

First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville 2024 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN



***But while the son was still far off,
his father saw him and was filled with compassion;
he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him
... And they began to celebrate. – Luke 15:20, 24***

Jesus's Parable of the Prodigal Son teaches us about the merciful, generous nature of God. The father lavishes love on his lost son who returns. At its best, such a welcome is what our church is all about. We strive to be a community of grace for those who search for a spiritual home, a place at the table, and reassurance that they are accepted and loved. Our collective financial support supports our mission to be Christ for the world today.

Pledge Commitment Sunday is December 3.

Worship, Music, and the Arts

Worship of God is at the center of our message, and the arena of our best praise, and deepest reverence. We continue to find ways to be creative and bring you worship and music.

- **Regular Sunday Worship, in person and live-casting**

- Organist / Pianist
- Choir Director / Music Coordinator
- Live-casting video & computer maintenance
- Worship materials
- Celebration of sacraments
- Weddings and Funerals



- **Music**

- Maintenance of the organ, piano, & sound system
- The Bell Choir
- Ensembles
- Musical licensing

Budget \$49,396





Faith Formation

With the installation of an Associate Pastor for Faith Formation, our church has a staff member dedicated to growth.

- **Children, Youth, and Adults**
 - Associate Pastor for Faith Formation
 - Nursery Worker
 - Curriculum Resources
 - Fundraisers for Summer Youth Trips
- **Other Spiritual Development**
 - Magazines, Periodicals, Library, Audio Visual
 - Leadership Training
 - Materials for Wednesday Group

Budget \$78,353



Church Promotion & Fellowship

First Presbyterian continues to reach out to our community and provide safe fellowship activities. Congregational fellowship ministries also aid the integration of newcomers into the life of our congregation.

- **Marketing**

- Internet based marketing
- Paper Advertising
- Chamber of Commerce Membership
- New member materials and supplies
- Networking at local and regional meetings

- **Fellowship**

- Kitchen supplies
- Outdoor activities

Budget \$4,985



Mission Work

We nurture close connections with mission partners locally, regionally and nationally, in some cases providing aid critical to success of mission in these places.

- **Local & Regional Mission**
 - Glen-Ed Pantry
 - Faith-in-Action
 - Main St. Community Center
 - Glen Carbon Sr. Citizens
 - Serving-area-kids Lunch Program
 - Kindercottage of East St. Louis
 - Oasis Women's Shelter
- **National Mission**
 - Bread for the World
 - PCUSA Offerings
 - Theological Education Fund of the PCUSA

Budget \$13,250



Administration & Building

For continued success we must maintain a space that is safe, clean, healthy, and allows us to grow our church family.

- **Technology**
 - Computers for staff
 - Internet
 - Office Phone and Supplies
- **Maintenance**
 - Building Manager
 - Cleaning supplies
 - Grounds maintenance
 - Church-owned hardware
 - Miscellaneous
- **Building**
 - Utilities
 - Church's Insurance Policy
 - Worker's Compensation Insurance



Budget \$90,246

Pastor and Administrative Staff

Our ministries rely on strong leadership and a dedicated staff that work everyday to make sure that we have the support we need and that our church's mission can be fulfilled. Personnel costs are always the largest expense in an organization like a church.

**Pastor &
Head of Staff**



**Administrative
Assistant**



- **Your gift supports**
 - Pension, Disability, and Life Insurance
 - Medical Insurance
 - Continuing Education Cost

Budget \$175,550

BUDGET SUMMARY

at print date, 2024 budget is not available

	<u>2022</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>% Change</u> <u>Budget</u>
EXPENSES			
Personnel, Employee Benefits and Professional Expenses	\$ 303,123	\$ 312,868	3.2%
Program	20,715	21,330	3.0%
Mission	12,750	13,250	3.9%
Administration	23,726	26,232	10.6%
Building and Grounds	36,380	35,600	(2.1%)
Contingencies/Miscellaneous	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 399,194	\$ 411,780	3.2%
REVENUE			
Pledges	\$ 323,600	\$ 326,000	0.8%
Unpledged Contributions	21,460	4,000	(81.3%)
Plate Giving/Cash Offerings	189	250	32.3%
Per Capita Contributions	334	3,100	828.1%
Special Offerings	2,560	2,600	1.6%
Building Use Fees	300	900	200.0%
Miscellaneous	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 353,443	\$ 341,850	(3.3%)
PLANNED DEFICIT	45,751	69,930	52.8%
Covered by use of G.E.M. Funds (Gifts, Endowments, Memorials)			

PLEDGE CHART

Actual pledges recorded through January 5, 2023

	Actual	Desired
Pledge Range	2023 Pledges	2024 Pledges
13,000 – above	2	3
10,000 – 12,999	4	4
8,000 – 9,999	4	5
6,000 – 7,999	4	6
5,000 – 6,000	9	10
3,000 – 4,999	16	16
2,000 – 2,999	14	16
1,500 – 1,999	14	15
1,000 – 1,499	18	18
500 – 999	14	12
1 – 500	10	10

Total # of Pledges	109	115
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Total Amount Pledged	\$330,954	\$ 378,049
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Total Reserves, \$674,625 (08.31.2023),
assume sustainable planned use at 5% = \$33,731.25

Pledges needed to balance expenses: approx. \$ 378,048.75

*Some can share much – everyone can share a little.
What will you contribute?*

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why make a pledge?

For you, the pledge process provides a structured opportunity to think about stewardship, and pray about your financial responsibility to the church. The pledge itself represents an act of faith, and functions as a tangible barometer against which God's provision and your faithfulness can be measured. For the church's leaders, the pledges became a reasonable estimate of the church's giving, enabling more effective planning of the ministry budget.

For what time period does my 2024 pledge apply?

The pledge year is on a calendar basis and reflects your anticipated giving from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. Your pledge may be adjusted (up or down) at any time during the year if your circumstances change. If you are not sure when during the year you will be able to meet your pledge, you do not have to make a weekly pledge commitment – it could be an annual total – whichever is more easily manageable for you.

How should I determine an appropriate amount?

The level of your giving is a spiritual issue to be worked out between you and God. The Old Testament sets forth the "tithe" (or 10% of income) as a model. The Bible as a whole tells us that all we have belongs to God. As faithful stewards we are to give generously out of gratitude for God's blessings, returning to God for special use a portion of what we have received. This year's campaign asks you to evaluate your giving by percentage of income.

When do I make my 2024 pledge?

A pledge card may be found in your informational mailing. An easy way to return a pledge is to send it by e-mail to office@fpcdw.org. You may complete your paper card, place it in a sealed envelope, and mail it. The card may be delivered by you personally to the church office, placed in the offering plate during Sunday worship services. **Your card must be received in the church office by Friday, December 1 for your pledge to be dedicated during the December 3rd Commitment Sunday service of worship.**

PLEDGING BY PERCENTAGE OF INCOME

Researchers tell us that, on average, American Christians give between 2 and 3 percent of their income to the church. The chart below will help you quickly estimate 2½ percent of your projected income, a suggested stewardship goal.

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME	"AVERAGE" 2½ % <u>WEEKLY</u> GIFT	"AVERAGE" 2½% <u>MONTHLY</u> GIFT	"AVERAGE" 2½ % <u>ANNUAL</u> GIFT
\$200,000	\$ 96.15	\$ 417	5,000
150,000	72.12	312	3,750
100,000	48.08	208	2,500
80,000	38.46	167	2,000
70,000	33.65	146	1,750
65,000	31.25	135	1,625
60,000	28.85	125	1,500
55,000	26.44	115	1,375
50,000	24.04	104	1,250
45,000	21.63	94	1,125
40,000	19.23	83	1,000
35,000	16.83	73	875
30,000	14.42	62	750
20,000	9.62	42	500
10,000	4.81	21	250
5,000	2.40	10	125

If this is your first time making a pledge, and 2½ % seems too large a step, the try 1% of your income. If you have been pledging at the same level for a few years, consider pledging at a higher percentage level. If you are tithing 10%, you are an inspiration!

Pray about your level of giving, and enter your new pledge on the 2024 pledge card. Thank you for your support of First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville.

This pamphlet tells a story of ministry, and explains in numbers what it costs to enable and nurture it. Some items are *dollar-intensive*, while other items are *time-intensive*. The numbers are a snapshot in time, and will vary according to the results of the pledge campaign and changes in the budget, as approved by our governing board, the Session. A pledge-campaign summary and detailed budget will be prepared and distributed in the annual report.

Pledge Commitment Sunday is December 3. On that day, we will gather up our pledges, and dedicate them to God's honor and the building up of the church. As we prepare, your financial support means more now than ever to keep faithful, fruitful ministry alive and thriving in the year to come. With respect for your partnership in our congregation's mission, we ask you to prayerfully reflect upon making and perhaps increasing your pledge, then returning your pledge via e-mail to the church office, through the campaign's Google survey, or with a paper pledge card in the offering plate or USPS.

You can't be God,

But you can ask God to work through you.

You can't know all that God knows,

But you can ask God to give you a glimpse.

You can't do what God can do,

But you can ask God to help you do more than you can do alone.

You may not be the one who makes the grace,

But you can help put it into action.

*May the blessing of God the Creator, God the Redeemer,
and God the Sustainer be with you all. Amen.*



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