

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DOWNERS GROVE

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 20

# 24



*Our mission is to boldly proclaim the gospel  
and motivate believers to maturity in Christ.*

# STAFF



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*Lead Pastor*



**Johnny Elliott**  
*Youth Pastor*



**Mike Leonard**  
*Children's  
Ministries Director*



**Jennifer Guo**  
*Children's Ministries  
Asst. Director*



**Joshua Peel**  
*DGCS Principal*



**Rob Peterson**  
*Minister of Maintenance*



**Betsey Singh**  
*Office Administrator*

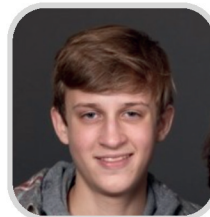
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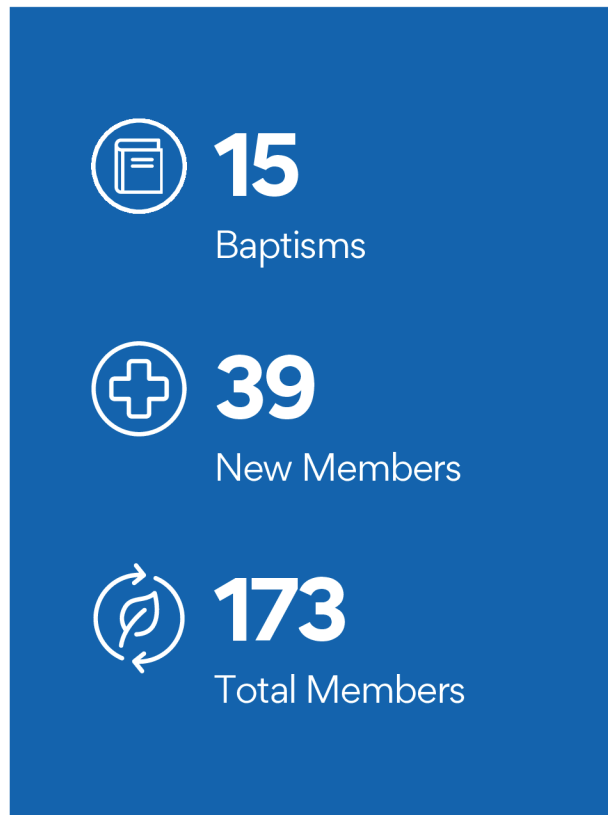
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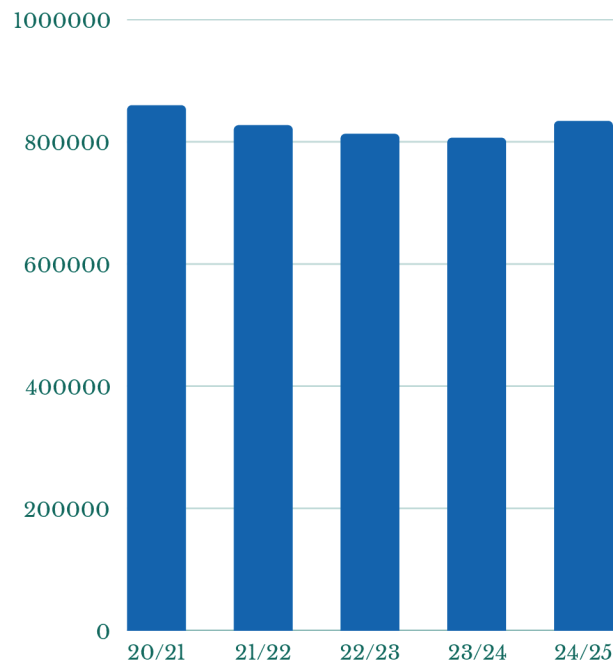
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# YEAR IN REVIEW



## FINANCIAL COMPARISON



**GOD IS FAITHFUL! THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY, PRAYERS, AND SUPPORT AS WE LIVE OUT OUR MISSION AND VALUES.**

**Next Steps Classes** | Pastor Jarret and Pastor Johnny led several Next Steps Classes, resulting in 39 people making the commitment to be a member of First Baptist Downers Grove.

**Believer's Baptisms** | Baptisms were held: June, September, December, February, and March.

**Staffing Changes** | Mark Eakley stepped down as Worship Pastor in August 2024 after serving in the role for six years. Shari Peterson stepped down as Principal of Downers Grove Christian School after nearly 10 faithful years of service. Joshua Peel was hired as Principal in June 2024.

# PASTOR'S REPORT

Church... What a year! My heart fills with immense joy and gratitude as I look back on this incredible first year in Downers Grove. To say that I have tasted and seen the goodness of God is an understatement. Our Lord has been so, so good to me, to Dakota, and to FBC.

As one of our beloved church members often reminds me, "When God does a thing, He does it well." Amen and amen. God has indeed done great things, let us echo with the Psalms - "Praise the Lord!" Thank you church, for the way you have loved and welcomed Dakota and I; we love being here!

There's so much to summarize in this first year, so I'll do my best! Among many roles of Lead Pastor, it has been a tremendous honor to preach God's Word. Last year, we worked through several series and books. My first sermon series was, "This is Us", where I preached our church's mission (to boldly proclaim the Gospel and motivate believers to maturity in Christ); our church's heart (know, grow, go); and our church's values (biblical, vibrant, loving).

If you're ever wondering what motivates any decisions, start with these statements. This is who we have been, who we are, and who we will continue to be! As Isaiah 40:8 says, "The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the Word of our God endures forever." I hope this first year has modeled what I will always seek to do: Preach the Word (2 Timothy 4:2).



Following the "This is Us" series, we walked through the book of Joshua, seeing the goodness of God as the Lord guided His people into the Promised Land. In the same way, I trust God is leading us still today, guiding us into His "promised land" for FBC.

As we ended Joshua, we did a mini-series called, "Choose to Serve", where we talked about our role as Christians to serve God by serving others. I am so grateful for the dozens of servant-hearted volunteers at FBC; we love you and are so thankful for you!

In Fall 2024, we jumped into Ephesians, where Paul encouraged the church to sit still, walk well, and stand strong. I love that during an election season, we were consistently anchored in the reminder that our unity is in Christ and Christ alone (Ephesians 2:11-22).

To wrap the calendar year, we centered on the Gospel of Matthew's emphasis of Christ being the fulfillment of prophecies, and the One who fulfills our hearts.

In 2025, we started the year going through five books of the Bible (Obadiah, 2 John, 3 John, Philemon, Jude) in the series, “5 in 2025.” My hope is that this motivated you to read through the remaining 61 books of the Bible! This Spring 2025, we returned to the Gospel of Matthew, examining what it means to Follow Jesus, seeing this as a commitment to go wherever, doing whatever, whenever! May this be the disposition we all have as we seek to follow our Lord Jesus.

One of this first year’s many highlights is getting to know and work with the Deacon Board and Staff. They are incredible examples of godly servants and the secret sauce of what makes FBC so special. It has been an absolute joy to pray and labor together for the Kingdom of God.

In addition, I love the ministry of Downers Grove Christian School. It is abundantly clear to me that God is opening a wide door of effective ministry through our school, as we have seen several families come to FBC through DGCS!

I praise God when I see the growth God gave FBC this year. Scripture is clear that all growth is from God (1 Corinthians 3:6-7), and we should unapologetically praise God for the growth He is bringing about in our midst.

Let’s praise God for seeing 48 first-time family units connect with FBC at the Connection Corner! Let’s praise God for the 39 new church members who have put their stake in the ground to call FBC their church. Let’s praise God for celebrating 15 baptisms, as people are taking their next steps to follow Jesus! Let’s praise God for the 12 groups that are growing to maturity in Christ! Let’s praise God, for He is good, and He is worthy of all of our praise, always.

Lastly, I want to conclude with something I regularly ponder regarding the providence and faithfulness of God in our church’s history. In 1851, a missionally-focused group of men and women gathered to establish a church in Downers Grove. Little did they know (but God knew), that nearly 175 years later, First Baptist Church of Downers Grove would still be standing strong on the cornerstone of Christ, at the corner of Maple and Washington.

I believe with all my heart that our mission now is the same mission, the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8). Jesus is commissioning us to go into the highways and byways of Downers Grove and the surrounding neighborhoods, prayerfully desiring to see people come to know Jesus, to help people grow in Jesus, and to be mobilized to go share Jesus, till there’s no place left (Romans 15:23).

## Church, let’s continue to pursue the mission of God, together!

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**Respectfully submitted by Jarret Garber**  
Lead Pastor

# DEACON BOARD

The Deacon Board stands firmly on the Biblical foundation we have trusted over many years: *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."*

Indeed, that sums up the year as the Lord led Jarret Garber to serve as First Baptist Church's Lead Pastor. Pastor Jarret joined the Deacon Board as a voting member immediately after his arrival on March 25 and quickly learned the Deacons' means and methods as well as all of FBC's.

We thank the Lord for His provision in bringing Jarret to serve in the role of shepherding FBC. The Lord has been true to His word, as He led us through many complex challenges and made straight our paths culminating in Him delivering a Lead Pastor. Thank you, Lord!

The FBC Constitution outlines the role of the Deacon Board as follows:

*The Deacon Board, as the elected representatives of the congregation, shall have oversight of all the members, committees, and organizations inside the First Baptist Church and of relationships with other churches and organizations outside the church. The Deacon Board shall have supervision over all legal and fiscal affairs of the church.*



Toward that end, the board met twice monthly to, first and foremost, pray for church members and other items affecting the health and welfare of the church and its ministries. The board also discussed a wide variety of issues germane to the activities of the staff, committees, the building, and the congregation. A snapshot of some of the board's activities include:

- Planned and implemented a commissioning service for Pastor Jarret on Sunday, April 14, where the Deacons prayed over him as he started his ministry at FBC.
- Reviewed the sermon focus for Sunday services, which included:
  - "This Is Us" series on our mission, heart, and values as a church
  - June - the Book of Joshua
  - August-November - Ephesians
  - December - Christmas Fulfilled
- A FBC Benevolence Policy was prepared to help direct those in need of resources to meet immediate needs and to outline the process for requesting financial support.

- Discussed and finalized a visitor pipeline process, highlighting the following touchpoints:
  - Contact info acquisition
  - Opportunities for growth (groups)
  - New Member's Class/Next Steps
  - Opportunities to serve
  - Opportunities for connection
  - Contribute to the church's mission
- FBC said goodbye to Mark and Colleen Eakley as they transitioned to a music minister role in Ohio.
- Pastor Jarret and the Deacons compiled a musician lineup to serve during the music director search.
- The title and role of a replacement for Mark was discussed. Two primary expectations of the role will be leading Sunday worship and leading our small group ministry.
- Pastor Jarret and the Deacons began the search for a new music director. Pastor Jarret networked with various colleges and local contacts.
- The sanctuary projector broke, and replacing it in kind was not desired. A semi-permanent solution was implemented using two large TVs. Deacons discussed a permanent solution with Trustees and Staff.
- Dash Apartments was sold by Opus (developer) to Nuveen (commercial real estate company). The new owner, in accordance with provisions in the original agreement, asked FBC to sign a statement and evaluate an addendum regarding the parking areas at Dash.
- The FBC Employee Handbook was reviewed and revised in its entirety to reassess items such as holidays, sick leave, bereavement, etc.
- An evaluation of FBC's and DGCS' health care plan was undertaken to review premium costs and other healthcare policy features.
- Over the course of the year, the board:
  - Participated in Next Steps Classes and heard testimonies from all new members
  - Oversaw FBC's committees and met with committee chairs
  - Reviewed and approved FBC's annual budget
  - Reviewed and approved all committee nominations
- The board initiated a discussion of committee structure and put some measures in place for 2025/26.
- The Board approved to retain Jennifer Guo during the next fiscal year to work with Children's Ministries and DGCS. She will be living in Parsonage No. 2.
- A new 10-week Sunday Adult Class was created, focusing on the foundations of the church. This class can be held as needed to meet the needs of the growing number of new believers and members.
- The board continues to review FBC's security provisions for Sunday services to keep them current and effective.

These are highlights of a remarkably busy and, thankfully, very fruitful year that has seen the Lord lead and bless FBC in so many ways. We are very thankful to see many new people attending and rejoiced as many were baptized and became members. Indeed, the Deacon Board has a deep, heartfelt praise for the Lord and is so thankful for all He has done!

**Respectfully submitted by David Morrill**  
on behalf of the Deacon Board

#### **2025/26 Deacon Board**

Stan Rea, Chair	AJ Pearson
Enrique De La Paz, Vice Chair	Peter Sari
David Morrill	Jon Vander Wal
Jarret Garber, Lead Pastor	

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



*Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6*

*These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Deut. 6:6-7*

## **Grove Kids Mission**

To make disciples who **Know** the Only True God, Jesus Christ *John 17:3*

**Grow** in the Grace and Knowledge of our Savior Jesus Christ *2 Peter 3:18*

**Go** tell others the Good News of the Gospel *Romans 10:14-15*

## **Year in Summary**

It has been an exciting year! With the help of many wonderful volunteers, special events like Family Craft Night and VBS were successful and had many discipleship opportunities for children, volunteers, and parents. Children also took part in weekly programs like Sunday School and Children's Church and Awana on Wednesdays. I am thankful for all our volunteers who served during such a busy year.

Our goal was to focus on families by helping children and parents grow as believers. We believe parents are the primary disciplers, so we encouraged and equipped them with resources to disciple their children.



### **Sunday Mornings**

It is awesome how the Lord has blessed us with the number of kids coming to church on Sunday morning. Many of the new kids coming are ones we see throughout the week at DGCS. This is a great opportunity for us to get to know new families! We are also using both sides of the nursery due to the growth and to welcome babies arriving soon!

Lastly, moving to the second floor has made a significant positive impact. Many parents love knowing their children are learning God's Word in a safe environment.

### **Awana**

Many members engaged kids to help know and grow in the Lord. From verse time and small groups to learning a new Bible story or Scripture passage, many kids learned about Jesus consistently.

Awards Night was a wonderful time to reflect not only on finishing a book, but also the many passages of scripture that are now hidden in each heart. Kids celebrated the end of the Awana year with a carnival.

### **Vacation Bible School**

The theme for VBS was Scuba: Diving Into Friendship With God. Many families attended church the following Sunday to sing a song they learned at VBS.

Each year, VBS has been the largest outreach for children's ministry, with many local families coming to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. A total of 119 different children attended VBS.

Our Friday Night program highlights included: singing, gospel presentation, and ice cream social. It was great to see members engaged in conversations with many parents.

We also collected offering throughout the week for one of our missionaries in India/Nepal. The kids were divided in two teams - the Sharks and the Dolphins. Both teams did an amazing job raising money for missions!

We capped off the night with our wonderful new Lead Pastor (and later, me) receiving a whipped cream pie to the face.

### **Family Craft Night**

During the Christmas season, we host Family Craft Night, an opportunity for a child to make crafts for themselves or give to a loved one.

This event grows in number each year and includes many people who do not attend our church. This is a great opportunity for people to see who we are as a church in a relaxed environment.



### Children's Ministry Intern

In the beginning of May, we were blessed to have Jennifer Guo join our staff as Children's Ministry Intern. It has been a blessing to the church to have such a wonderful young leader help with the children and continue to learn the skills she needs for the future.

Every Sunday morning and Wednesday night, she has taken the lead on many leadership opportunities. It is awesome to see her grow in Christ and to guide her in the direction He wants her to go.



**Respectfully submitted by Mike Leonard**  
on behalf of the Children's Christian Ed Committee

### 2025/26 Children's Christian Ed Committee

Brittany Arcisz	Lorena Montoya
Debbie Diekevers	Jenny Pearson
Jessica Grabowski	Paul Pleva
Diane Lauridsen	Juanita Sari
Laurie McCabe	Lety Von Kerens
Mike Leonard, Director	Jennifer Guo, Assistant Director

### Reflection

A lot of time, effort, and energy went into this ministry year. It could not have been done without the many, many volunteers who helped on a weekly basis. I want to say thank you to all who helped set a godly example of what it is to be a Christian.

Praise the Lord for what He has done for children's ministry this past year! I am so thankful for how He continually provides and shows Himself faithful to us in many different ways. I am praying we will praise and worship Him more this year and into the future for His Church!

*But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 3:14-15*

# YOUTH MINISTRIES



It has been a tremendous blessing to witness God's work in Grove Students this year. Our students continue to grow in their faith and commitment to Christ through our various programs, trips, and discipleship opportunities. As I reflect on this year's journey, I am filled with gratitude for how the Lord has moved in the hearts of our students.

As a ministry, we are committed to creating an environment where students become disciples who KNOW Jesus, GROW in Jesus, and then GO and take the gospel message to a world that needs it. Our strategy focuses on engaging, equipping, and empowering students to love God and others wholeheartedly.

Our Wednesday night youth group remains our cornerstone of discipleship. Each week, students gather for a time of musical worship, prayer, Scripture reading and teaching, small group discussion, and games.

This consistent rhythm has provided students with stability and growth in their faith journeys. Providing space to ask questions and grow in Christ together has been extremely valuable for our students' development.

Last June, we had the privilege of going to D3 Camp in Louisville, Kentucky. This week-long experience challenged students through in-depth Bible teaching, worship, and fellowship.

Many returned with renewed commitments to Scripture study and prayer. The spiritual growth evident in our students following this trip has been remarkable, with several now taking more active leadership roles both inside and outside our church walls.

Our Fall service trip to Camp TimberLee provided hands-on opportunities to serve others while building community. Students worked together on various maintenance and improvement projects around the camp, learning valuable lessons about teamwork and sacrificial service. We studied the fulfillment of Christ as the Prophet and enjoyed activities, while deepening friendships and strengthening community.

There are various touchpoints in place for students to invite friends so many can come and experience our community, such as our April Lock-In.

A more recent example was our Ski Trip in February, a highlight for many students. Beyond the excitement of skiing and snowboarding, this trip created natural opportunities for meaningful conversations about faith and life.

The Lock-In and Ski Trip create a bridge for students not currently involved in church to experience the community we share.

I have been particularly encouraged by the increasing number of students serving in various capacities throughout our church. Several students have joined the Tech Team, operating sound, ProPresenter, and lighting systems during Sunday services.

Others are serving in Children's Ministry and some are serving with our Wednesday night Worship Team. These service opportunities allow students to discover and develop their spiritual gifts while becoming more integrated into the broader church family.

As we look toward the coming year, we remain committed to creating pathways for students to deepen their relationship with Christ and with one another. We are profoundly grateful for the prayers, support, and involvement of our church family in the lives of these students.



**Respectfully submitted by Pastor Johnny Elliott**  
on behalf of Youth Ministries

**2025/26 Youth Volunteers**

Rachel Carrero, Ryan Pleva, Luke Sari, Krista VlK

# WORSHIP ARTS

Looking back at 2024, the best word that sums it up is PROVISION! In Scripture, we see one of the names of God - He is Jehovah Jireh, the LORD will provide.

As I look back on the year, in a season of interim and waiting, I see God's provision. From Mary Peel quickly and helpfully stepping in to lead on Sundays and handle many other responsibilities; to Eric Marquez Jr., Dan Huerta, Pat Nelson, and Sarah Thompson, all of who have been gracious to take time away from their home churches to lead FBC in music. There have been others, but since August, these individuals have been consistently faithful and tremendous!

This provision is what I like to affectionately call "worship leader manna." The Lord is providing WHO we need and WHAT we need every time we gather. And isn't that incredible?!



While no one loves waiting or seasons of interim, there is much good that can come from it, and one thing is seeing God's good hand on our church in this season!

Looking forward to 2025, we are... you guessed it... persistently praying and patiently waiting for God to provide the right person, at the right time, with the right skills, and most importantly, with the right heart to lead FBC in music. Until then, let's live in the "worship leader manna" provision of God, with gratitude in our hearts!

**Respectfully submitted by Pastor Jarret Garber**

## **2025/26 Worship Arts Committee**

Pastor Jarret is coordinating with our interim music leaders and meeting with the worship team until we have a new Music Director.

# CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## Spiritual Highlights

- This school year our theme is God is Love and our theme verse is 1 John 4:7-8: *"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."* The focus of chapel was to learn what it looks like to show love to others. Each month, we focused on the "one another" passages of scripture which emphasize love for God and love for others. Examples include: Serve One Another, Accept One Another, Bear with One Another, and Encourage One Another.
- Various chapel speakers challenged our students to know and understand the meaning of these statements and how that can impact our understanding of who Jesus is and how much He loves and cares for us.
- Buddy Chapel: Every student has a chapel buddy they sit next to, pray with, and encourage. These buddy chapels occurred several times throughout the year and encouraged students to share their faith and participate in active disciple-making.
- Teachers were challenged and encouraged in their spiritual life by having weekly staff meetings. Friday mornings were devoted to a time of prayer for our school families, alumni, and prayer requests shared by staff.



- Operation Christmas Child: DGCS partnered with FBC to collect 250 boxes that ministered to children all over the world, not only with material gifts, but also with the message of hope and salvation through Jesus Christ.
- Feed My Starving Children
- The Christmas musical, Spring musical, and Art Showcase which demonstrates the many talents of our DGCS students.
- A consistent and deliberate effort of Biblical Integration continues in all classrooms. Teachers continue to make purposeful connections to Biblical truths and lessons whenever they have the opportunity to do so.
- The Pastor Appreciation Chapel and luncheon was attended by 25+ pastors from local congregations.

## Academic/Curricular Highlights

DGCS continues to strive for academic excellence – for every child – and highlights from this year are below:

- Student activities such as: Art Showcase; two school musicals; Junior High Science Fair; 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Reading Fair; and in-house Elementary and Jr. High Speech Meet.
- Every teacher received new items for their classrooms through funds from the 2023/24 Auction Gala.
- Spanish for students in kindergarten through eighth grade.
- Continued success of our resource program to assist students with learning challenges.
- The school introduced the IOWA Testing program in 2023 and the results continue to be amazing!



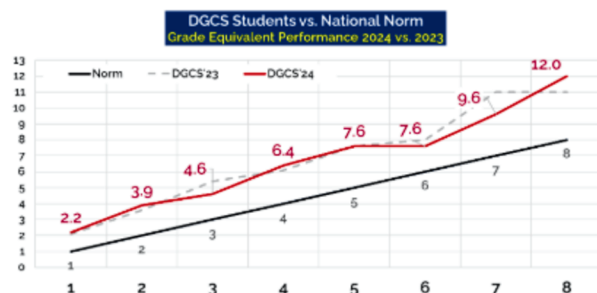
### DGCS Performance: Iowa Test of Basic Skills

- Conducted Spring 2023 and 2024 among Grades 1 thru 8
- Performance Assessments in Math, Science, English, Social Studies
- Compares DGCS to USA Public & Private School Norms from Spring 2017

#### Academic Report Card

Iowa Assessments: Academic Performance DGCS vs. USA Norms by Grade on Elements									Spring 2024
Grade	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	ALL
Elements	278	297	365	335	362	381	402	422	2,842
Better	144	200	205	256	269	190	228	345	1,837
Same + Better	245	290	337	324	341	324	341	412	2,614
Better	58%		75%		63%		65%		
Same + Better	93%		95%		89%		92%		

Christian School



DGCS: Grades 1 thru 8; Spring 2023; n=184

Norm: US National Public & Private Schools; Rep. Demos; Spring 2017 (n=250,000)

## Staffing

DGCS hired:

- Mrs. Sid McCormick (P.E.)
- Mrs. Hannah Coddington (1st Grade)
- Mrs. Jaclyn Crusor (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Mr. Ryan Marks (Junior High Science)
- Mrs. Heather Braden (Spanish)
- Mr. Jake Wesemann (Aide)
- Mrs. Lauren Gonzalez (Computers)
- Mr. Joshua Peel (Principal)

DGCS also said goodbye to:

- Mrs. Kelly McCaig (P3)
- Mr. Isaac Soriano (Computers/Spanish)
- Mr. Ryan Marks (Junior High Science)
- Mrs. Sid McCormick (P.E.)
- Mr. Joshua Peel (Principal)

DGCS parents have confidence that their children are cared for because they are challenged academically while building strong character and ultimately grow into the person God created them to be.

## Extra-Curricular Highlights

- Junior High Electives: Golf, Financial Planning, Pickleball, Fishing, Teacher's Aide
- Athletics: co-ed soccer, girls' and boys' basketball, girls' and boys' volleyball
- Student Council
- Concert Band and Beginning Band: Christmas concert and Spring concert

## After-School Programming

- All after-school programs: Chess Club, Art Club, Book-making Club
- Before and after school care

## Building Community

- At the beginning of the school year, a Taco Food Truck provided dinner before the Parent's Night meeting.

### **Successful Fundraising**

- Putting for Eagles Golf Outing
- The Annual Dinner & Auction Gala

### **Teacher Training**

- Teachers participated in ALICE (intruder) training with the Downers Grove Police Department.
- Teachers participated in teacher in-service for the topic of Curriculum and Development.
- Teachers attended various workshops/seminars throughout the school year.

### **Enrollment**

- The enrollment for the 2024-25 school year is currently 176.

### **Looking Ahead**

- Continue efforts to grow enrollment to a sustainable level of > 175 students
- Mr. Peel has chosen not to return to his position for the next year. The school committee is actively searching for an interim and future principal.

*Dear FBC Community,*

*I am thankful for every teacher and student at Downers Grove Christian School. We are so thankful for all that you do as you encourage and grow Christ's body in the local church.*

*The Apostle Paul speaks to believers about the body of Christ where Christ "gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ..." (Eph. 4:11-12). We are "body-builders" as it were, and rejoice at the opportunity to serve together with you in this job.*

*As we all continue to minister to students and help them learn about who Christ is, we remember that these students are NOT the church of tomorrow—they are the church of TODAY! Your involvement in DGCS continues to further our mission to provide an excellent, Christ-centered education in a loving environment. Let's continue to fight for this mission and pray for God's blessing on DGCS.*



**Respectfully submitted by Principal Joshua Peel**  
on behalf of the Christian School Committee

### **2025/26 Christian School Committee**

Dennis Gonier, Chair	Dennis Grabowski
Zach Arcisz	Gail Joseph
Steve Auernhamer	Dani Leonard
Edgardo Carrero	Jim Lauridsen
Stephen Fleck	Sharon Nese
Adelina Gonier	Judy Stalinger, School Rep

# DEACONESS COMMITTEE

The Deaconess Committee organized the following events/ministries this year:

**Young Women's Lunch** | We met with young women to learn how to minister to this demographic. Shelia Beine hosted eight young women and three deaconesses. Several suggestions were made and reviewed by the committee.

**Walk n' Talk** | We held three of these events at various locations during the summer, giving women the opportunity to exercise and socialize. These were not that well attended, so we will reevaluate if we want to continue this summer.

**"Bushels of Fun" Fall Brunch** | Groups of 6-8 women gathered at four host homes to connect and for encouragement.

**"We all Scream for Ice Cream" & Bunco Night** | This ice cream social was well attended and enjoyed by all.

**Phil's Friends Outreach** | Women made tie blankets and colored cards for Phil's Friends, whose mission is to bring hope to cancer patients. We had pizza and made 12 blankets. A few weeks later, a group of women visited the Hope Center to deliver the items and assemble boxes. We would like to continue supporting this ministry.



**Meet the Garbers** | Joy in the Journey met for a western-themed lunch to meet Pastor Jarret and his wife, Dakota. We had a few get-to-know-you games, lunch, and a devotion.

**Happy New Year Brunch** | Joy in the Journey gathered for brunch. Guest speakers, Ruth and Evan Davies, shared about their prison ministry and hat-making. It was wonderful to hear about the ministry of these humble servants.

**Soup Luncheon** | Joy in the Journey heard Laura Wernimont share her testimony of God's protection over her and her dog, Zeke. She shared about her ministry with Canines for Christ. Laura invited two ladies and their dogs to share more about the ministry and provide a little "dog therapy" to the ladies.

**Hospital & Wellness Visits** | Various visits were made to those in the hospital and recuperating at home.

**Communion |** We prepared communion trays and assisted in distribution on Communion Sundays.

**Meal Train |** Meals were provided in times of sickness, surgery recovery, birth, and loss of a family member. This ministry is supported via a website in which individuals volunteer to provide a meal for a family. It has been an active year and will continue in the future.

**Women's Bible Studies |** Four women's Bible studies met throughout the year. Babysitting was provided for the Wednesday morning study.

**Book Club |** Book Club met six times and includes a core group of ladies. This group plans to meet in the summer and throughout next year.

**Christmas Bags |** 31 bags filled with snacks, treats, and useful items were distributed to our widows, widowers, and homebound families in November.

**Bridal & Baby Showers |** We were blessed to host one bridal shower and one baby sprinkle. We are planning several more bridal, baby sprinkle, and baby showers in 2025. It is a pleasure to show love and care for new couples and new parents in this way.

**Moms in Prayer |** Six women, on average, met on Tuesday evenings at church or in homes to pray for children and schools.

In closing, I would like to say with a thankful heart that it has been this committee's pleasure and blessing to serve the women of First Baptist Church.

**Respectfully submitted by Debi Thompson**  
on behalf of the Deaconess Committee

**2025/26 Women's Ministry Team**

Shelia Beine, Co-Chair  
Rachel Carrero, Co-Chair  
Dakota Garber  
Deborah Morrill  
Karyn Pearson

# GLOBAL OUTREACH

Each year, it seems there are changes. Jon and Noreen Storms left the mission field, but we added to those we support: Wayside Cross Ministries (Aurora); Mark and Autumn Bogner (Ethnos360, Papua New Guinea); and M&E (Christar).

We currently support 22 missionary families and missions organizations around the world. Our budget last year was \$131,428. We collected \$7,302 at Missionary Christmas. We also made a \$500 donation to Kids Alive for sports equipment. Kids Alive operates in seven countries. Currently, Lebanon and Haiti are not safe to visit.

A missions trip to Nepal was planned for July, but was suspended due to conflicts. Currently, a trip to Pangasinan, Philippines, is planned for January 29 - February 9, 2026.

Robeson with Kids Alive (Haiti) visited First Baptist in May, and Laura and Jon Prins (ECC Japan) visited in August.

**Respectfully submitted by Ed McCabe**  
on behalf of the Global Outreach Committee

## **2025/26 Global Outreach Committee**

Ed McCabe, Chair	Allen Josey
Bobbi Dice	Nicki Josey
Rich Dunn	Deborah Rea
Sue Dunn	Audrey Ward
Beth Jankowski	



In November, we hosted First Love Market to help support artisans all over the world. It was well attended and plans are being made for another market.

Christar provided us the opportunity to pray for Muslims during Ramadan.

Tim Carmical (Ethnos360) had a heart attack in the spring, but he is steadily recovering and will speak at our Missions Conference in October. Our other speakers will be from Wayside Cross, Cru, and Chosen People. We look forward to this conference, and we want to close by thanking FBC members for giving to those we support.

# LOCAL OUTREACH

2024 was a great year of outreach, and it was fun to try new events! Our number one goal is faithfulness to GO. God is in the business of fruitfulness, and we trust God with whatever happens during and after outreaches.

Last summer, with the help of donations and volunteers, we attended nearly a dozen Summer Concerts, giving away water bottles and church info cards. In June, we handed out water at Rotary GroveFest. If you haven't picked up the theme yet, we provided a lot of physical water with the goal to point people to the living water of Jesus.

While oftentimes we don't know what happens after an outreach, we were so encouraged to see TWO people come to FBC because we met them at GroveFest. These two individuals are regularly attending FBC, and they are prayerfully considering taking a next step in believer's baptism! This is the reason why we GO do local outreach - we want to sow seeds and let God do the rest.

In November, we hosted First Love Market, inviting the community to shop with a purpose. At the Grove Express 5K, we used water bottles and hot chocolate as a fun way to connect with participants.



In December, we tabled at Candy Cane Lane. It was great to be visibly present and invite people to Christmas Eve! Overall, we loved being IN the community and see many of these events worthy of going to again in 2025.

We are prayerfully excited about the Gospel-opportunities before us as a church. Luke 10:2 comes to mind when I think about outreach. Jesus tells us the harvest is plentiful, and church, we believe the harvest is plentiful in Downers Grove right now! We are praying towards people coming to KNOW Jesus as we GO share Jesus in our community!

Our mission is to boldly proclaim the Gospel and to motivate believers to maturity in Christ. Local outreach is something we hope EVERYONE does - whether you serve at an event, or if you step out in faith and reach out to those far from God but near to you. Affectionately, our prayer is that all of us are out-reaching and reaching-out for the Gospel!

Regarding church-wide opportunities, here's what we have planned RIGHT NOW!

And who knows, this list may grow as opportunities arise. Mark these on your calendar and, as you're able, join in on the fun!

**June 9-13: VBS!!**

VBS is NOT just a Children's Ministry event; it's an outreach into the community, and we are going ALL-IN!

**June 20-22: Rotary GroveFest**

Lots of water bottles, lots of fun!! Please help either donate water bottles or help table as we seek to connect with people.

**July 10-13: Taste of Westmont**

This is a NEW opportunity we want to try. We aren't confirmed yet, so prayerfully we can get a table and reach out to our neighbors in Westmont! If you live in Westmont, come help and hang out.

**August: Back to School Drive**

Our hope is to partner with a school to see how we can bless them with back to school supplies and that we, as a church, can "adopt" a school near FBC!

**September 13: Dog Daze**

This is a Park District event that we will try for the first time! Our hope is to connect with the dog owners of Downers Grove, by loving on their dogs.

**October: NEW IDEA**

We are exploring a really fun way to bless Downers Grove... but it's soon to share any details. We don't want to get you EXCITED, then saddened if it doesn't come together. Rumor has it if you ask Pastor Jarret nicely, he loves to spill the tea.

**November 27: Grove Express**

We are quite literally, "running it back" but this time with more hot chocolate!

**December 6: Candy Cane Lane**

It's a PERFECTLY strategic Christmas outreach to end the year on mission.

*\*\*You'll notice the Summer Concert Series is not listed, and that is because for the cost - financially and voluntarily (i.e. volunteer hours) - and for the connection points (minimal conversations due to the music), we do not see it as worth repeating. Furthermore, VBS, GroveFest, and Taste of Westmont are multiple days of outreach, and we will need all hands on deck! We do not want to spread ourselves too thin.*

**Respectfully submitted by Pastor Jarret Garber**

**2025/26 Local Outreach Committee**

The Deacons have opted to delegate the role of this committee to the staff.

# SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee serves the church through the gift of hospitality and hosting of social events. We enjoy sharing the spiritual gift of hospitality.

1 Corinthians 12:27 says, "Now you are the body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it." We know the church is Christ's body, and we are His servants in whichever way He calls. We aim to serve with joy and willing spirits. Some ways we served FBC include:

**August** | A light lunch was served for Next Steps Class participants.

**September** | We hosted the Annual Church Picnic - the weather was perfect and the turnout was awesome! The bounce houses were a hit with the kids, and the cornhole tournament was enjoyed by many adults. We were blessed with lots of great food and fellowship. We look forward to this event in September.

**October** | Missionary Christmas raises money for our supported missionaries. We helped organize the cookie reception, and people enjoyed homemade cookies.

**Respectfully submitted by Karen Ranallo**  
on behalf of the Social Committee

## 2025/26 Social Committee

Karen Ranallo, Chair

Donna Bowling, Co-Chair

Casey Bennema

Diane Chonko

Linda Haidacher

Vicki Koresch

Peace Mensah

Kathy Olson

Margaret Radek

Nicole Rogers

Debi Thompson

Stephanie Vander Wal



**November** | FBC hosted First Love Market, and we provided a coffee and cookie bar. It was well attended, and we look forward to another market in November 2025.

**December** | We served hot chocolate and Christmas cookies before the service.

**January** | We served Next Steps lunch to baptism and membership candidates.

**March** | We served Awana volunteers and their families with a Thank You Dinner, allowing time for fellowship. The spaghetti dinner was enjoyed by the roughly 50 people in attendance.

Other responsibilities included: cleaning the kitchen, restocking supplies, and funeral luncheons. It is with joy we serve the Lord and His church!

# TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

The Trustee Committee is pleased to provide this update on projects completed during fiscal year 2024 and for those planned for the 2025 year.

In May 2024, our All-Church Work Day afforded the many volunteers the opportunity to trim bushes, weed, plant flowers, spread mulch, and clean up the yards of both parsonages.

A delicious lunch was provided by the Social Committee. Thanks to all who volunteered their time and effort!

Throughout the year, many repair and maintenance projects were undertaken including, but not limited to, the following:

- Replacement of 2nd floor office window
- Refinishing of gym floor
- Repair small roof leaks over the school and gym
- Tear off and replace roof (shingles) above 7<sup>th</sup> Grade classroom
- Continued replacement of corridor fluorescent lighting with LED fixtures
- Regrade and seed the East Lawn of the Sanctuary building and the backyard lawn of Parsonage 2.0. Thanks to Ed Tameling for providing the labor and material to accomplish this task!



These major projects often overshadow the many small tasks and daily maintenance, repairs, and housekeeping performed by Rob Peterson and his staff.

Also, a word of thanks to Karen Ranallo and her volunteers for weeding and trimming the Prayer Garden throughout the growing season!

## **Planned work projects for 2025 include:**

- Redecorating of Parsonage 1.0 (currently underway)
- Tear off & replace roof at Parsonage 2.0 (late April 2025)
- Replace stair treads leading to Chapel
- Replace 5 windows of 2nd floor offices
- Replace two A/C compressors in gym's roof top unit
- Replace heat exchanger in Kitchen exhaust hood make-up air unit
- Revarnishing of pews' wood caps
- Maintenance of exterior (white) wood trim on the church and school – some areas to be painted, other areas to be covered with white aluminum



**Long-range planning will include:**

- Replacement of roofs over school & gym
  - Replacement of roof top units (HVAC)
- These items are beginning to show their age (+20 years) and will need replacement within 10 years. Some may be sooner than that.

Do you have some free time? The Trustees and Rob are always looking for individuals who are willing to help with various tasks in and around FBC. Talk to us if you're interested!

Thank you for allowing us to serve.



**Respectfully submitted by Edmund Olson**  
on behalf of the Trustee Committee

**2025/26 Trustee Committee**

Edmund Olson, Chair	Dean Lawrence
Glen Chonko	Jim Pearson
Grant Chonko	Humphrey Mensah
Ken Fleck	Chuck Thompson
Trevor Jacobs	John Von Kerens
Rich Joseph	

# TREASURER'S REPORTS

## First Baptist Church of Downers Grove

### Budget vs. Actual

04/22/25

April 2024 through March 2025

	Apr '24 - Mar 25	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
Contributions Income	5,410.58			
MISC Income Regular Giving	673,899.76	710,000.00	-36,100.24	94.9%
Contributions Income - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Contributions Income</b>	<b>679,310.34</b>	<b>710,000.00</b>	<b>-30,689.66</b>	<b>95.7%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>679,310.34</b>	<b>710,000.00</b>	<b>-30,689.66</b>	<b>95.7%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>679,310.34</b>	<b>710,000.00</b>	<b>-30,689.66</b>	<b>95.7%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>A. Christian Education</b>				
104 Children's Education				
107 Vacation Bible School	2,316.84	2,000.00	316.84	115.8%
117 Nursery	0.00	400.00	-400.00	0.0%
119 Awana	582.48	1,300.00	-717.52	44.8%
123 CE Materials	2,699.99	4,000.00	-1,300.01	67.5%
123a Activities	263.06	1,500.00	-1,236.94	17.5%
<b>Total 104 Children's Education</b>	<b>5,862.37</b>	<b>9,200.00</b>	<b>-3,337.63</b>	<b>63.7%</b>
127 Jr. & Sr. High				
127a. The Grove Junior High	1,356.02	1,500.00	-143.98	90.4%
127b. The Grove Senior High	1,454.03	1,500.00	-45.97	96.9%
127c. Contact Ministry	1,041.04	1,100.00	-58.96	94.6%
127d. Worship Equipment	416.72	420.00	-3.28	99.2%
127g. Youth Meals	1,996.74	2,000.00	-3.26	99.8%
127h. Student Leadership Team	29.95	0.00	29.95	100.0%
<b>Total 127 Jr. &amp; Sr. High</b>	<b>6,294.50</b>	<b>6,520.00</b>	<b>-225.50</b>	<b>96.5%</b>
129 Youth Activities	1,724.04			
131 ABF Ministries	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0
133 Special Events	-1,117.96			
135 Young Adults	0.00	0.00	0	%
<b>Total A. Christian Education</b>	<b>12,762.95</b>	<b>15,720.00</b>	<b>-2,957.05</b>	<b>81.2%</b>
<b>B. Deacons</b>				
204 Pastor Expense	4,308.15	4,000.00	308.15	107.7%
205 Social Committee	1,515.54	1,200.00	315.54	126.3%
207 Pulpit Supply	650.00	700.00	-50.00	92.9%
213 Pastor Library	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
214 Youth Pastor Library	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
217 Evangelism & Discipleship	1,887.08	500.00	1,387.08	377.4%
219 Pastor Conferences	673.91	750.00	-76.09	89.9%
223 Pastors Education	0.00	750.00	-750.00	0.0%
226 Special Ministries	13,985.09	2,500.00	11,485.09	559.4%
227 Staff Retreat	1,410.93	500.00	910.93	282.2%
228 Deaconess	1,095.90	1,600.00	-504.10	68.5%
229 Outreach	1,342.88	3,000.00	-1,657.12	44.8%
231 Men's Ministries	288.60	250.00	38.60	115.4%
<b>Total B. Deacons</b>	<b>27,158.08</b>	<b>16,100.00</b>	<b>11,058.08</b>	<b>168.7%</b>

04/22/25

**First Baptist Church of Downers Grove**  
**Budget vs. Actual**  
 April 2024 through March 2025

	Apr '24 - Mar 25	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>C. Trustees</b>				
301 Heat	15,188.80	13,500.00	1,688.80	112.5%
303 Electricity	44,299.13	35,000.00	9,299.13	126.6%
305 Telephone	12,777.98	12,000.00	777.98	106.5%
307 Water	3,857.46	3,200.00	657.46	120.5%
309 Sewer	1,926.28	1,200.00	726.28	160.5%
311 Waste Disposal	2,763.81	2,200.00	563.81	125.6%
313 Bldg Repairs & Maintenance	34,730.29	30,000.00	4,730.29	115.8%
314 Planned Maintenance	19,645.36	17,500.00	2,145.36	112.3%
315 Equipment	5,485.10	3,000.00	2,485.10	182.8%
317 Building Supplies	8,109.96	7,500.00	609.96	108.1%
319 Vehicle Supplies	4,879.78	2,000.00	2,879.78	244.0%
321 Vehicle Fuel	493.87	750.00	-256.13	65.8%
323 Property Insurance	44,548.73	45,100.00	-551.27	98.8%
324 Computer Hardware & Sftware	5,521.99	5,500.00	21.99	100.4%
325 Miscellaneous	891.92	500.00	391.92	178.4%
327 Building Security	9,770.00	9,360.00	410.00	104.4%
332 Parking Easement	1,646.00	3,292.00	-1,646.00	50.0%
<b>Total C. Trustees</b>	<b>216,536.46</b>	<b>191,602.00</b>	<b>24,934.46</b>	<b>113.0%</b>
<b>D. Church Salaries</b>				
401 Salaries - Church Staff	251,789.04	370,528.68	-118,739.64	68.0%
415 Staff 403B Withholding	8,261.94			
800 Federal Tax Withholding	61,247.90			
802 State Tax Withholding	16,386.16			
<b>Total D. Church Salaries</b>	<b>337,685.04</b>	<b>370,528.68</b>	<b>-32,843.64</b>	<b>91.1%</b>
<b>E. Church Benefits</b>				
405 Health Insur Church Staff	82,211.88	85,415.60	-3,203.72	96.2%
414 Reserve-Staff Retirement	7,734.21	8,383.72	-649.51	92.3%
<b>Total E. Church Benefits</b>	<b>89,946.09</b>	<b>93,799.32</b>	<b>-3,853.23</b>	<b>95.9%</b>
<b>F. Music</b>				
501 Music				
501a. Musicians	300.00	1,000.00	-700.00	30.0%
501b. Guest Worship Groups	1,450.00	1,500.00	-50.00	96.7%
501c. Music	3,141.52	2,000.00	1,141.52	157.1%
501d. Computer Hardwre Sftware	7,641.49	4,000.00	3,641.49	191.0%
501e. Child Care	45.00	500.00	-455.00	9.0%
501f. Volunteer Meals	311.40	200.00	111.40	155.7%
501g. Miscellaneous & Supplies	1,172.28	1,800.00	-627.72	65.1%
<b>Total 501 Music</b>	<b>14,061.69</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>	<b>3,061.69</b>	<b>127.8%</b>
502 Sanctuary Decorations	257.28	250.00	7.28	102.9%
<b>Total F. Music</b>	<b>14,318.97</b>	<b>11,250.00</b>	<b>3,068.97</b>	<b>127.3%</b>
<b>G. Church Office</b>				
601 Office Supplies	377.48	800.00	-422.52	47.2%
603 Advertising	313.36	1,000.00	-686.64	31.3%
605 Postage	73.22	500.00	-426.78	14.6%
607 Accounting Services	3,825.61	3,200.00	625.61	119.6%
609 Online Processing Fees	2,053.19	2,000.00	53.19	102.7%
611 Outside Printing Services	3,387.39	3,500.00	-112.61	96.8%
<b>Total G. Church Office</b>	<b>10,030.25</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>	<b>-969.75</b>	<b>91.2%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>708,437.84</b>	<b>710,000.00</b>	<b>-1,562.16</b>	<b>99.8%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-29,127.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-29,127.50</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# EXPENSES

## 2025/2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ACC. No.	23/24 BUDGET	24/25 BUDGET	ACTUAL	24/25 PROJECTED	PROPOSED		
				APR 2024- JAN 2025		25/26 BUDGET	CHANGE AMOUNT	%
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BUDGET:								
Vacation Bible School	107	\$2,600	\$2,000	\$1,994	\$1,994	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Nursery	117	\$50	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$0	0.0%
AWANA	119	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$662	\$750	\$1,300	\$0	0.0%
C.E. Materials	123	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$2,700	\$3,240	\$4,000	\$0	0.0%
C.E. Activities	123a	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$263	\$750	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
127a. The Grove JH	127a	\$1,595	\$1,500	\$1,214	\$1,457	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
127b. The Grove SH	127b	\$1,595	\$1,500	\$1,301	\$1,561	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
127c. Contact Ministry	127c	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$739	\$887	\$1,100	\$0	0.0%
127d. Worship Equipment	127d	\$420	\$420	\$407	\$488	\$500	\$80	19.0%
127g Youth Meals	127g	\$1,560	\$2,000	\$1,927	\$2,313	\$2,500	\$500	25.0%
127h Student Leadership Team	127h	\$530	\$0	\$30	\$36	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Youth Activities	129	\$0	\$0	-\$154	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
ABF Ministries	131	\$450	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Young Adults	135	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
TOTAL		\$18,200	\$15,720	\$11,084	\$13,476	\$16,300	\$580	3.7%
DEACON BUDGET:								
Pastor Expense	204	\$2,500	\$4,000	\$3,429	\$4,115	\$4,000	\$0	0.0%
Social Committee	205	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,516	\$1,819	\$1,500	\$300	25.0%
Pulpit Supply	207	\$700	\$700	\$300	\$650	\$600	-\$100	-14.3%
Lead Pastor's Library	213	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$200	-100.0%
Youth Pastor's Library	214	\$150	\$150	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$150	-100.0%
Evangelism & Discipleship	217	\$500	\$500	\$733	\$879	\$750	\$250	50.0%
Pastor Conferences	219	\$750	\$750	\$674	\$674	\$750	\$0	0.0%
Pastor Education	223	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$750	-100.0%
Special Ministries	226	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$10,836	\$11,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.0%
Staff Retreat	227	\$400	\$500	\$460	\$552	\$1,000	\$500	100.0%
Deaconess	228	\$1,400	\$1,600	\$585	\$702	\$3,000	\$1,400	87.5%
Outreach	229	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$1,231	\$1,477	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%
Men's Ministries	231	\$250	\$250	\$289	\$289	\$250	\$0	0.0%
Child Care	232	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300	\$300	0.0%
Miscellaneous	233	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	0.0%
TOTAL		\$13,300	\$16,100	\$20,052	\$22,657	\$19,150	\$3,050	18.9%
TRUSTEE BUDGET:								
Utility - Heat	301	\$14,000	\$13,500	\$8,143	\$12,857	\$13,500	\$0	0.0%
Utility - Electricity	303	\$32,000	\$35,000	\$37,095	\$43,845	\$45,000	\$10,000	28.6%
Utility - Telephone	305	\$12,080	\$12,000	\$10,592	\$12,744	\$13,300	\$1,300	10.8%
Utility - Water	307	\$3,000	\$3,200	\$3,428	\$4,228	\$4,000	\$800	25.0%
Utility - Sewer	309	\$1,100	\$1,200	\$1,340	\$1,663	\$1,750	\$550	45.8%
Waste Disposal	311	\$2,595	\$2,200	\$2,366	\$2,766	\$2,800	\$600	27.3%
Bldg & Equipment Repairs	313	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$34,472	\$38,367	\$28,000	-\$2,000	-6.7%
Planned Maintenance	314	\$16,500	\$17,500	\$16,204	\$17,000	\$17,500	\$0	0.0%
Equipment	315	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$4,783	\$5,740	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%
Building Supplies	317	\$8,000	\$7,500	\$7,264	\$8,717	\$8,000	\$500	6.7%
Vehicle Supplies	319	\$2,300	\$2,000	\$4,847	\$5,817	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Vehicle Fuel	321	\$1,000	\$750	\$364	\$437	\$750	\$0	0.0%
Property Insurance	323	\$41,500	\$45,100	\$32,750	\$44,547	\$47,600	\$2,500	5.5%
Computer hardware & sftware	324	\$5,700	\$5,500	\$3,613	\$4,335	\$4,900	-\$600	-10.9%
Miscellaneous	325	\$1,000	\$500	\$794	\$953	\$500	\$0	0.0%
Building Security	327	\$9,720	\$9,360	\$8,150	\$9,770	\$9,540	\$180	1.9%
Parking Easement	332	\$0	\$3,292	\$1,646	\$3,292	\$3,400	\$108	
TOTAL		\$184,495	\$191,602	\$177,851	\$217,076	\$205,540	\$13,938	7.3%

**EXPENSES**  
**2025/2026 PROPOSED BUDGET**

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ACC. No.	23/24 BUDGET	24/25 BUDGET	ACTUAL	24/25 PROJECTED	25/26 BUDGET	PROPOSED	
				APR 2024- JAN 2025			CHANGE AMOUNT	%
CHURCH SALARIES:								
Salaries - Church Staff	401	\$303,440	\$370,529	\$284,984	\$337,004	\$374,727	\$4,198	1.1%
Health Insurance - Church Staff	405	\$88,132	\$85,416	\$68,678	\$81,864	\$121,307	\$35,892	42.0%
Reserve for Staff Retirement	414	\$5,500	\$8,384	\$0	\$8,454	\$14,095	\$5,711	68.1%
TOTAL		\$397,072	\$464,328	\$353,662	\$427,322	\$510,129	\$45,801	9.9%
MUSIC BUDGET:								
Paid Musicians	501a	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$300	\$300	\$1,000	\$0	0.0%
Guest Worship Groups	501b	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,450	\$1,450	\$0	-\$1,500	-100.0%
Music	501c	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,987	\$3,585	\$4,000	\$2,000	100.0%
Computer hardware & software	501d	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$7,394	\$8,873	\$2,800	-\$1,200	-30.0%
Child Care	501e	\$500	\$500	\$45	\$45	\$0	-\$500	-100.0%
Volunteer Meals	501f	\$200	\$200	\$311	\$374	\$200	\$0	0.0%
Miscellaneous and Supplies	501g	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$801	\$961	\$1,000	-\$800	-44.4%
Worship Equipment	501h	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500	0.0%
Decorations	502	\$250	\$250	\$257	\$257	\$250	\$0	0.0%
TOTAL		\$10,250	\$11,250	\$13,546	\$15,845	\$11,750	\$500	4.4%
CHURCH OFFICE BUDGET:								
Office Supplies	601	\$1,000	\$800	\$377	\$453	\$800	\$0	0.0%
Advertising	603	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$313	\$376	\$1,000	\$0	0.0%
Postage	605	\$1,000	\$500	\$61	\$73	\$100	-\$400	-80.0%
Accounting Services	607	\$3,000	\$3,200	\$3,316	\$3,979	\$3,500	\$300	9.4%
Online Processing Fees	609	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,709	\$2,050	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Outside Printing & Binding	611	\$3,100	\$3,500	\$2,775	\$3,437	\$3,900	\$400	11.4%
TOTAL		\$11,600	\$11,000	\$8,551	\$10,368	\$11,300	\$300	2.7%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND		\$634,917	\$710,000	\$584,746	\$706,744	\$774,169	\$64,169	9.0%
GENERAL FUND GIVING NEEDED PER WEEK						\$14,888		
PROJECTED INCOME ('25/26)						\$647,370		
EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT PROCEEDS (ERC)						\$55,000		
GENERAL FUND CASH RESERVE DRAWDOWN						\$41,799		
INTEREST FROM OPUS FUND						\$30,000		
PROJECTED '25/26 INCOME						\$774,169		
GENERAL FUND BALANCE ON HAND 1/31/25						\$108,043		

## BUILDING FUND TREASURER'S REPORT

3/31/2025

### BUILDING FUND AT 5/3 BANK

Balance in 5/3 Bldg Fund on 4/1/24	\$18,853.21
Plus Giving Deposits	\$931.31
Plus Interest less bank fees	\$2.72
Projector Screen --> Monitor purchase	-\$200.00
Roof projects (completed summer 2024)	-\$9,195.00
Balance in 5/3 Bldg Fund on 3/31/2025	\$10,392.24

#### Funds in 5/3 Account

Undesignated	\$6,482.77
Prayer Garden	\$3,909.47
Projector Screen	\$0.00

**Jon Vander Wal, Building Fund Treasurer**

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## STEWARDSHIP FUND TREASURER'S REPORT

3/31/2025

### "Parking Lot Fund"

#### INVESTMENT FUNDS AT CHARLES SCHWAB

Balance in Schwab Investment Accounts on 4/1/24	\$1,114,353.93
Plus Investment Income, Less Service Fees	\$51,685.21
Less Expenses	\$0.00
Balance in Schwab Investment Accounts on 3/31/2025	\$1,166,039.14

**Jon Vander Wal, Stewardship Fund Treasurer**

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## FELLOWSHIP FUND TREASURER'S REPORT

The Fellowship Fund is used to help individuals and families through short-term financial crises. The needs are usually the result of job layoff, illness, and other serious hardships, such as utility bills, rent, medical bills, groceries, car repairs, etc.

We provide help primarily for our own church family, but also extend help to our community. Every effort is made to closely monitor the use of these monies. We often pay the provider directly (i.e. utility, rent, medical, etc.) to help with monitoring. We appreciate your continued support of this vital church ministry.

**Bob Kerr, Fellowship Fund Treasurer**