to our classroom curriculum, the students have chapel classes monthly, and music with Amy Bowman is a highlight of the week for all classes!

Leigh Phillips, Director of the Weekday School

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**We are prepared to respond and assist in disaster recovery, and to  
be prepared for the unexpected here at First Presbyterian:**

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### **Disaster Preparedness & Response**

Fortunately, we had an uneventful year. Dave revised FPC's Disaster Plan for 2025. Support was provided to the presbytery for the donation of Church World Service disaster kits. A family disaster plan checklist was provided on the Mission Kiosk during Disaster Preparedness Month in September. Dave and Carolyn Thalman retired as leaders on the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's National Response Team. Dave remains the co-director of the Shenandoah Presbytery Disaster Preparedness & Response Team.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Thalman

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I am very grateful for the time I am spending as a member of the Mission Council. Our interests encapsulate the core values of the FPC congregation and overlap with the interests of every other council. I have learned from so many, received a well-run Council from Terry Frye as the previously Moderator, and am sure that Bob Lizer will enjoy his 2026 run in charge of an amazing group of people and programs. ~ Gordon Stearns, Moderator

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### **Worship & Discipleship Council**

Respectfully Submitted, Jenny Bruening, Vice Moderator in 2025

This year brought major changes to our worship as our congregation transitioned to a single pastor. Pastor Amanda demonstrated leadership and grace stepping into the role of Head of Staff while the search for a new pastor continued. After much thought, prayer, and reflection, the 7:30 chapel service was discontinued. Attendees graciously accepted the change and integrated themselves into the 8:30 and 11:00 services. There are many church members working behind the scenes to prepare and serve communion, decorate the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, and usher among other duties. We also have an amazing group who provides audio-visual support and streaming services. Our choirs, as always, enhanced worship services

with beautiful and inspiring music led by Amy Bowmen (New Stone and children's choirs) and Roger Callis (chancel and handbell choirs).

The Worship and Discipleship committee (W & D) provides support and guidance to children and Youth Ministries. Detailed information about those ministries can be found in this report. Claytor Scholarship Funds are used to provide financial support for camps, music, and seminary scholarships, and our church is fortunate to have this financial blessing.

## **Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir**

*Respectfully Submitted by Roger Callis, Director of Chancel and Handbell Choirs*

2025 was another year filled with many blessings and a number of challenges. First Presbyterian Church continues to be blessed with much talent and many members who are willing to serve our Lord through the ministry of music.

### **Handbell Choir:**

The handbell choir continued to support worship throughout the year. Members of the choir served faithfully and with dedication to this ministry.

### **The Chancel Choir:**

Our adult choir continued to faithfully lead our 11:00 o'clock worship services in music. We remain grateful for the talented and dedicated choir members who serve in this ministry. Once again, we were supported by Shenandoah University singers serving as section leaders for sections of the choir, whose musicianship and leadership were a valuable asset throughout the year.

First Presbyterian Church is also richly blessed to have a talented, dedicated, and resourceful music staff. Pat Byers continued to serve as our organist in 2025. Her faith, love, and dedication to the music ministry continues to be a joyful blessing to the congregation.

May God continue to bless First Presbyterian Church and keep us well and safe.

## **Children's Choir**

*Respectfully Submitted, Amy Bowman, Director of the Children's Choir*

The Children's Choir meets on Wednesdays during the school year and sings in worship once a month. We have a wonderful group of children who participate. We sing songs, play games, make crafts, hear Bible stories and more all while having a great time together. We have 2 youth helpers and I love seeing the children bond and connect with them as well. In October, we continued our tradition of visiting Westminster Canterbury to sing for church members there in our Halloween costumes. Many of our choir members are current or past Weekday School students. I am thankful for the connection between the school and church in that way. If you have a child in your life who loves to sing, we would love to have them in our choir!

## New Stone Music

Respectfully Submitted, Amy Bowman, New Stone Praise Team Leader

The Praise Team continues to provide music for the New Stone 8:30 service on Sunday mornings. It is always my goal to choose music that is easy for the congregation to learn and sing so that we can all raise our voices in praise together. We have a wonderful team of singers and instrumentalists who give their time on Tuesday nights and Sunday mornings to make sure the congregation has music to sing at each service. We are always ready to welcome new singers or instrumentalists to our group. Please reach out if you are interested!

Another part of the Praise Team is a little less visible but just as important. The A/V team makes sure that everything happening during both services is able to be seen and heard. I am thankful for all that they do for us!

## Children's Ministry

Respectfully Submitted by Kelly Tierney, Coordinator of Children's Ministry\*

2025 continued to be a time of transition for the entire church as well as Children's Ministry. During the entire year, there was no Children's Ministry Director for the first time in over a decade and I served as the only Children's Ministry staff member, working part time to maintain a small program matching the size of the group of children currently involved in Children's Ministry at First Presbyterian while also trying to identify issues to overcome, along with the Children's Ministry Committee, and creating new opportunities for fun, fellowship, and Christian education in hopes of growing again.

After holding Children's Ministry forums, the summer of 2024 where much discussion was had on whether to continue CM Sunday School due to dwindling attendance and volunteers or reduce how often it would meet, I am happy to share that throughout 2025, we have been able to support a combined CM Sunday School class weekly for preschool through 5th grade with teachers volunteering from the congregation. An average of 5-6 children have been in attendance each week. For the beginning of the school year in the fall, Colleen and I decided that 5th graders and their families could help determine if CM or Youth was a better fit for them, so there was some flexibility afforded to those at different maturity and interest levels.

Here is a summary of what 2025 looked like in Children's Ministry:

~I spent winter break painting new, hopefully sturdier, crew bags for VBS with crew numbers to replace the tied-on numbered tags

~The CM Committee met at least once a month to brainstorm and prepare for CM events and provided invaluable support and suggestions and feedback to me throughout the year

~I met with the WDS Director, Leigh Phillips, throughout the year to brainstorm about how to get more WDS kids/families involved, connected, and interested in FPC.

~As a result of that meeting, either I or a CM Committee member was present at all of the WDS events where Leigh thought an FPC presence would be beneficial, from the spaghetti dinner fundraiser and passing out fundraiser orders to graduation and the Christmas concerts

~Children's Choir met with Ms. Amy throughout the school year. Invitations to CM events were passed out with choir and we saw children from choir attend our events

~The CM Sunday School class helped prep for WATTS in February

~CM Sunday School teachers received Valentine thank-you's from me with handwritten messages and chocolate in appreciation for all they have done for CM!

~The CM Committee provided volunteers at the Youth Babysitting Night to support CM families in attendance

~14 children attended the CM Easter Event on Saturday, April 5th. I created the content for the event based on research and with the support of the CM Committee and we received good feedback from parents and volunteers who enjoy the rotation station model and egg hunts!

~We had a table at KidzFest on the downtown walking mall on June 14th where 93 children were "tattooed" with faith-based temporary tattoos and families were invited to engage with FPC, with 7 families signing up for the CM newsletter

~VBS, the biggest CM event of the year, was well-attended during the week of June 16th-20th, with 89 participants and 100 volunteers. We held a Godly Play Workday on 7/16 in the Godly Play room to relabel all of the bins, confirm all materials were available in each bin, restock the craft supplies, and make sure everything else was prepared for the beginning of the Sunday School year

~An intergenerational Rally Day event was held on September 14th, with a trivia competition run by Colleen and I with 9 teams of church members of all ages. We had great attendance and so much fun to start off the school year!

~We began our "ballot initiative" in the fall for WDS and CM families to vote for upcoming activities with the idea that they would be more likely to attend if it was something they were interested in. There was also a space for write-in votes, and we planned activities based on both of the write-ins received: a craft day (December) and a game night (upcoming in January 2026)

~We decided this year, based on the success of Rally Day, to try to hold more events for all ages to create connection and inspire involvement with CM, and on Oct. 4th we had FPC Family Day at Marker-Miller for people to pick apples, use the playground, shop the market, and hang out on the porch. Kelly Thompson, a CM Committee member, also provided family photos as a photographer.

~On Oct. 18, I prepped my trunk with a Star Wars theme, FPC signage, and plenty of treats and toys for Trunk or Treat on Loudoun St at the YDC parking lot. There were hundreds of children in attendance!

~We partnered with Youth for a movie night for our November CM event, featuring The Lorax and Monsters, Inc, on November 3rd. We provided volunteers. and many people of all ages were in attendance.

~A Birthday Party for Jesus was thrown during Sunday School on 12/14. 6 children were in attendance and made Christmas cards for the Deacons to give to those members receiving communion at home.

~On December 17th, we held what we hope to be an annual event: Pizza Party & Craft Night for CM and Youth (again, the more the merrier). Approximately 17 people were in attendance and ate pizza and made snowflakes to decorate Fellowship Hall for winter and WATTS

~The CM Christmas Eve service on Christmas Eve involved a total of about 30 children and volunteers was enjoyed by many and new faces were seen in attendance!

As can be seen, Colleen and I have already been working together well to facilitate connection and collaboration amongst Children's Ministry and Youth in many ways, and developing our new roles at the end of 2025 to begin in 2026 has me energized and hopeful. I can't wait to see what Children's Ministry can become in the new year!

*\*Please note title change in staff chart - effective January 1, 2026*

## Youth Ministry

*Respectfully Submitted by Colleen Stearns, Director of Youth Ministry\**

Throughout 2025, our Youth Ministry Program has remained steady in numbers and activities. We've been excited to partner with other Youth Ministry programs in Winchester, as well as in our Presbytery. I have had the privilege of attending events for the youth outside of church, getting to cheer them on in the activities that they love! While we have had faithful volunteers in our Youth Ministry programming, we continue to look for more volunteers- especially those who do not have children in the program with the hope of providing more fellowship opportunities between generations.

The biggest change for Youth Ministry took place at the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year when 5th grade was recategorized again. We have made 5th grade more of a fluid year, with parents and children being given the choice as to whether they want to participate in youth or children's programming. This is after 5th grade was moved back into Children's Ministry in 2024.

Below is a summary of the 2025 Youth Ministry Year!

- We've hosted 3 Movie Nights, 2 of which were congregational movie nights hosted by Youth Ministry. This allowed our whole congregation to come together to enjoy a fellowship opportunity.
- Weekly Homework Hangouts took place in 12 E Cork during 5 of the 10 months that youth were in school.

- Sunday School and Youth Group occurred each week from January-April and then took a break for the summer.
- Youth Ministry participated in a school project for one of our youth by hosting and playing a Whiffle Ball Game.
- Youth staffed 4 of the Jubilee Kitchen dates that FPC is responsible for filling in February, March, October, and November.
- We paired up with Opequon Youth Ministry to go Snow Tubing in February. 20 Youth & Adults from FPC snow tubed, plus a number of adults came to chaperone the fun.
- Youth Ministry had a very successful Youth Led Service and Brunch Fundraiser in March. More than 40 Youth Participated in leading the service.
- A Babysitting Fundraiser was held in March to raise money for the summer mission trip.
- As is tradition, youth volunteered with the Children's Ministry Easter Event, helping to fill and hide eggs for the egg hunt, and helping children during the hunt itself. .
- On Spring Break, youth went to Westminster Canterbury to visit residents.
- 12 students joined the church on Confirmation Sunday.
- Our Mission Trip Team, in addition to other youth wanting to help, held a Car Wash Fundraiser in May where we were well supported by our congregation.
- Youth Ministry celebrated the graduation of 8 High School Seniors in May! Our Seniors were invited to put their footprints on the walls of 12 E Cork, a Youth Ministry Tradition.
- Youth Ministry held it's first annual Youth Carnival Fundraiser in June. This event included a dunk tank with the support of Pastor Amanda Maguire-Thomas, Clerk of Session John Fisher?, and Director of Youth ministry Colleen Stearns. We had snacks for sale, craft activities, an inflatable slide, and a silent auction. This event raised over \$4000 for the Youth Ministry 2026 budget.
- 18 Members of Youth Ministry and 5 Members of Children's Ministry took part in our Hands In Service Week, where we helped with the set up and decoration of the church for Vacation Bible School and held a reading day and book drive for the Malawi preschools. We also volunteered at Highland Food Pantry, the SPCA, Westminster-Canterbury, and CCAP.
- 52 Youth acted as leaders for Vacation Bible School.
- We paired up with the Youth of Opequon Presbyterian Church to go to Hershey Park following VBS.
- We paired up with Opequon Presbyterian Church to go on a Mission Trip to New Bern, NC where we repaired houses affected by Hurricanes, then went to Emerald Isle for a beach day, before returning to Winchester. 18 Youth and 7 Adults from FPC and 4 Youth and 3 Adults from OPC took part.
- 8 Youth and 2 Adults went to the Middle School Conference in July at Massanetta Springs.
- 7 Youth participated in the Bible and Church Music Conference at Massanetta Springs, including two from Opequon Presbyterian Church.

- FPC Youth Ministry paired up with Youth Ministry Programs from Opequon Presbyterian and Grace Lutheran to throw an End of Summer event, with inflatables, crafts, games, and s'mores.
- Youth Ministry sold t-shirts and stickers for the 225th celebration of FPC as a fundraiser for our 2026 budget.
- Sunday School and Youth Group kicked off in September. An intergenerational Trivia Game was held for Rally Day. We held a game night for the beginning of Youth Group which 27 Youth and 4 Volunteers attended.
- We continued to use the *Claiming the Faith* Confirmation Curriculum this year, written by John Dull of Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church. We are the first group outside of Tinkling Spring to use this curriculum.
- FPCYM attended the second Shenandoah Presbytery Lock In. We connected with other Youth in our Presbytery and spent a weekend learning about Matthew 5:14-16: "You are the Light of the World."
- 22 Youth and 5 Chaperones attended our Almost Lock In, beginning with a trip to the Hill High Corn Maze and Haunted House, and ending with a dinner at Ihop.
- 10 Youth and 2 Chaperones attended the Keep Awake Conference for High Schoolers at Massanetta Springs in November.
- Approximately 40 Youth participated in the Youth Led Christmas Service.

Our congregation should be incredibly proud of the youth of our congregation. They are wonderful young people who are quick to step up and help those in need. They are inquisitive, intelligent, and kind. They are going to change the world someday, and I am grateful for the opportunity to learn with and from them.

*\*Please note title change in staff chart - effective January 1, 2026*

## Facilities Council

Respectfully Submitted, Dave Cress, Moderator

The Facilities Council is responsible for the maintenance and improvement of all the church-owned properties on the Loudoun Street Campus. The Council is active throughout the year with inspections, routine maintenance, and repairs. The accomplishments of the Council are only possible with the help of the Council members: Andrew Clark, John Volkmann, Joe Kalbach, Dianne Wake, Jamie Mereness, Debbie Lawall, Don Ganske, John Crandell, Ruth Rau, and Tom Jones. Also, those who support the Sexton Crew: Andrew Clark, Dave Lawall, John Warner, Josh Thomas, Terry Frye, Dave Reynolds, Pat and Dan Ritchie, several youth members, and anyone else that has helped keep these facilities operational. Together, the Council had key accomplishments and challenges during 2025.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Facilities Council's recent activities and initiatives, including discussions on financial contributions from the Weekday School,

leadership transitions, and facility improvements. The report outlines key decisions made, ongoing projects, and funding opportunities, particularly focusing on the grant awarded for energy efficiency improvements. The timeline for these initiatives with anticipated confirmations in January 2026.

The report highlights funding sources, project approvals, and the need for compliance with historical preservation guidelines.

### **Key accomplishments in FY2025**

The Facilities Council is actively working on enhancing the church's infrastructure and energy efficiency. The council, with the assistance of John Crandell has successfully secured a significant grant aimed at improving energy efficiency, which will allow for various upgrades, including LED conversions and high-efficiency heating systems with anticipated confirmations in January 2026. The collaboration with the Creation Care Team and the efforts of council members have been instrumental in achieving this funding. The Facilities Council is actively working on ongoing maintenance and repair projects for various facilities, including window replacements, door repairs, maintenance activities and inventory management related to HVAC systems, inventory replenishment, equipment repairs, service contracts, ongoing maintenance challenges, and siding work. The timeline for addressing these issues includes immediate repairs and inspections to ensure the integrity of the building's infrastructure.

The timeline for these projects spans from December 2024 to 2026, with specific tasks scheduled for completion during school breaks to minimize disruption. the actions taken and the necessary follow-up steps to maintain safety and functionality. The purpose of this report is to summarize the recent updates regarding utility usage and contract renewals. It highlights the normalization of water bills, the ongoing efforts to renew natural gas contracts, and the impact of energy-efficient upgrades on overall energy consumption. The report also addresses the need for chandelier hoist replacements and ongoing discussions with Capital Electric regarding lighting solutions. The purpose of this report is to summarize the recent decisions and actions taken by the session regarding facility improvements and security enhancements focusing on the installation of additional fencing, troubleshooting of door mechanisms. and other security measures at FPC. This report outlines the plumbing issues encountered at the facility, focusing on the blockage of restroom drains, sewer smell troubleshooting, necessary repairs to plumbing fixtures, and the approval for replacement of a failed hot water circulator pump. New trash bags and trash cans are being used. Replacement of the refrigerator used in the Jubilee Kitchen/Weekday School, following the failure of the existing refrigerator over a weekend.

Actions taken to address signage inaccuracies, landscaping maintenance with the collaboration with Peter Warner for landscaping assistance shows proactive management of the property.

Additionally, the inspection of gravesites demonstrates attention to historical preservation and respect for the site., and the completion of the yearly gravesite inspection by the collaborative efforts of staff and volunteers in maintaining the property. The church van has had battery problems and to avoid similar problems in the future, it is recommended that the van be driven regularly. During its time at the shop, the van also underwent a state inspection, ensuring it meets the necessary legal and safety standards. Regular use of the vehicle is crucial to maintain its functionality and prevent battery-related issues. Facilities council handles various facility requests and approvals for events at the church, detailing the purpose, date, time, and location for each event. Notable events include a youth mission trip for Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, an annual fundraising dinner for the American Guild of Organists, and a community choir holiday concert. Several requests were approved for different purposes, such as birthday parties, graduation parties, and community service events. Some requests were denied, including a weekly bluegrass playing session due to Presbytery permissions.

The Facilities council has had discussions and decisions made by the Facilities Council regarding facility space rental fees, budget adjustments, and new programs, including the approval of an after-school care program. The timeline includes ongoing discussions about facility usage and budget management, with specific proposals aimed at reducing costs and improving facility utilization.

### **Energy Efficiency Improvements**

Many improvements have been made over the years to improve energy efficiency, thereby reducing utility costs and supporting our recent earth care initiative. The most recent improvement was the replacement of several poorly insulated windows in several classrooms with more energy-efficient models. The churches' electrical energy costs were reduced by roughly 20 percent in FY 2025. This reduction is due solely to improvements in efficiency. The Facilities Council continues efforts to make energy efficiency improvements. Including the continued effort to replace less efficient fluorescent lighting with more efficient and longer lasting LED lighting. Completed the Stine Room LED lighting project.

Window Replacement Project Funding: \$128,689.07 from Facilities Designated Fund, provided by an anonymous donor. Preservation of Historic Winchester Micro Grant: \$2,500 approved for siding replacement and repainting on Donegal House.

Many thanks to the dedicated Sexton Crew that voluntarily gave their time and talents to help with various maintenance and repair projects. A few of these projects included replacing the Loudoun Street fence boards, repairing the Donegal House apartment door, replacing HVAC filters, hanging pictures, repairing handrails, trimming bushes, and numerous electrical and plumbing repairs.

## **Maintenance and Repairs**

The purpose of this report is to summarize the ongoing maintenance and repair projects for various facilities, including window replacements, door repairs, and siding work. The timeline for these projects spans from December 2025 to January 2026, with specific tasks scheduled for completion during school breaks to minimize disruption.

- A small tear in the liner of the resource room ceiling was repaired by Russel Roofing.
- The replacement of outdated systems such as the breaker panel which is essential for safety compliance.
- Chiller Repair Invoice: Approved for payment from the Church HVAC maintenance line item, with no need for Session approval if paid from the Facilities budget.
- The adjustments of the handicapped door openers outside of Fellowship Hall
- Installation of additional gating and fencing, pest control
- Elevator/fire alarm/sprinkler inspections
- Replaced the failed condensate pump in the mini-split AC unit
- Replaced a failed hot water circulator pump
- Replaced HVAC filters
- and various other projects required to keep these facilities operational.

## **Challenges**

- Repair Costs: The estimated costs for essential repairs could strain the budget if not managed properly.
- Ensuring that the use of First Presbyterian Church meets the needs of the community while balancing facility availability for other potential users.
- Ensuring all materials and methods used are approved by the Board of Architectural Review (BAR).
- High costs of labor may necessitate in-house labor, which requires adequate staffing and resources.
- The new maintenance contract is nearly double the previous one, which could strain the budget.
- Issues such as the failed condensate pump in the mini-split AC unit and the malfunctioning AC units in Loudoun Hall indicate potential risks in equipment reliability.
- The recurring nature of plumbing problems indicates potential underlying issues that may require further investigation.
- Continued reliance on energy-efficient upgrades to maintain below-average energy usage may pose challenges if upgrades are not sustained or further improvements are not made.
- Concerns regarding the potential failure of hoist electrical boards, which could pose a fire hazard.
- Chandelier Hoist Replacement Quote: \$13,800 for eight hoists.
- The high costs of chandelier hoist replacements may limit the ability to pursue necessary upgrades.
- Canned Lights Removal Quote: \$6,700 for removal and capping.

- Estimated Cost for Fellowship Hall Fixtures: \$2,500 - \$4,000.
- However, the high costs associated with the above projects have led to a decision to postpone these projects, indicating a need for careful financial management.
- The need for regular upkeep, such as deadheading flowers and weed control, poses a challenge in maintaining the aesthetic appeal of the property.
- Inaccurate signage can lead to confusion among visitors, necessitating timely updates to prevent misinformation.
- Weather Dependency: Some projects are on hold until warmer weather permits.
- Security Concerns: Ongoing issues with doors not closing and latching properly, leading to potential security risks.
- Grant Matching Requirements: Securing matching funds for grants could be a financial challenge
- Grant Approval: The Medici Road grant is contingent on approval from the Department of Energy, which introduces uncertainty regarding funding.
- Operational Adjustments: Implementing the after-school care program requires careful planning regarding room usage and cleaning schedules, which may incur additional costs.

## **Financial Summary**

We are now in a position of deferring maintenance due to insufficient funds. Two examples of this include the replacement/repair of the can lighting and the chandelier hoists in the Sanctuary, and the painting and/or re-siding of the Donegal House. All of which are in disrepair and require attention. One of the main concerns with deferring maintenance is that there are other high cost items that will likely need attention soon such as HVAC replacements, plaster repair, brick repair, and exterior painting.

- HVAC Service Agreement: Approved for \$17,287.00 with Strosnyder.
- Grant Award: \$190,000 for energy efficiency improvements.
  - We have been awarded a grant for energy efficiency improvements at First Presbyterian (The Renew America's Nonprofits or Medici Road grant). We have been selected in a competitive process and now must be approved by the Department of Energy. We expect confirmation from DOE in January.
  - Matching Funds Required: \$60,000 from the Church, with approved funds for window replacement counting towards this match.
    - They have confirmed that the money approved for window replacement can count as the match, can be spent as planned, and can be retained until spent in the "Facilities Undesignated Fund"
- Many of these projects are on Facilities Council deferred maintenance list. They are suggesting that we spend it on:
  - Completing the conversion to LEDs throughout the Church
  - Completing window replacements

- Replacing the 3-ton (2005 vintage) heat pump outside Donegal House with an upgraded model
- Replacing storage tank water heaters with electric instantaneous water heaters
- Replacing PTAC air conditioner/heaters with high efficiency air source heat pumps
- Install occupancy sensors
- We can negotiate adding different or new energy efficient projects, such as new electrical panels
- This award is the result of working for 2 years through the Creation Care Team, with major help from Jennifer and Facilities Council.
- Window Replacement Project Funding: \$128,689.07 from Facilities Designated Fund, provided by an anonymous donor.
- Preservation of Historic Winchester Micro Grant: \$2,500 approved for siding replacement and repainting on Donegal House.
- Gas Contract: Renewed with Constellation Gas at a fixed rate of \$0.769/Therm for five years.
- Water Usage: The January bill was received for December's water usage.
  - The bill for Donegal House/Hill's Keep was significantly higher than normal, while 8 E Cork Street was back to normal. No leaks have been discovered.
  - Water usage is below normal.
    - Energy Usage: Currently below average due to recent energy-efficient upgrades.
    - Brent Miller and Jennifer White met with Constellation Gas to renew contract.
    - Settled on a five-year contract \$0.769/Therm.
    - That cost is fixed over the next five years, unless natural gas prices trend downward. Then we can re-negotiate.
- Anonymous Donation: \$1,000 for future lighting projects. (used Stine Room)
- Estimated Cost for Circulator Pump Replacement: \$1,200 (approved from the Facilities Designated Fund).
- Fencing Installation Costs: Total of \$9,950 approved for fencing installation at North Portico and 12 East Cork, including an additional \$3,300 on top of the previously approved \$6,650.
- Plexiglass Replacement: Approved quote of \$250 for replacing the broken plexiglass panel on

Cork Street. (handled in house for approx. \$40)

- Keypad Installation Quote: A quote of \$7,411.81 was received for adding a keypad at the kitchen door, which was not approved.
- Evaluation of the cost to upgrade the fire alarm system versus maintaining the current system with existing phone lines. The decision has been made to retain the system with one Comcast line temporarily.

- Proposed Purchase Amount: \$4,000 for a new Kelvinator refrigerator for Jubilee /weekday school.
  - Quoted Price: \$3,853 from Winchester Restaurant Supply.
  - Funding Source: Jubilee Kitchen Fund.
- Landscaping Supplies: New lawn mower bag to be purchased by Roy Walker, with reimbursement to follow.
- Brass Plaque: A new brass plaque will be ordered for a gravesite, though specific costs are not mentioned.
- Rent Increases: Proposed 3% increase for Donegal apartment from \$750 to \$775 and Hill's Keep from \$400 to \$415 per month.
- Structural Engineering Analysis Payment: Approved payment of \$3,000 to Painter Lewis for a structural engineering analysis related to solar installation.
- 2026 Week Day School Budget Request: recommendation to raise the church contribution to \$1,500 per month for the next school year.
  - The council is considering in-house labor for some projects to mitigate high labor costs.

Strategic planning for the 2026 budget will also be a priority to ensure continued support for church programs.

The Facilities Council will reflect on what has done well in the past and what can be better in 2026. The addition of three additional elders on the Council will definitely be of assistance to the moderator. The New Year will undoubtedly present opportunities to not only better maintain but improve our campus.

Many thanks to all that have helped with the Facilities Council and Sextons Crew over the past year. This church could not function without you. A huge thanks to Brent Miller, John Volkmann, Joe Kalbach, Dianne Wake, Jamie Mereness, Debbie Lawall, Don Ganske, John Crandell, Ruth Rau, and Tom Jones. We are also extremely grateful to the other members that have helped with Sexton crew projects: Dave Lawall, John and Peter Warner, Josh Thomas, Terry Frye, Dave Reynolds, Pat and Dan Ritchie, several youth members, and anyone else that has helped to keep these facilities operational.

# Treasurer's Report

For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

Respectfully Submitted, Mike Thompson, Treasurer

## Annual Highlights

### Revenue

- > Revenue from Session Operations of \$785,600 was only \$1,600, or 0.2%, less than the Budget of \$787,200 but \$31,950, or 4.2%, more than last year's \$753,650. One of the blessings in 2025 came from an additional \$25,000 contribution made by a single Giving Unit. Without that act of gracious generosity, both our Revenue and the Net Deficit would have been significantly worse.
- > Consolidated Revenue for the Year Ended December 31, 2025 of \$1,579,621 was \$333,437, or 26.8%, above the \$1,246,184 reported for 2024. This was primarily due to \$289,169 more Designated Fund giving. In addition to the generous extra \$25,000 Stewardship donation mentioned above, significant sacrificial giving occurred outside the Budget in the Designated Fund area. Four of these contributions are worthy of our attention. The largest designated donation was for energy efficient window replacements in the astonishing amount of \$184,389. Next there was a tremendous \$101,300 contribution which went to the Above & Beyond Fund. The Helper Fund was also the beneficiary of a \$30,140 single donation. Finally, the Above & Beyond Fund also received a \$15,000 contribution.

### Expense

- > Session Operations Expenses of \$809,912 were only \$705, or 0.1%, greater than the Budget of \$809,207. As expected, Staff Relations reported the largest unfavorable variance in the amount of \$11,437. This was caused by \$13,261 for equitable pay recognition along with \$4,415 in higher Clergy Expenses. These were partially offset by \$3,327 savings in Program Staff. Most of the Clergy overspending was related to the unbudgeted pastor position. The largest savings was produced by Facilities which came in \$4,026 under Budget. Finance reported the second largest savings with a \$2,901 favorable variance.
- > Although Staff Relations Expenses are \$11,437 over Budget, they are \$53,733 below Last Year. This good news comes from \$66,449 savings in Clergy along with \$10,614 less spending in Program Staff being reduced by \$21,221 in extra expense for Administration Staff. Of course the two positive variances are the result of staff reductions, while most of the negative variance stems from the Equitable Pay Adjustment of \$13,261.

- > Consolidated Expenses of \$1,326,775 decreased \$47,383, or 3.4%, from Last Year's \$1,374,158.
- > Consolidated Expenses by Responsible Authority included Staff Relations \$444,555 (33%), Weekday School \$327,705 (25%), Facilities \$206,471 (16%), Mission \$152,048 (11%), Worship & Discipleship \$89,184, (7%), Finance & Stewardship \$64,534, (5%), and Other \$42,278, (3%).
- > After considering support for the denomination, total Consolidated Mission expenditures were \$185,663 and included Local Mission (\$106,675), Presbyterian Missions (\$41,520), and PCUSA/Presbytery (\$37,468).
- > There were two Extraordinary Repairs & Maintenance items in 2025; both of which were paid through Designated Funds. A project to improve window efficiency in the amount of \$55,300 was the largest. The other was an expenditure of \$27,892 for the replacement of the video projector in Fellowship Hall. These were reported in the Nonoperating Activities section of the Statement of Activities. The window project was graciously funded by a private donor, while the projector was paid for by the Living Memorial Fund.

### **Surplus/(Deficit)**

- > The Session Operations Operating Deficit of \$24,311 was only \$2,304 worse than the \$22,007 Budgeted Deficit, but a significant \$101,493 better than last year's \$125,805 Deficit.
- > The Session Operations Net Deficit was \$25,826 which was \$3,819 worse than the \$22,007 Budgeted Deficit, but \$99,979 better than 2024. A Nonoperating Loss resulting from \$1,514 of Pastor Recruiting Costs was matched against the \$2,305 Operating Deficit Variance to create the \$3,819 unfavorable variance. The recruiting costs included \$1,176 in meals and \$338 in lodging.
- > The components of the \$100,000 improvement over Last Year's \$125,805 Net Deficit include positive impacts from Staff Relations (\$53,733), Annual Stewardship Giving (\$21,967), Facilities Expense (\$19,098) and Other Revenues (\$9,983). Other Expenses had a negative impact of \$4,804.
- > Six of the last seven years have reported deficits with two of those exceeding \$125,000. Over that 7-year period we have lost a net \$343,555, requiring the sale of \$301,500 of Long-Term Investments in order to maintain liquidity.
- > The Consolidated Net Surplus of \$332,654 was \$323,832, better than Last Year's \$8,822 Consolidated Net Deficit. This improvement over the periods was primarily due to the \$333,437 increase in Revenue highlighted above.

## Financial Assets

- Financial Assets totaled \$2,224,623 at December 31st increased \$337,916, or 17.9%, compared to \$1,886,707 last year-end.
- These Assets were invested in Bonds \$809,681 (36%), Stocks \$690,175 (31%), Mutual Funds \$282,642 (13%), and Cash \$442,125 (20%).
- The Financial Assets were allocated between Endowment \$521,250 (23%), Donor Restricted \$790,722 (36%), Restricted Earnings, \$325,723 (15%), Session Designated \$274,814 (12%), Unrestricted \$203,743 (9%) and Liabilities \$108,373 (5%). Included in the Session Designated category is the Above & Beyond Fund (formerly the Financial Recovery Fund) which had a balance of \$217,241 at year's end.
- Total Cash at the end of the Year was \$442,125, which represents a significant \$171,414 increase from \$270,711 at December 31, 2024. Most of this increase is timing due to the receipt of \$184,389 for the previously mentioned window efficiency designated donation. The fact that \$130,239 of the money will not be spent for the windows until 2026 creates the timing variance, which means the cash balance will be correspondingly reduced when the project is completed.
- Investment Earnings for the year were \$164,514, which was \$25,132 less than Last Year's \$189,646 Gain. A total of \$168,199 was distributed to the designated funds during the period leaving a balance in Undistributed Investment Earnings of \$325,723.

Annual Highlights: Statement of Activities  
Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2025

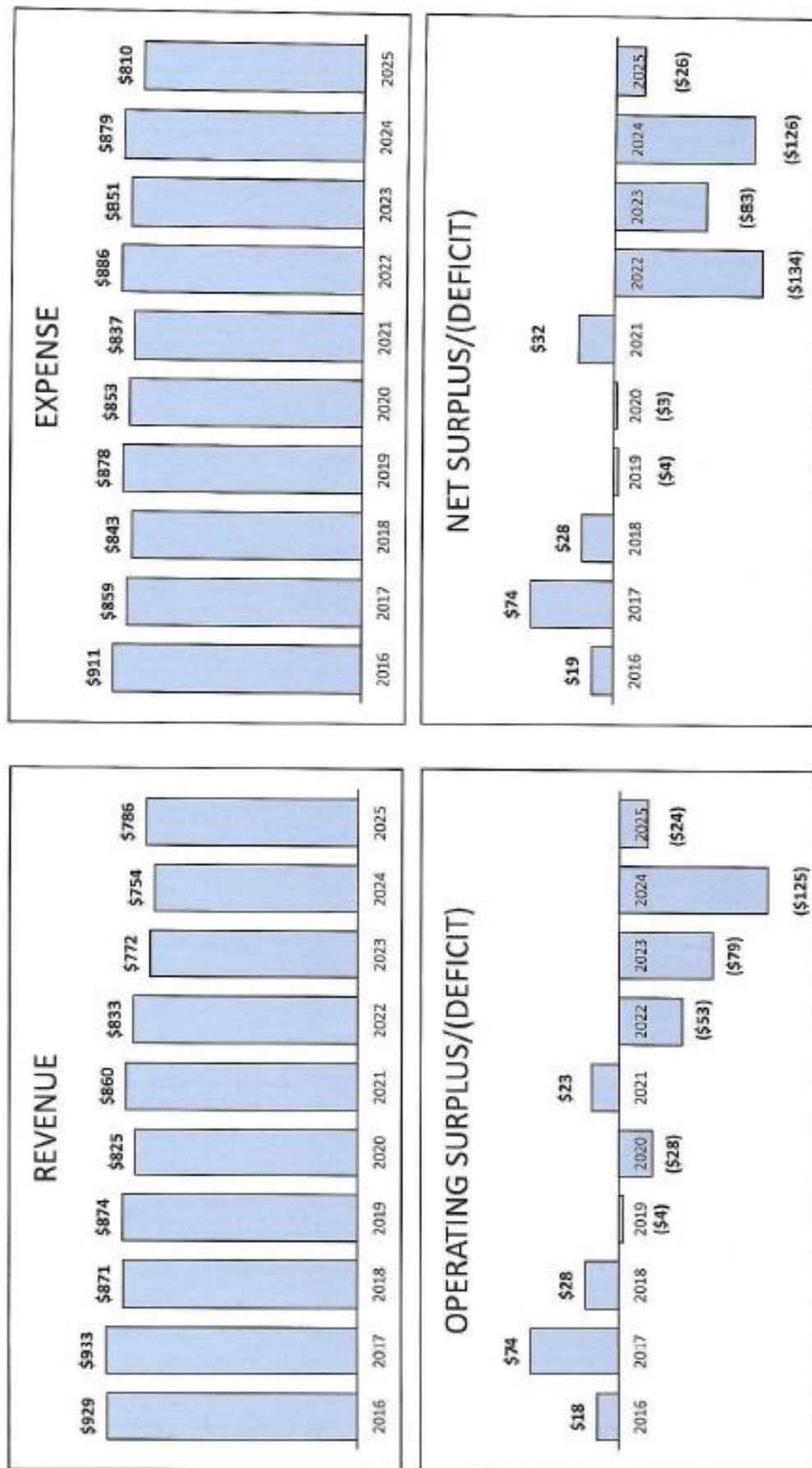
**First Presbyterian Church of Winchester, VA**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2025**

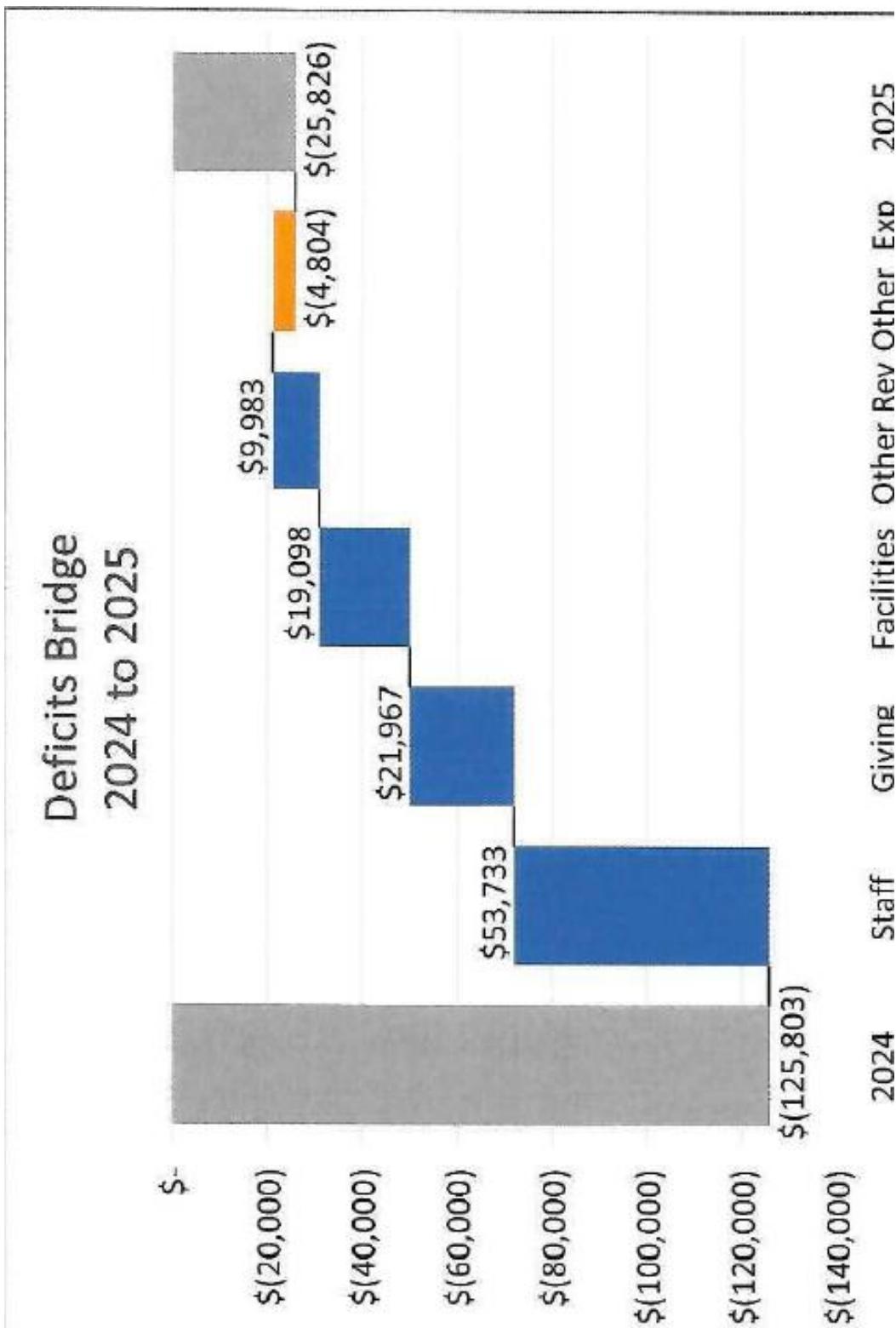
Description	Month of December			Year-to-date			Budget Annual					
	Actual for Period	Budget for Period	Variance for Period				Var. Actual to YTD Budget					
				Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Dollar						
<u>Session Operations 2025:</u>												
<b>Revenues</b>												
Annual Stewardship Giving	\$ 82,031	\$ 110,398	\$ (28,367)	\$ 748,556	\$ 759,600	\$ (11,044)	\$ 759,600					
Plate Offering	434	650	(216)	9,241	7,800	1,441	7,800					
Money Market Interest Income	830	150	680	8,947	1,800	7,147	1,800					
Facilities - Rent & Misc Income	1,240	1,500	(260)	18,856	18,000	856	18,000					
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 84,535</b>	<b>\$ 112,698</b>	<b>\$ (28,163)</b>	<b>\$ 785,600</b>	<b>\$ 787,200</b>	<b>\$ (1,600)</b>	<b>\$ 787,200</b>					
<b>Expenses - Church Operations</b>												
Mission	\$ 2,555	\$ 4,050	\$ 1,495	\$ 48,610	\$ 48,600	\$ (10)	\$ 48,600					
Congregational Life	273	172	(101)	1,626	2,066	440	2,066					
Worship & Discipleship	3,460	2,479	(981)	27,028	29,745	2,717	29,745					
Seasonal Teams	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
<b>Administration</b>												
Weekday School Expense Allocation	(1,238)	(1,106)	132	(13,932)	(13,272)	660	(13,272)					
Finance/Stewardship	3,904	4,507	602	64,533	67,434	2,901	67,434					
Staff Relations	34,556	35,533	977	444,555	433,118	(11,437)	433,118					
PC USA/Presbytery Per Capita Fee	3,122	3,122	0	37,468	37,468	-	37,468					
<b>Facilities - Expenses</b>	<b>17,661</b>	<b>17,004</b>	<b>(657)</b>	<b>200,022</b>	<b>204,048</b>	<b>4,026</b>	<b>204,048</b>					
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 64,293</b>	<b>\$ 65,761</b>	<b>\$ 1,468</b>	<b>\$ 809,911</b>	<b>\$ 809,207</b>	<b>\$ (704)</b>	<b>\$ 809,207</b>					
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 20,242</b>	<b>\$ 46,937</b>	<b>\$ (26,695)</b>	<b>\$ (24,311)</b>	<b>\$ (22,007)</b>	<b>\$ (2,304)</b>	<b>\$ (22,007)</b>					
<b>Nonoperating Activities</b>												
Government Grant Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
Recruiting Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,514)	\$ -	\$ (1,514)	\$ -					
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 20,242</b>	<b>\$ 46,937</b>	<b>\$ (26,695)</b>	<b>\$ (25,826)</b>	<b>\$ (22,007)</b>	<b>\$ (3,819)</b>	<b>\$ (22,007)</b>					
<u>Weekday School Operations 2025/2026:</u>												
Weekday School Operating Revenues	\$ 38,455	\$ 35,955	\$ 2,500	\$ 159,776	\$ 149,670	\$ 10,106	\$ 334,395					
Weekday School Fundraising (Net)	\$ 82	\$ 200	\$ (118)	\$ 1,045	\$ 800	\$ 245	\$ 1,600					
# Weekday School Total Expenses	\$ 32,979	\$ 31,624	\$ 1,355	\$ 143,447	\$ 138,018	\$ 5,429	\$ 335,995					
<b>Net Weekday School Income &lt;Loss&gt;</b>	<b>\$ 5,557</b>	<b>\$ 4,531</b>	<b>\$ 1,026</b>	<b>\$ 17,374</b>	<b>\$ 12,452</b>	<b>\$ 4,922</b>	<b>\$ -</b>					

# Weekday School total expenses includes the budgeted expense allocation

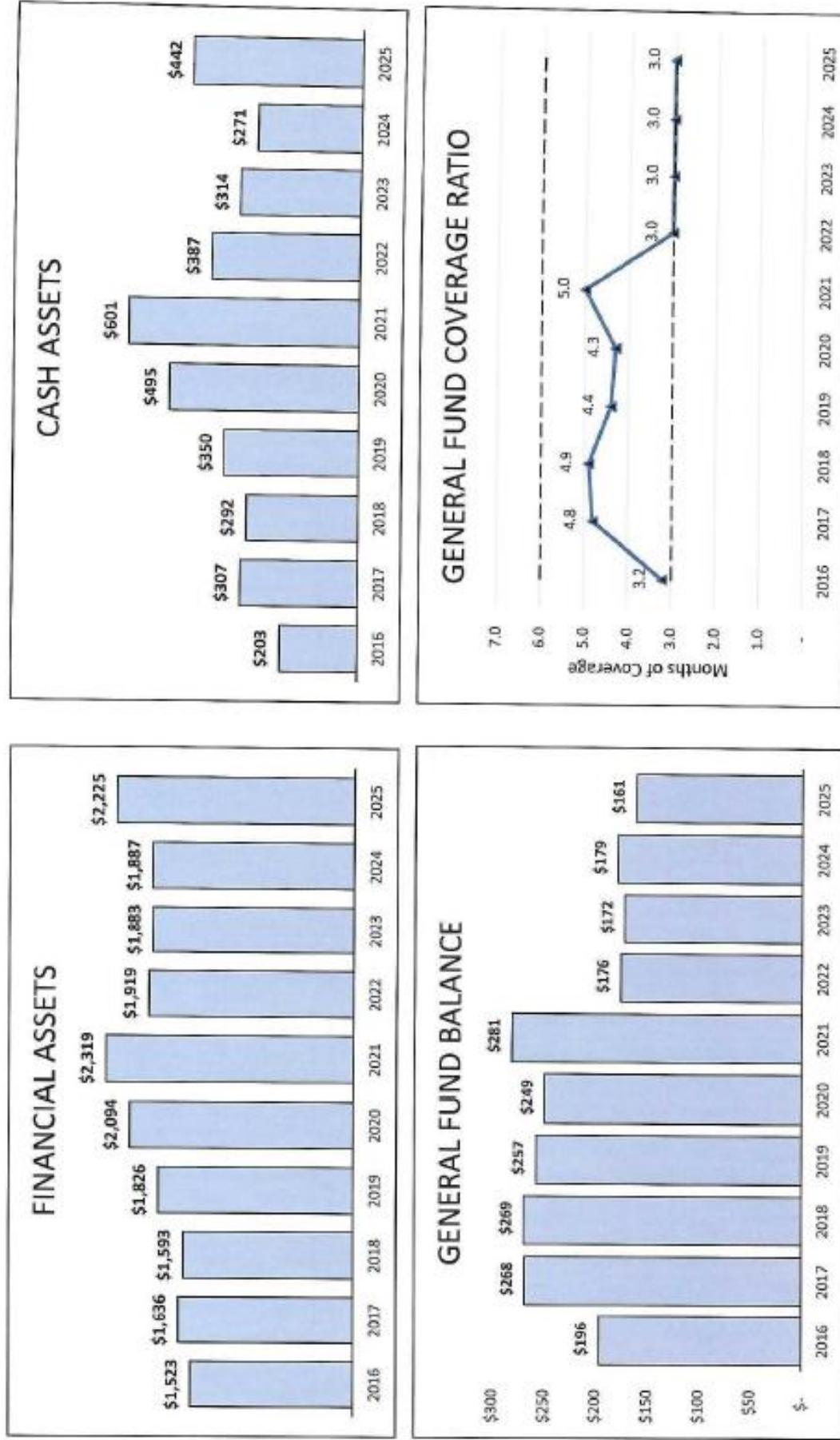
**Ten-Year Financial History**  
in thousands

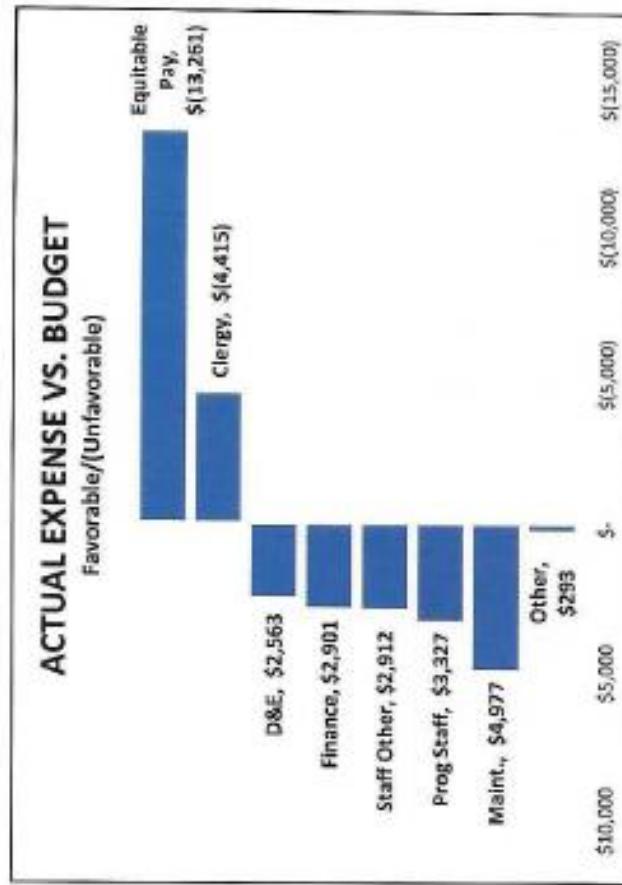
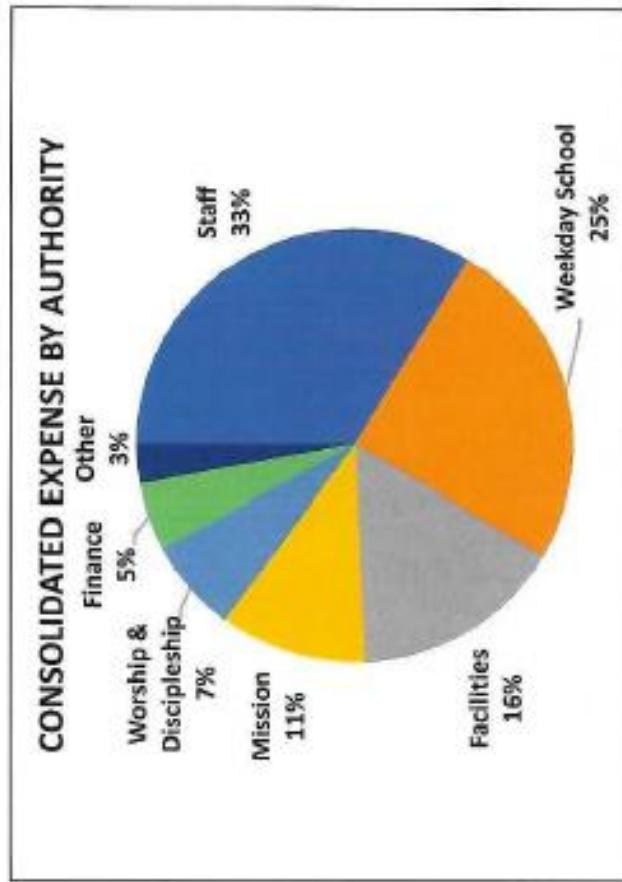
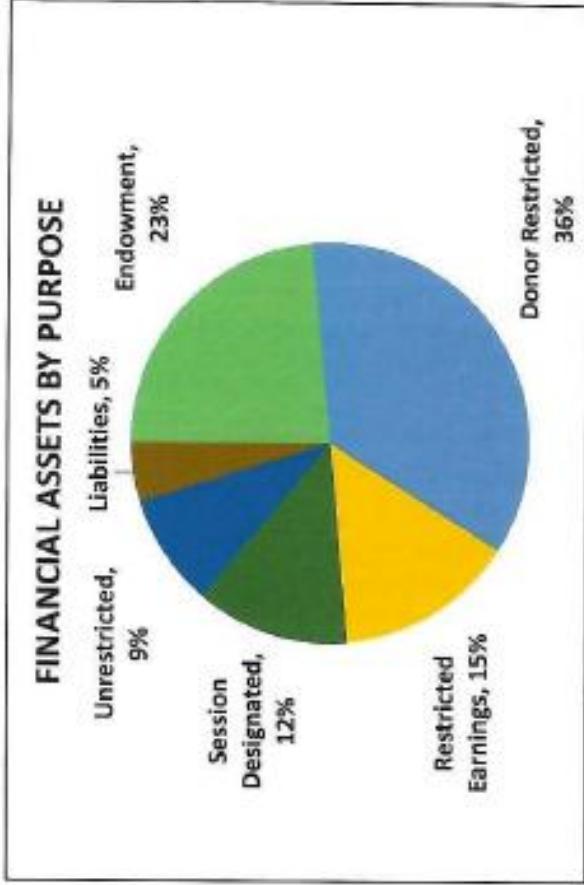
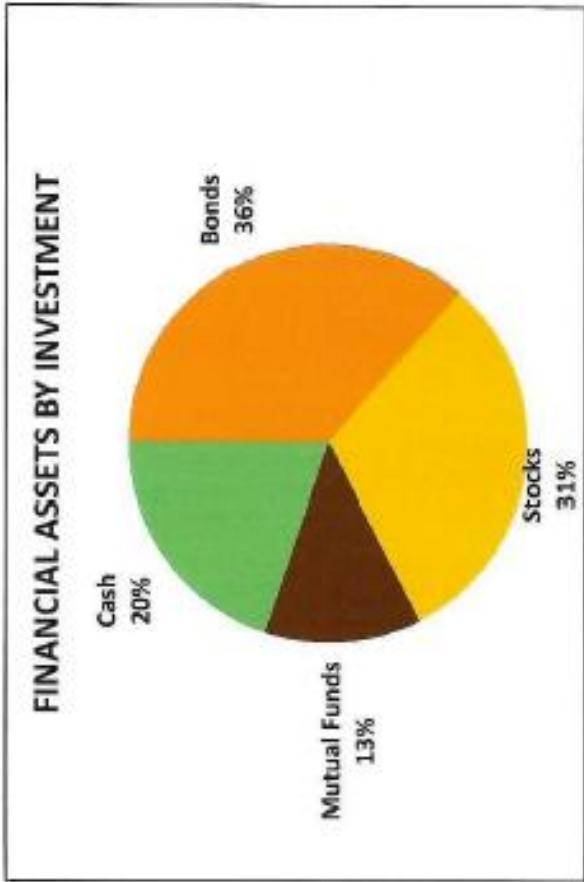
**First Presbyterian Church of Winchester, VA**  
**Ten-Year Financial History**  
**In Thousands**





**First Presbyterian Church of Winchester, VA**  
**Ten-Year Financial History**  
 In Thousands





2025 Accountability Balance Sheet  
December 31, 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of WINCHESTER, VA  
BALANCE SHEET  
December 31, 2025

Assets		Liabilities & Fund Balances	
<u>Cash</u>		<u>Liabilities</u>	
Demand Deposits:		Weekday School Prepayments	\$ 40,874
Truist Cash	\$ 135,183	Advanced Pledge Payments	50,500
Truist Payroll	<u>100</u>	Deferred Revenue	5,702
		A/P & Payroll Benefits/Taxes	<u>11,297</u>
			\$ 106,373
Money Markets:		<u>Fund Balances</u>	
Vanguard	\$ 261,123	<u>Unrestricted - Temporary</u>	
	<u>261,123</u>	General Fund	161,144
Subtotal Cash	\$ 396,406	WDS Unrestricted Earnings	<u>42,598</u>
			203,743
<u>Receivables</u>		<u>Session Designated - Temporary</u>	
Weekday School	\$ -	Congregational Life Designation	2,843
	\$ -	Above & Beyond Fund	217,241
		Playground	1,722
		Staff Scholarships	43,573
		WDS Staff Education	1,118
		Worship & Discipleship Designation	<u>8,316</u>
			274,814
<u>Prepaid Assets</u>	\$ -	<u>Donor Restricted - Temporary</u>	
		Bereavement	3,068
		Choir Activities	9,955
		Church Van Maintenance	18,736
		Community Thanksgiving Dinner	1,798
		Education Ministry	1,796
		Ethiopia General Designations	1,869
		Facilities Designation	155,947
		Flowers	4,245
		FPC WATTS	3,631
		Guatemala Missions	3,678
		Handbells	7,596
		Helper Fund	68,814
		Hottinger Scholarship (Interest)	2,727
		Jubilee Kitchen	34,164
		Laura Bell Witness	6,915
		Lily Crum Trust (Interest)	37,259
		Living Memorial	39,595
		Mission Designation	28,592
		Organ Fund	49,693
		Sheetz Endowment (Interest)	23,461
		Stine Fund (Weekday School)	50,136
		Sue Jackson Music Memorial	9,770
		William Claytor Scholarship (Interest)	169,851
		Weekday School Scholarships	15,247
		Wilson Memorial (Interest)	11,819
		Youth Mission Trip	27,270
		Other	<u>3,091</u>
			780,722
		<u>Donor Restricted - Permanent</u>	
		Hottinger Scholarship, Endow.	5,558
		Keller Scholarship, Endow.	1,000
		Lily Crum Trust, Endow.	44,473
		Sheetz Memorial, Endow.	100,000
		William Claytor Scholarship, Endow.	360,219
		Wilson Memorial, Endow.	<u>10,000</u>
			521,249
		Subtotal Fund Balances	
			\$ 1,790,528
		Undistributed Investment Earnings	
			\$ 325,723
Total Assets	\$ 2,224,623	Total Liabilities & Funds	\$ 2,224,623

**Statement of Activities with Expenses by Responsible Authority**  
 For the year ended December 31, 2025

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINCHESTER, VA**  
**Consolidated Statement of Activities**  
**With Expenses By Responsible Authority**  
**For the Year Ended December 31, 2025**

	Operating Funds		Restricted Funds		All Funds
	Session Operations	Weekday School	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Consolidated

**Operating Revenues:**

Annual Stewardship Giving	\$ 748,556	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 748,556
Plate Offering	9,241	-	-	-	9,241
Bequests	-	-	-	-	-
Other Contributions	-	-	438,854	-	438,854
Tuition from Operations	-	325,640	-	-	325,640
Tuition from Scholarship funds	-	6,541	(6,541)	-	-
Fees	-	12,804	-	-	12,804
Fundraising, net	-	2,729	13,819	-	16,548
Money Market Interest Income	8,947	-	-	-	8,947
Other	18,856	175	-	-	19,031
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 785,600</b>	<b>\$ 347,889</b>	<b>\$ 446,132</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,579,621</b>

**Operating Expenses:**

Staff Relations	\$ 444,555	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 444,555
Weekday School	-	327,273	432	-	327,705
Facilities	200,022	-	6,449	-	206,471
Mission	48,610	-	103,438	-	152,048
Finance	64,170	-	-	-	64,170
PC USA/Presbytery Per Capita Fee	37,468	-	-	-	37,468
Worship & Discipleship	27,029	-	62,155	-	89,184
Congregational Life	1,626	-	263	-	1,889
Stewardship	364	-	-	-	364
Pastor/Head of Staff	-	-	2,921	-	2,921
Weekday School Expense Allocation	(13,932)	13,932	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 809,912</b>	<b>\$ 341,205</b>	<b>\$ 175,658</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,326,775</b>

**Operating Surplus (Deficit)**

\$ (24,312)	\$ 6,684	\$ 270,474	\$ -	\$ 252,846
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**Nonoperating Activities:**

Investment Earnings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 164,514	\$ -	\$ 164,514
Government Grant Income	-	-	-	-	-
Pastor Recruiting Costs	(1,514)	-	-	-	(1,514)
Extraordinary Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	(83,192)	-	(83,192)

<b>Net Nonoperating Activities</b>	<b>\$ (1,514)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 81,322</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 79,808</b>
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**Net Surplus (Deficit)**

\$ (25,826)	\$ 6,684	\$ 351,796	\$ -	\$ 332,654
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**Interfund Transfers, net**

7,618	\$ -	(7,618)	\$ -	\$ -
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**Change In Fund Balances**

\$ (18,208)	\$ 6,684	\$ 344,178	\$ -	\$ 332,654
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**Fund Balance, Beginning of Year**

179,352	35,914	1,047,081	521,250	1,783,597
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**Fund Balance, End of Year**

\$ 161,144	\$ 42,598	\$ 1,391,259	\$ 521,250	\$ 2,116,251
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## Statement of Activities with Expenses by Functional Category

For the year  
ended  
December  
31, 2025

	Operating Funds		Restricted Funds		All Funds	
	Session Operations	Weekday School	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Consolidated	
<b>Operating Revenues:</b>						
Annual Stewardship Giving	\$ 748,556	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 748,556	
Plate Offering	9,241	-	-	-	9,241	
Bequests	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Contributions	-	-	438,854	-	438,854	
Tuition from Operations	-	325,640	-	-	325,640	
Tuition from Scholarship funds	-	6,541	(6,541)	-	-	
Fees	-	12,804	-	-	12,804	
Fundraising, net	-	2,729	13,819	-	16,548	
Money Market Interest Income	8,947	-	-	-	8,947	
Other	18,856	175	-	-	19,031	
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 785,600</b>	<b>\$ 347,889</b>	<b>\$ 446,132</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,579,621</b>	
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>						
Clergy Salaries & Benefits	\$ 165,409	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 165,409	
Program Salaries & Benefits	69,918	267,328	-	-	337,246	
Administrative Salaries & Benefits	139,373	52,150	-	-	191,523	
Music Salaries & Benefits	67,339	-	-	-	67,339	
Misc Staff Expenses	2,516	2,752	3,199	-	8,467	
Office Administration	64,170	3,309	-	-	67,479	
Stewardship	364	-	-	-	364	
Fellowship	1,191	-	263	-	1,454	
Evangelism	435	-	-	-	435	
Utilities	55,493	-	-	-	55,493	
Cleaning	33,324	-	-	-	33,324	
Maintenance	111,205	-	27,707	-	138,912	
Local Missions	30,600	-	76,075	-	106,675	
Presbyterian Missions	18,010	-	23,510	-	41,520	
PC USA/Presbytery Per Capita Fee	37,468	-	-	-	37,468	
Children Discipleship	2,785	-	-	-	2,785	
Youth Discipleship	5,311	-	33,663	-	38,974	
Adult Discipleship	296	-	1,406	-	1,702	
Music Worship	17,217	-	7,664	-	24,881	
New Stone Worship	633	-	-	-	633	
Misc Worship & Discipleship	787	-	2,171	-	2,958	
Other	-	1,734	-	-	1,734	
<b>Weekday School Expense Allocation</b>	<b>(13,932)</b>	<b>13,932</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 809,912</b>	<b>\$ 341,205</b>	<b>\$ 175,658</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,326,775</b>	
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (24,312)</b>	<b>\$ 6,684</b>	<b>\$ 270,474</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 252,846</b>	
<b>Nonoperating Activities:</b>						
Investment Earnings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 164,514	\$ -	\$ 164,514	
Government Grant Income	-	-	-	-	-	
Pastor Recruiting Costs	(1,514)	-	-	-	(1,514)	
Extraordinary Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	(83,192)	-	(83,192)	
<b>Net Nonoperating Activities</b>	<b>\$ (1,514)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 81,322</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 79,808</b>	
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (25,826)</b>	<b>\$ 6,684</b>	<b>\$ 351,796</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 332,654</b>	
<b>Interfund Transfers, net</b>	<b>7,618</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>(7,618)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	
<b>Change In Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ (18,208)</b>	<b>\$ 6,684</b>	<b>\$ 344,178</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 332,654</b>	
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning of Year</b>	<b>179,352</b>	<b>35,914</b>	<b>1,047,081</b>	<b>521,250</b>	<b>1,783,597</b>	
<b>Fund Balance, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 161,144</b>	<b>\$ 42,598</b>	<b>\$ 1,391,259</b>	<b>\$ 521,250</b>	<b>\$ 2,116,251</b>	

Statement of Activities Consolidated by Responsible Authority with Expenses By Functional Category  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

# 2026 Summary Budget

	<b>2026</b>
	<b>Budget</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	
Annual Stewardship Giving	\$ 763,000
Plate Offering	7,800
Facilities - Rent & Misc. Income	18,000
Fundraising	5,100
Interest Income	1,800
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b><u>\$ 795,700</u></b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Mission	\$ 48,600
Congregational Life	2,100
Worship & Discipleship	
Operations	29,745
Weekday School Allocation	(14,856)
Administration	
Finance	72,236
Stewardship	300
Staff Relations	442,894
PC(USA) Presbytery Per Capita Fee	42,087
Facilities	223,760
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$ 846,866</u></b>
<b>Balance of Revenue Less Expense</b>	<b><u>\$ (51,166)</u></b>
<b>Non Operating Expenses</b>	<b>53,452</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b><u>\$ (104,618)</u></b>

Approved by Session - November 18, 2025

# Proposed Changes to Terms of Call for Clergy

**2026 Changes to Terms of Call for Clergy**  
**Approved by the Congregation 1/11/2026**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Salaries	Amanda 42,000.00	Evan 38,000.00
Housing Allowance	58,000.00	70,000.00
Auto Reimbursement	250.00	1,200.00
Pension & Major Medical	26,000.00	51,900.00
SECA	7,650.00	8,262.00
Books and Education	1,500.00	3,000.00
<b>Total Clergy</b>	<b>135,400.00</b>	<b>172,362.00</b>

**2026 Annual Terms of Call for Clergy**  
**Severance amount approved by Session 1/28/2025**

	<b>Amanda</b>
Salaries	55,100.00
Housing Allowance	24,000.00
Auto Reimbursement	0.00
Pension & Major Medical	21,752.50
SECA	6,051.15
Books and Education	1,250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>108,153.65 *</b>

\* This represents a full year amount and will be paid out according to the Memorandum of Understanding between Presbytery, Session and Amanda. This agreement provides up to 6 months of Severance pay to be paid until Amanda finds another full time job.

This will be recognized as one month of Operating expenses totaling \$9,013 and up to \$54,077 could be paid out as a Non Operating expense during 2026.

The MOU also states that Amanda will be compensated for any earned but unused vacation time.

This will be a total of 1.66 days or \$505 per the FPC Employee Handbook.

# Mission – Beyond the Budget

As of December 31, 2025

First Presbyterian Church Additional Mission (Beyond the Budget)	2025
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## World Wide Programs

Christmas Joy	1,095.92
Ethiopian Related	2,316.09
Genesis International - Malawi Preschool	231.74
Guatemalan Related	13,559.15
International Justice Mission	743.61
One Great Hour of Sharing	2,322.52
Pentecost	1,018.52
VBS Misison (Tanzinia Water)	379.75
World Communion/Peacemaking	1,003.52
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>22,670.82</b>

## Local Programs

Bright Futures (School Supplies & Christmas Gifts)	1,700.07
Camp Scholarships	11,765.62
CCAP	5,547.52
Community Thanksgiving Dinner	6,308.43
Blue Ridge Hospice	1,056.35
FPC WATTS	630.23
Froggy's Closet	784.01
Healthy Families of NSV	679.00
Highland Food Pantry	6,010.00
Jubilee Kitchen	6,801.62
Literacy Volunteers	2,000.04
Needy Family Assistance	47,592.20
Pride Event at MSV	25.00
Refugee Resettlement	146.01
Seminary/College Scholarships	18,200.00
Sherando Food Pantry	400.00
WATTS	100.00
Weekday School Scholarships	6,541.25
Winchester Day Nursery	2,000.00
Youth Blessing Bags	736.27
Youth Mission Trip Scholarships	960.50

<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>119,984.12</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>142,654.94</b>



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