

# JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



*The mission of John Knox Presbyterian Church  
is to grow in Christ,  
be inspired to spread his word,  
share his love throughout the community,  
and experience joy on the way.*



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**Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis**

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# Pastor's Message

*“God, keep my anger from becoming meanness.  
Keep my sorrow from collapsing into self-pity.  
Keep my heart soft enough to keep breaking.  
Keep my anger turned toward justice, not cruelty.  
Remind me that all of this—every bit of it—is for love.  
Keep me fiercely kind. Amen.”*

— Laura Jean Truman

Siblings in Christ,

The year 2025 brought both challenges and opportunities for fellowship, reflection, and growth.

Over the past year, we said goodbye to many friends and navigated a constantly shifting landscape in which we live and serve. Together, we grieved those no longer in our pews or in our families. We grew weary as demands on our time and resources increased and our collective energy diminished. We lamented as we witnessed atrocities around the globe committed against God's children.



Pastorally, I continue to value deeply the opportunities to visit, to listen, and to provide care during life's hardships. I am equally grateful for the moments of celebration—the milestones, joys, and sacred moments that give meaning to your lives. I look forward to continuing to walk alongside you through both sorrow and joy.

Prophetically, I remain committed to letting God's Spirit lead through the proclamation of the Word. During Lent, we explored the significance of meals in the Gospels, focusing on how Jesus used table fellowship with Pharisees, tax collectors, and sinners to embody God's grace, inclusivity, and hospitality. In the fall, I led a Season of Peace as we listened to testimonies from, and prayed for, and sang songs of, the Church around the world. During stewardship season, we challenged ourselves to be faithful stewards of the earth, our relationships, our time, and our financial resources as we re-dedicated ourselves to God's purpose here and now. In Advent, we leaned into incarnational liturgy and the lectionary, seeking to encounter God's light and love breaking in among us.

As moderator of Session and a leader among our ordained and installed leaders, I recognize that we face many of the same challenges confronting mainline churches across the United States: declining membership alongside increasing demands. Together, we are working to find creative and faithful ways to sustain worship, administration, mission, and care for our flock—while also pouring into ourselves and one another. This work may call us into new ways of being community together, even as we remain grounded in our deep history and cherished traditions.

Personally, I remain profoundly grateful for the blessing of being called to John Knox Presbyterian Church. The symbolic unicorns and the song shared on my birthday were meaningful reminders of our mutual connection and care. While I continue to serve part-time, I have sought additional work in Eugene to fill the remainder of my time. Though this has been an ongoing challenge, I hope to find greater stability in the coming year to better support my ministry among you. I used my continuing education time this year for planning, study, and renewal, and I am grateful as well for time spent with my family.

As we move into a new church year, my prayer is that we will continue to care for our neighbors in need, welcome those who have felt excluded or harmed by the church, engage in witness and justice in our community and world, and offer one another sanctuary, belonging, and hope.

Grace and peace to you all.

*Pastor Maggie*

# Operations Overview

Eileen Sheelar



## Church Administration

Administration duties continue with volunteer staffing. Office hours are by appointment, which means we can generally be available to meet everyone's needs at the time they are available. Eileen Sheelar serves as office manager and Bronwyn Curtis continues to serve as our bookkeeper and treasurer. Much of the office work and building management is done remotely. Bronwyn also maintains the church website and CJ High maintains our Facebook presence.

## Building Partners

Three AA groups continued their weekly meetings. Keizer Old Time Jam music group is on hiatus at this time. Our brothers and sisters in Christ from Puerta del Cielo continue to share the building with us for worship and social activities, and they have continued to maintain the grounds and keep the interior of the building in tip-top shape. This truly is a blessing, and we are so very grateful for their faithful presence in our church life and their faith-sharing!

## Nominating Committee

Chaired by Anna Robinson, the Nominating Committee presented nominations for Class of 2028. Ruling Elders Beth Neal and Sheila Cunningham completed their terms of service as elders, and Linda Garland completed her term as a deacon. Vallory Bunday accepted an invitation to serve a second term as a ruling elder. Sheila Cunningham heard a call to continue in ministry as a deacon, and Dixie Schafer extended her service by one year. Sheila was ordained as a deacon and installed to active service along with Vallory and Dixie on January 11, 2026.



The 2026 Nominating Committee will be elected at the annual congregational meeting in February of 2026. We will present a slate of members willing to serve on this committee. Thanks for all your prayers as we continue to serve this wonderful faith community.



# Operations Overview

**Bronwyn Curtis  
and Eileen Sheelar**

## Administration and Building Management

The Administration Committee usually meets monthly to review general administration and building issues and coordinate who will be handling various in-person requirements related to running the church, including acting as part of the Personnel Committee.

It was a busy year in the area of building management. The women's restroom flooded a couple of times as the sewer line had a blockage. We rented a porta-potty and had the line cleared to get through the immediate issue. Later in the year, a camera exploration told us there was a six-foot section of pipe that had cracked and persistent maple tree roots had clogged the pipe. That section of the sewer line was replaced, and at the same time, we took the opportunity to replace a very old toilet in the women's restroom with a new ADA compliant, low-flow toilet. Many of us learned a lot more about sewer lines and toilets than we ever thought we would! Thanks to the folks at Puerta del Cielo, Lee, Mary Jo, Blair, Sheila, Bronwyn, Glen, Eileen, and Action Drain and Rooter, we have a clear sewer line and a new toilet that will serve us (we hope) for many years to come!

An inspection by NW Natural resulted in correction of two safety-related issues. Eileen installed a barrier between outside piping and the concrete. More critically, we discovered that over the years with various additions, the piping from the kitchen furnace had been placed in contact with sheetrock. Glen Curtis assisted with the trimming to create the necessary clearance.

We are very grateful for the services of Puerta del Cielo's pastor and congregants as they help us maintain the building. Pastor Tomás cleaned the gutters and put moss killer on the roof, in addition to regular yard maintenance by several PDC folks. PDC volunteers clean the building prior to worship services weekly, and we agreed to the installation of a small shed outside the kitchen door for PDC to store some of their larger kitchen items. We're always happy to support them, especially when it involves making preparing their amazing tamales easier!

Following receipt of an enquiry regarding a possible easement on our eastern boundary, Eileen checked with Thomas Lundy, Missional Resource Manager at presbytery. Thomas provided recommendations of items and details required before reviewing or entertaining any easement agreement. This is just one benefit of being part of a relational church and paying our per capita to Presbytery.

Routine maintenance continues, coordinated by Eileen as office manager: windows washed, fire extinguishers inspected, carpets cleaned, supplies ordered, and the baseboard in the chancel painted. Mary Jo updated our funeral information form, and Blair Emmett assisted Eileen with the selection and purchase of a new office laptop due to Windows 10 end of service.

As part of our participation in the Personnel Committee, we recommended to session that Pastor Maggie's salary package include church-paid dental coverage in 2026, recognizing that a healthy pastor is a happy pastor!

# Operations Overview

Mary Jo Emmett

## Personnel and Volunteer Recognition

### Our special 'Unicorn' Pastor!

In 2024, we were in search of something as rare as a 'Unicorn' - a part-time stated supply pastor – and found **the Rev. Maggie Lewis!** Maggie's sermons are well received by the congregation each Sunday. She maintains Thursday office hours and makes herself available by email, texts and phone calls. She meets regularly with the various church committees as well as moderates monthly Session meetings. We are grateful for Pastor Maggie's caring leadership!



### Music Plays On!

**Anna Robinson** (Music Director) and **Bethany Cozort** (Pianist) continued to offer their gifts of music in 2025. Appreciation is also extended to all the members who add their voices and/or musical talents to our worship, particularly in choir and bell choir offerings and solos. Thank You!

### Kudos to our Volunteers!

**Bronwyn Curtis**, as our long-standing dedicated Treasurer, keeps the church's finances in order, organizes and trains volunteer weekly counters, maintains the payroll and government reporting deadlines, tracks investments, and oversees bill paying along with issuing regular giving statements to donors. Bronwyn also develops the annual budget and, as Administration Committee chair, assists with the Stewardship Drive and tracks pledges. She also picks up the mail at the Post Office, a mundane but important task.

**Eileen Sheelar** (aka the wearer of many hats) is Clerk of Session – the 'secretary' of session and congregational meetings and a liaison to Presbytery. She also serves as Chair of Worship, organizing monthly communion servers and weekly lay leaders. She prepares and prints the weekly bulletins, incorporating the pastor's liturgy, scriptures, and sermon topic. Preparing the PowerPoint presentation, tailored specifically to each week's overall theme, and leading the tech team are part of the Sunday worship tasks, too. As volunteer office/building manager, she monitors email and voicemail messages, and manages various building schedules and issues (God knows she does much more and we are grateful!).

**Micah Robinson and Cariana High** assist with the audio-visual portion of worship, working with the sound system, the projection, and recording the worship service to be posted on our website for those who cannot attend worship in person. Their skills, fresh insight, and assistance with troubleshooting are very appreciated!

**CJ High** has stepped up to enlighten and delight the youth & Young-at-Heart each week during worship with insight and humor including props like rubber chickens and laser sword fights!



# Operations Overview

Then there are the Church M.O.M.s (others use the term church mice), those dear folks who are the *Managers Of Minutiae* like **Betty Correll** who takes note of and greets everyone on Sunday morning; **Lane Oxley** who makes sure the preacher has water in the pulpit every Sunday and that the baptismal font is replenished; **Vallory Bunday** who during the week, unloads the dishwasher, collects the waste-baskets and moves the garbage can out to the parking lot for pickup; others who check the pews, replenish offering envelopes and sharpen pencils; and **Linda Arnold**, who continues to maintain the Little Free Library in front of the church, which is used and enjoyed by many in the neighborhood.

I (Mary Jo) enjoy tracking church seasons and changing the table covering and paraments as well as adding appropriate liturgical visual enhancements in the sanctuary or narthex from time to time. I have done this since the early 1990's. I also back up Eileen on various building issues as needed.



I don't want to forget to mention the work of the Deacons and all the folks who provide refreshments for the social hour; those who make phone calls, send cards, and visit; those who faithfully provide rides to church or as needed; and all of you not mentioned here otherwise. God bless you all!

*We Are the Church — Together!*

## Stewardship

## Bronwyn Curtis and Eileen Sheelar

This year, we received pledges, or financial commitments, from 14 units, for a total of \$82,180. Of these pledges, half were increased over the previous year, for which we are very grateful. Pledges help us create a budget and talk, dream, and make plans for the coming year. We also have a number of people who do not pledge and who are faithful in their giving. We are very grateful for the financial support of our mission to spread the gospel, to care for and further God's kin-dom, and to live out and share the grace, love, and mercy of God, *who, by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine* (Ephesians 3:20). See the Financial Reports and 2026 budget at the end of this report for information about how we plan to steward these gifts.

Stewardship is not something we can put on or take off as the seasons change. Stewardship, like faith, must be woven into the fabric of our lives.

Gregory Coulter (professor of Philosophy)



# Worship

Eileen Sheelar

2025 was Rev. Maggie Lewis' first full official year with us, even though she started preaching at JKPC in Advent of 2023. Her pastoral leadership has been and continues to be a blessing as we worship and plan together. In 2025, as in previous years, we followed a variety of seasonal themes in worship.

During Lent, **Meeting Jesus at the Table** was the uniting theme.

Gathering with others to share a meal is at the heart of the human experience. We met Jesus at the table, reflecting on our physical and spiritual hunger, and engaging in familiar table stories from the gospels. We feasted with Jesus at the Table that stretches around the world and across time. Through stories and experiences, Jesus teaches us how to love, serve, and extend hospitality. We celebrated that there is always room for whoever shows up and there is always enough for all to be fed. At the same time, we held the tension of those who often struggle with mealtimes because they are occasions of loneliness rather than community and of the many also who simply do not have adequate resources to provide food for themselves or their families. Each week, the setting of the Table reflected our scripture.



During the summer, we followed the theme **Interrupting Silence** based on the book by Walter Brueggemann. When voices are silenced so dominant voices can exercise control, we must speak up to address situations of injustice. The Bible is filled with stories where marginalized people such as the oppressed, the prophets, and Jesus himself, broke repressive silence and spoke against injustice. We considered situations where we need to either interrupt silence or be part of the problem. leading us to understand that God is active and wants us to act for justice.

During the Season of Peace in the fall, we took a **Global Journey to Pursue What Makes for Peace**. We enjoyed music and liturgy from each of the various countries. At Christ's table we discovered that peace is not limited by borders or divided by nations. From South America to South Africa, from Ukraine to the Middle East, from the Korean peninsula to every land, God calls us into one family. On World Communion Sunday, we gather as a people of many languages and stories, yet one in Christ, to pursue what makes for peace and to share in the feast of God's reconciliation for the world.





# Worship



For Advent, we used Brian Wren's liturgy and music as we wondered about the baby who is coming to the world. The theme song was "Someone's Coming" and the effect "someone" would have on the world: *angry people will shake hands, hungry people will be fed, and hurting people will be healed, when Jesus comes to*

*make things right.* Christmas Eve service was in the style of lessons and carols, with special music, communion, and singing Silent Night by candlelight, accompanied by handbells – a wonderful celebration of the birth of the Light of the World!

Worship is at its most complete when accompanied by music, and we are very fortunate to have talented musicians serving at John Knox. Bethany Cozort is our pianist. She selects some amazing pieces to open and close worship, preparing us to join in worship and sending us on our way with joy and energy.



Anna Robinson is the music director, responsible for choir, handbells and chimes, and leading congregational singing. We have several vocalists in the congregation who have added depth and variety to our singing. Anna and Adam Robinson's musical offerings always enhance our worship, and we are grateful for Adam's service as the choir's accompanist.

Two youth are assisting with the audio-visual equipment during worship—Micah Robinson and Cariana High. They provide depth of knowledge and backup on Sunday mornings, and I appreciate their help!

Our worship services are recorded live and then posted on our website by Bronwyn Curtis. We also publish our bulletin on our website for those who are not able to worship in person.

Worship brings us together every week to praise God. We sing, hear Scripture, and reflect on what those words mean to us in our lives and in the world today. Our fellowship is genuine; we love because we have been and are loved by the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of us all.

# Christian Education

Christian Education at John Knox doesn't always look like the traditional model. Busy schedules complicate planning, and we don't want to overload those schedules even more! Our middle and high school youth are eligible to participate in Salem Youth Collective, offering an opportunity to join with other Salem/Keizer youth in service, learning, and fellowship adventures.

During 2025, CJ High heard a call to assist in worship more than every so often as a liturgist. He offered to take on the Time with Our Young and Growing (aka Children's time). His avocation of stand-up comedy has stood him in good stead, and children of all ages thoroughly enjoy his interpretation and application of the day's scriptures. He often brings props, and always makes us think—and laugh! The youth (and adults!) look forward to this special time for them in worship.



Our youth also sing in the choir, offer special music, play bells, and serve as audio-visual operators. We continue to look for ways to encourage worship participation and faith formation in both formal and informal ways as we seek to walk and live in the way of our risen Lord.



**PDA Blue Shirt Sunday** is observed on the first Sunday in Lent. We wear blue to honor the work and the workers of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and we take a congregational photo to celebrate that when we all do a little, it adds up to a LOT, whether it is in contributions to disaster assistance, or helping in the church or community here in Keizer. We are our best when we worship and work together.



March 9, 2025



# Congregational Life

## Congregational Life

Worship is an important part of congregational life, but it's certainly not the only part! We gathered together in various groups and activities over the year. Here's a mention of some of those times:

**Women's Fellowship** met monthly through May of 2025. Because of transportation and timing issues, this group is on hiatus at this time.

**Choir and Handbells** gather as needed to practice and provide music for worship and in the process, relationships are formed and maintained. Laughing together while learning a new song equals friendship!

**Committees** meet as needed, either in person or on Zoom. Sharing our concerns in our everyday lives and working on the business of the church draws us together and we stay in touch between meetings.

**After worship**, we gather in the social hall for refreshments and fellowship. It's been said that this is just as important as worship to some folks! We share our lives, joys, and concerns, and it's all hands on deck at clean-up time!

**Offering a ride** to church is a great time for visiting—as parents know, conversations in cars are the best!

**Deacon's Fall Luncheon and Stewardship Bingo** was held in October to greet the new program/school year as well as to celebrate what we know about each other and about the programs of the church. It's always a fun time, and this year, lunch was provided—lasagna, salad, bread, and cookies for dessert! There were prizes for everyone as they answered questions and got their Bingo!

**All-Church Christmas Party** was held on December 13, complete with a Santa photo opportunity sponsored by the High family. We enjoyed a potluck, a time of memory sharing and gift exchange (and stealing!) and we finished up by singing a few favorite carols.



# Mission

Sheila Cunningham

The members of the 2025 Mission Committee included Sheila Cunningham, Linda Garland, Dixie Schafer and Lane Oxley. Everyone is welcome to join our meetings.

## Mission Through the Larger Church

### Cascades Presbytery Partnership Giving \$8,851

This is basic mission support (undesignated giving) which supports the work of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly in our area and around the world. We calculate this amount based on a tithe (10%) of pledges received by January 2025 as well as projected offerings.



### Special Offerings (PCUSA) Grand total \$ \$6,936



**Christmas Joy** (\$4,510) supports past, present, and future leaders of the church through racial/ ethnic schools and the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions.

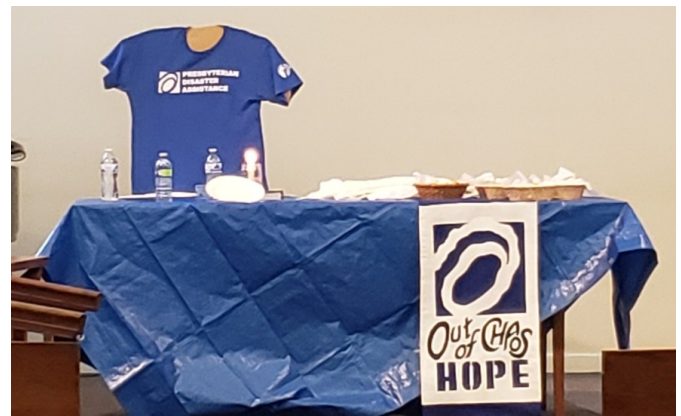
**One Great Hour of Sharing** (\$341) supports many different programs around the world including Self Development of People, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

**Pentecost** (\$636) supports young people and inspires them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. We keep 40% of this offering, or \$178, for local use. We donated this year's amount to Punx with Purpose, a non-profit organization in Salem that focuses on supporting at-risk youth in the community.

**Peace & Global Witness** (\$1,449) encourages the church to embrace God's reconciling mission to those around the corner and around the world, empowering congregations and individuals to become peace-makers themselves. We have \$362 in our reserve account as our portion of this year's offering to use toward local peacemaking efforts. In January of 2025, we sent \$556 from our P & GW reserve fund and \$469 from our Pentecost Offering reserve fund to support California wildfire relief efforts.

### Presbyterian Disaster Assistance \$1,240

In addition to the four special offerings, John Knox also received and forwarded \$1,240 of designated donations for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. These designated funds are received on the first Sunday of Lent, "PDA Blue Shirt Sunday."



*If we all do a little,  
it adds up to a lot!*



# Mission

## Local Mission

### Keizer Community Food Bank \$2,095 donations + \$1,200 pledge—\$3,295 total



We budget \$100 a month to support the local food bank located at Crossroads Fellowship and we also pass through designated monetary gifts. We continue to focus on designated food items each month but will always accept non-perishable items as well as monetary gifts. Teresa Read continues to volunteer at the food bank each week. Sheila and Jacob Cunningham along with Jason Ackerman volunteer at the Marion County Food Bank each week. See the separate KCFB report for more information.

### Backpack Buddies \$3,271

JKPC continues to provide 20 food bags each week to designated students at Cummings Elementary. These bags have non-perishable food items to cover two breakfasts and two lunches for weekend meals. We send home a jar of peanut butter each month. We budget \$300 a month to cover the expenses for these meals. Donations covered \$2,457 of the expenses, and the remaining \$814 came from our budget.

### Oregon Department of Human Services/Child Welfare Gift Cards \$3,725 (up from \$3,120 last year!)

See the separate article under Deacons for a description of this established outreach mission.

### Congregations Helping People (CHP) \$1,431 donations + \$1200 pledge—\$2,631 donated



We budget \$100 a month to support this non-profit organization. In addition to this pledge, we received \$1,430.52 in designated donations as well as coins and money collected on Christ Jar Sunday, the third Sunday of each month. CHP is supported by 11 local congregations and JKPC is the third largest donor to this organization, an Impressive feat for our small congregation! CHP continues to share office space with The Salvation Army located at 1977 Front St. NE, client hours are Monday – Thursday, 10:00 – 1:00. CHP's mission is to help individuals and families remain in their homes

and keep their utilities turned on. CHP is governed by a Board of Directors of which Sheila Cunningham is a member.

### Hygiene Kits

On June 8 members of the congregation gathered to assemble 21 hygiene kits. These kits were donated to the men's UGM shelter that were then taken out to homeless folks in the area.

### Liberty House

JKPC continued a relationship with Liberty House by donating about 15 handmade blankets and numerous stuffed animals to be given to youth receiving their services. Liberty House, a Children's Advocacy Center serving Marion and Polk counties, is the only place providing special assessment service in a safe, comfortable child-friendly environment. They provide excellence in assessment, treatment, and prevention of child abuse, neglect, trauma, and grief to promote health and hope in children, youth, families, and communities.

# Mission

## Local Mission (con't)

### Other local mission projects

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action: \$120 per year (\$10/month) for energy assistance.

Salem Electric: \$120 per year toward their energy assistance program (\$10 per month).

Pull tabs are collected from JKPC and several other worship communities and donated to the Ronald McDonald house in Bend.

Styrofoam is collected from congregants and building partners and taken to the recycling center on Center Street in Salem.

Bibles in any translation, language, or condition are collected and donated to the Bible Foundation.

Dixie Shaffer and Sheila Cunningham prepared and donated casseroles to Family Promise of the Mid-Willamette Valley, an organization helping families experiencing housing instability.

Linda Arnold continues to maintain our Little Free Library to share the joy of reading by making books accessible in the neighborhood for children and adults alike.

Lee and Mary Jo Emmett continue their stewardship of the community garden. See their report.

*I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,  
I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes,  
I was sick and you stopped to visit, I was in prison and you came to me.'  
"Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about?  
When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink?  
And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?'  
Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth:  
Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored,  
that was me—you did it to me.'  
Matthew 25:35-40 The Message*



John Knox Community Garden

# John Knox Community Garden

Mary Jo Emmett

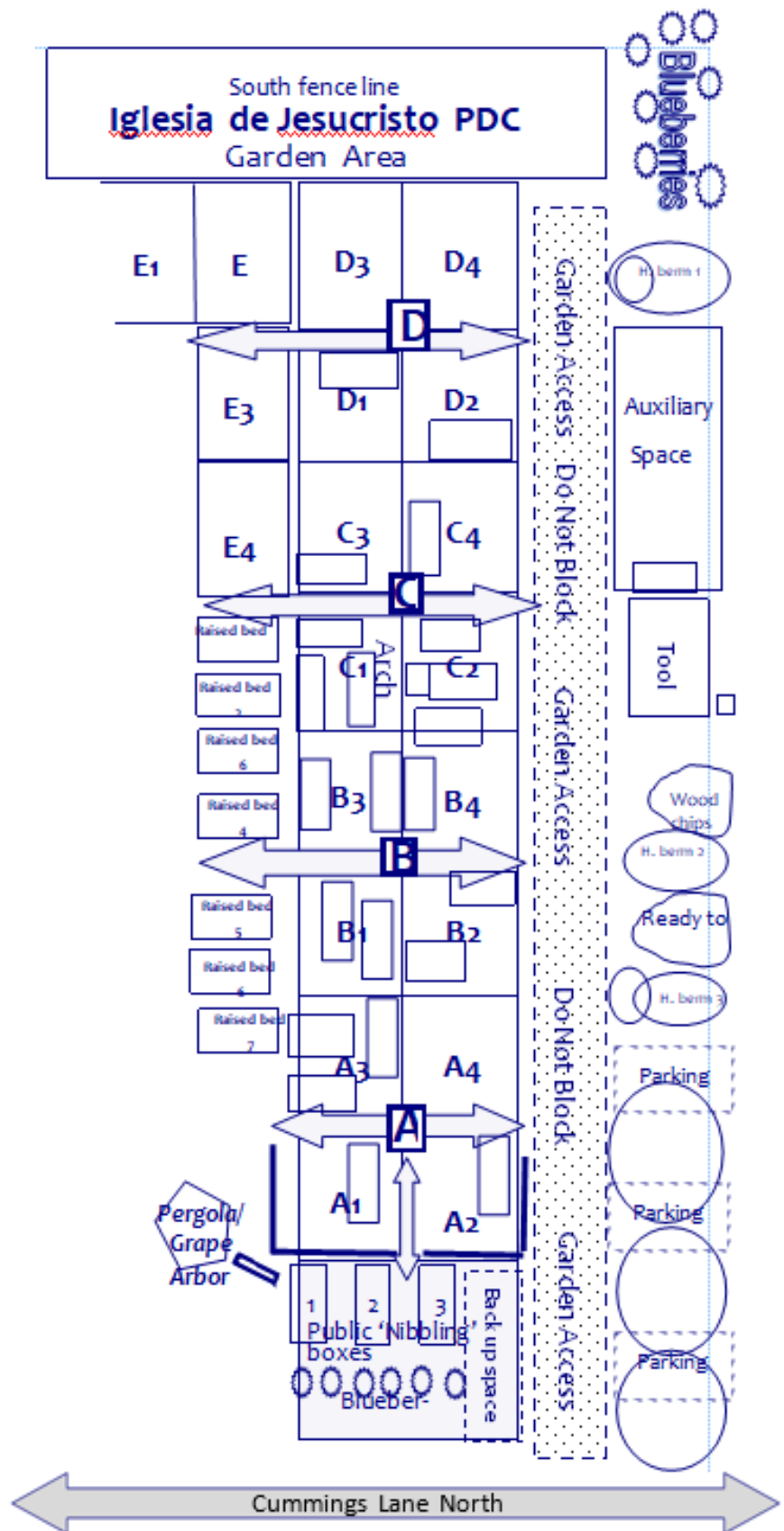
The Garden completed its 16th season in 2025 with 3 plots and 3 boxes being designated for communal use or donations and the remaining spaces (7 raised bed boxes and 18 plots) assigned to 17 family units. Most were returnees but we were glad to welcome 3 new gardeners! Only 3 units are JKPC church members; the rest are neighbors or they found us through the MPFS Community Garden website. Community members came mostly from the Keizer area; 5 are single households, the rest are couples but only 3 have children living at home; about half are retired or semi-retired.

Once more, we had no outside volunteer groups but we are grateful to our gardeners, Pastor Tomas Villegas and members of PDC, Linda Arnold, and Roger Applegate, who step up to keep our garden looking good!

Community support continued in 2025 with grant money from Keizer United, Marion Polk Food Share and donations to the church's garden fund. Wood chips are donated by R&R Tree Service annually and neighbors have dropped off tomato cages and plastic pots.

As summers continues to produce more heat waves, the garden will consume more water, which the church supplies. Thank you for continuing to support the garden and our efforts to promote gardening and provide fresh produce!

Mary Jo Emmett  
Coordinator





# Keizer Community Food Bank

Jim Johnson  
Chair of KCFB



The volunteers that worked during 2025 provided stellar service to our clients and have demonstrated exceptional loyalty to KCFB. We continued to provide goods to the clients as they remain in their vehicles. This method of distribution has proven to be effective and

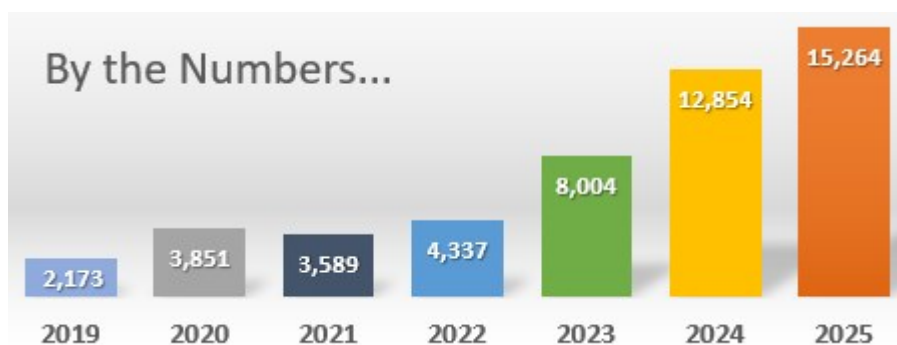


efficient for all. No changes were made during the year.

KCFB needed to continue to purchase lots of goods due to supply chain shortfalls. Canned vegetables, peanut butter, and canned soups (to name a few items) continued in short supply in 2025. Frozen goods were especially short in the last half of the year.

KCFB continued to purchase goods as required to provide a food box that feeds the many. We did not receive what we ordered/wanted most of the time. We were spending about \$1000/week to continue to provide very similar food boxes to what we have always provided.

Registration changed this year. A custom entry program was developed that records the same information that was collected via paper registration. A large tablet was purchased that could be read in the sun and permit large visual/entry data. This is slower than paper but is good for what is needed for MPFS records.



Year	# Clients = # family units	% increase over prior year	% increase over 2019
2019	2,173		
2020	3,851	77%	77%
2021	3,589	<6.8%>	65%
2022	4,337	20.8%	99.5%
2023	8,004	84.6%	368.3%
2024	12,854	60.1%	591.5%
2025	15,264	18.75%	602.4%

## A Closer Look

### Number of individuals served

2024: 40,305

2025: 64,710 60.5% increase

### Pounds of food goods provided

2024: 1,012,499

2025: 1,257,660 24.2% increase



# Keizer Community Food Bank

We maintained distributions on the 5<sup>th</sup> Monday when it occurred in a month. Our new church partner, Crossroads Fellowship, is now covering 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays.

Our fiscal year begins July 1 of each year. In both 2023 and 2024, approximately \$35,000 in excess of donations was spent. Actions taken in October, 2025 were to stop providing cat & dog foods and toilet tissue immediately. Additionally, we opted to not provide any turkeys/hams for Thanksgiving. Combined savings is about \$37,000. This was done to be sure we have monies to provide steady foods throughout the year.

Faith Lutheran Church made the decision to disband in 2025. Crossroads Fellowship was the purchaser of the former Faith Lutheran property. Crossroads is continuing to host KCFB.

In January, 2025, Faith distributed all funds left over from the sale/closing to many charities of Keizer. They provided \$193,800 to KCFB. MANY, MANY THANKS TO FAITH FOR ALLOWING US TO WORK FROM THEIR CHURCH and for providing monies that will be used to create dedicated KCFB facilities at Crossroads.

UPTOWN MUSIC has provided continuous great support. Approximately, 750 pounds of food and in excess of \$4,500 was donated from them.

A HUGE THANKS to ALL of our churches and volunteers. KCFB needs everyone to serve the food insecure.

Crossroads had many construction projects to modify the facilities. KCFB worked with Crossroads so our operations continued uninterrupted AND so Crossroads could perform their modifications. In 2026, the garage on site is being expanded and modified to provide a facility solely for KCFB. The budget has not been set for this exercise yet. The gift mentioned above from Faith will be a start for these expenses.

We look forward to continuing our food bank operations with Crossroads.

Your servant,

Jim Johnson, Chair

**Share with God's  
people who are in  
need. Practice  
hospitality.**

*Romans 12:13 NIV*



*Participating churches: Faith Lutheran Church, John Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Edward Catholic Church, Clearlake United Methodist Church, Keizer Christian Church, and Crossroads Fellowship.*

# Session

Eileen Sheelar

## Session and Clerk’s Report

Rev. Maggie Lewis has served in our pulpit since Advent of 2023, and was commissioned as our pastor on Pentecost in 2024. At the beginning of 2026, we installed Ruling Elder Vallory Bunday for her second term on session. Beth Neal and Sheila Cunningham completed their terms on session, and we thank them for their service in that capacity! Sheila heard a call to serve as a deacon, and was ordained and installed in that office, while Dixie Schafer extended her term for one more year. Linda Garland completed her terms as a deacon and is enjoying a well-deserved sabbatical, although thankfully she did say she could be persuaded to occasionally contribute one of her awesome birthday cakes! We are thankful for the officers who served in 2025 and those who will serve this year and in the future:

RULING ELDERS			2026	DEACONS		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028		Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Bronwyn Curtis Treasurer	Mary Jo Emmett	Vallory Bunday		Dixie Schafer	Joan Allen Moderator	Sheila Cunningham
Anna Robinson	Eileen Sheelar	(vacant)		Dixie Schafer	Lane Oxley	(vacant)
(vacant)	Rosemary Willhite	(vacant)		(vacant)	(vacant)	(vacant)

In 2025, our average attendance was 30 during in-person worship. Website statistics indicate 3-5 views online each week.

At the end of 2025, we have 25 active members on the rolls. This does not count our youth or a number of people considered “friends of the church,” those who actively participate in the life and worship of JKPC but who have not officially joined as members. We appreciate and enjoy their participation in our faith community.

In 2025, Val Jean Pease, Ashley Kramer, Lois Nelson, Jo Yeager, and Bill Flanary joined the great cloud of witnesses. We celebrate their grace-filled lives and we are grateful they shared their faith and wisdom with us. Well done, good and faithful servants!



# Deacons

Joan Allen, Moderator

The position of deacon is one of caring and compassion. During 2025, Joan Allen, Linda Garland, Lane Oxley, and Dixie Schafer served as deacons. Ashley Kramer was installed as a deacon on January 5, 2025. Unfortunately, she passed away unexpectedly in May. We miss her cheerful care and concern for all.

The deacons are responsible for the coffee/social hour after worship. Thank you to other members and friends of the congregation who consistently helped with this great time of fellowship. We also celebrate birthdays and anniversaries on the third Sunday of each month with special cakes or treats to honor the celebrants. A special thank you to Carrie High who offers her decorating skills to enhance our fellowship hall during social time.

Deacon meetings were held as needed. The deacons kept in contact with their flocks via calls, visits, cards, emails, and texts.

Transportation was provided by the deacons for home-bound members and friends.

For several years, the deacons have promoted a congregation-wide fundraiser to purchase gift cards for youth in the care of Marion County ODHS Child Welfare Program. The gift cards, valued from \$10 - \$50, are used to purchase clothing, food, and other personal items, especially for teens. Youth in care value every opportunity to make choices and purchases for themselves and to have resources that allow them to feel “part of the group” in social situations. Linda Garland coordinated this effort on behalf of the congregation. \$3,725 was generously donated for the purchase of gift cards in varying amounts at Walmart, Dutch Bros, Target, Ulta Beauty, Taco Bell, Panda Express, Amazon, Subway, Waremart/WinCo, and McDonalds. The cards were presented to ODHS representatives on December 17.



**God has given us two hands--  
one to receive with and the  
other to give with. We are not  
cisterns made for hoarding;  
we are channels made for  
sharing.**

*Billy Graham (1918 – 2018),  
evangelist, minister & civil rights advocate*

# Treasurer

**Bronwyn Curtis**

2025 concluded with net operating revenue of \$5,091.16 versus an expected loss of -\$3,505. This can be attributed to:

1. Your faith-filled commitment to the work of Jesus Christ through John Knox by increasing and maintaining your tithes and gifts.
2. A generous year end gift designated specifically towards the year end deficit.

The usable income was around \$95,413 made up of the pledge, offering, and building rent categories. The balance of the income categories is passed through monies (mostly mission). The income of \$18,403.09 from our investments was re-invested. Our Fidelity and New Covenant investments ended the year with an unrealized positive gain of \$43,534.62, with investment expenses of \$2,976.

Headwater Investment Consulting manages our Fidelity Investment funds and provides economic and market commentary. Our investment strategy continues to be conservative, and we are currently reinvesting all returns. As Kevin Chambers, Managing Partner in Headwater Investment Consulting recently wrote in his end of year report, “Although not without its up and downs, 2025 was a good year in the markets. Both the U.S. and international stock and bond markets delivered strong returns. International equities benefited as investors diversified away from the U.S. early in the year amid uncertainty surrounding tariffs. In the U.S., markets were supported by strong corporate earnings... Bonds also performed well, helped by declining interest rates that supported both government and corporate debt.”

Annette Hatley, CPA reviewed our financial practices for 2025, and I am pleased to say we passed without exception.

As I was putting together the figures for the PC(USA) General Assembly Annual Statistical Report, I was inspired. Local Mission Giving to Keizer Community Food Bank, Congregations Helping People, Oregon Department of Human Services Gift cards for foster children, Energy Assistance, Backpack Buddies, and Punx with Purpose totaled \$13,493; of that total \$9,524 were funds that were donated by you for these specific missions. The PC(USA) is a connectional church, and we help pay our share with our per capita payment of \$1,550 which is divided between Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. National and World Mission giving through our Presbyterian Partnership Giving pledge was \$8,851, and the four PC(USA) Special Offerings totaled \$9,185. Your compassionate generosity is amazing!

The cost of operations was approx. \$76,940; we remained steady with our expenses coming close to those of 2024 (\$74,970). When we needed to pay for the six-foot section of sewer pipe to be replaced (\$1,981) we were able to utilize funds we have been putting aside for this type of purpose over the last 10+ years.



**PROFIT & LOSS****2025**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
Pledges	\$ 84,247.56	\$ 83,910.00
Offerings	\$ 10,007.58	\$ 7,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 12,410.89	\$ 6,500.00
Christ Jar	\$ 1,430.52	\$ 1,080.00
Building Use	\$ 1,158.00	\$ 1,200.00
Per Capita	\$ 900.00	\$ 600.00
Food Bank	\$ 2,095.00	\$ 1,800.00
Backpack Buddies	\$ 2,620.00	\$ 1,200.00
Transfers In/Out		\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 114,869.55</b>	<b>\$ 103,290.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
Salary/Wages	\$ 49,595.25	\$ 52,954.00
Operations	\$ 21,837.36	\$ 21,765.00
Worship	\$ 1,177.58	\$ 1,950.00
Finance	\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00
Christian Education	\$ 440.00	\$ 1,050.00
Property	\$ 5,263.01	\$ 3,600.00
Mission	\$ 31,290.19	\$ 25,051.00
Outreach	\$ -	\$ 250.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 109,778.39</b>	<b>\$ 106,795.00</b>
<b>NET PROFIT/LOSS</b>	<b>\$ 5,091.16</b>	<b>\$ (3,505.00)</b>

# Treasurer

Bronwyn Curtis

## STATEMENT OF POSITION

		12.31.2024	12.31.2025
	<b>FUND ACCOUNTS</b>		
9001	Capital Improve & Maint	\$ 26,867.45	\$ 24,986.45
9002	Food Bank	\$ 400.00	\$ 225.00
9003	Christmas Joy	\$ 5,680.00	\$ 4,460.00
9004	Peace & Global Witness	\$ -	\$ 867.00
9005	Pentecost	\$ -	\$ 190.00
9006	One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ -	\$ 190.00
9007	JK Education Reserve	\$ 2,986.67	\$ 2,986.67
9008	Deacon's Reserve	\$ 104.01	\$ 251.76
9009	Youth Reserve	\$ 1,892.75	\$ 1,892.75
9010	Peace & Global Witness Reserve	\$ 556.25	\$ 145.50
9011	Congregations Helping People	\$ 195.52	\$ 75.00
9013	Community BBQ	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
9014	Community Garden	\$ 99.41	\$ 99.41
9015	Youth Triennium Fund	\$ 632.20	\$ 632.20
9016	Backpack Buddies	\$ 130.00	\$ 293.24
9017	PDA	\$ -	\$ 390.00
9018	Choir/Music Reserve	\$ 355.12	\$ 285.12
9020	Women's Fellowship	\$ 189.20	\$ 189.20
9021	DHS Gift Cards	\$ -	\$ -
9022	Pentecost Reserve	\$ 469.20	\$ -
9023	Hygiene Kits	\$ 60.91	\$ 0.67
9024	Transportation Reimbursement	\$ 840.00	\$ 840.00
9025	Eco Justice Reserve	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00
9049	Memorial Dr. John Neal		\$ 50.00
9054	Pastor Health Insurance Costs	\$ 26,933.29	\$ 20,933.29
9059	Insurance Deductible Fund	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
9060	Unrestricted Short Term Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
9099	Memorial - Misc.	\$ -	\$ -
	Subtotal Fund Accounts	\$ 73,496.98	\$ 65,088.26
	General Fund	\$ 72,284.47	\$ 85,944.35
	Balance Checking Account	\$ 145,781.45	\$ 151,032.61
	Checking Account	\$ 145,781.45	\$ 151,032.61
	New Covenant Mutual Funds	\$ 45,428.18	\$ 51,124.53
	Fidelity Investments	\$ 445,413.10	\$ 498,102.27
	Savings Account	\$ 25,860.61	\$ 25,863.19
	Umpqua Bank CD	\$ 16,045.59	\$ 16,619.20
	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 678,528.93</b>	<b>\$ 742,741.80</b>

TreasurerBronwyn Curtis

2026 Budget Explanation

The 2026 budget was passed at the January 2026 Session meeting. Our budget is a guideline or goal post if you will, which allows flexibility when needed. As we know life is not static and we assess and adapt as best we can to changing circumstances.

The 2026 budget projections are:

Income	\$102,580
Expenses	\$113,070
Net deficit	-\$10,490

At first glance this is a greater projected deficit than recent years, however we need to remember that we received funds at the end of 2024 which were carried forward to cover the projected deficit in 2025. This means that we are now carrying forward the one-time gift received late November 2025 towards the projected 2026 deficit.

To date we have received 14 pledges totaling \$82,810. Of those 14 pledges, half have been increased, and we are grateful for your generosity.

Expenses continue to increase, and we have tried our best to predict our operating costs and cut where possible. Our biggest expenditure is staffing. We are blessed with our staff; Pastor Maggie and our wonderful music staff Anna Robinson and Bethany Cozort. We are also blessed with volunteers, especially Eileen who manages the office. We follow the Presbytery requirements for pastor’s salary and benefits. For 2026 we again provided Pastor Maggie healthcare coverage, pension, and AD&D insurance through the Board of Pensions. Additionally, we offered dental coverage through the Board of Pensions.

Our budget also:

- Funds energy assistance for our neighbors through the Salem Electric Energy assistance program by adding \$10 per month onto our bill, and through an annual \$120 donation to Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action, who administers energy assistance for NW Natural
- Supports our Backpack Buddies mission at Cummings Elementary through budgeted funds in addition to donated funds
- Pays for water usage in the John Knox Community Garden
- Pays our share of operating costs as a member church in the Keizer Community Food Bank
- Pledges \$100 per month to the work of helping our neighbors through Congregations Helping People
- Pays a tithe of our anticipated pledge and offering income categories to Presbyterian Partnership Giving, supporting the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly through our connectional church
- Provides for pulpit supply to cover vacation and study leave for Pastor Maggie.

John Knox church is a small vital congregation, with a strong emphasis on mission. We continue to be the hands and feet of Christ through prayer, action, and money.

# Treasurer

## 2026 BUDGET

Bronwyn Curtis

	INCOME	2026
1001	Pledges	\$ 82,180.00
1002	Offerings	\$ 5,000.00
1003	Miscellaneous	\$ 8,500.00
1004	Christ Jar + CHP Pledges	\$ 1,200.00
1005	Building Use	\$ 1,200.00
1006	Per Capita	\$ 600.00
1007	Food Bank Donations	\$ 1,800.00
1008	Backpack Buddies Donations	\$ 2,100.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 102,580.00</b>
	EXPENSES	
	<b>Salary &amp; Wages</b>	
2001	Pastor - Salary	\$ 6,052.00
2002	Pastor - Housing Allowance	\$ 23,700.00
2003	Pastor - Professional Expenses	\$ 1,750.00
2004	Pastor - Pension	\$ 2,528.92
2005	Pastor - Continuing Education	\$ 750.00
2006	Pastor - Life/disability Insurance	\$ 446.28
2007	Pastor - Social Security (SECA)	n/a
2008	Pastor - Major Medical	\$ 6,810.00
2019	Staff—Substitute music staff	\$ 400.00
2020	Staff - Music Director	\$ 5,400.00
2021	Staff - Office Manager	\$ -
2022	Staff - Musician	\$ 5,400.00
2024	Payroll taxes	\$ 1,200.00
	<b>TOTAL SALARY &amp; WAGES</b>	<b>\$ 54,437.20</b>
	<b>Operations</b>	
3001	Operations costs	\$ 1,200.00
3002	Equipment Lease & Maint	\$ 2,040.00
3003	Insurance	\$ 8,000.00
3004	Per Capita Expenses	\$ 1,550.00
3005	Electricity	\$ 2,300.00
3006	Natural gas	\$ 2,300.00
3007	Telephone & Internet	\$ 1,980.00
3008	Water & Sewer	\$ 2,000.00
3009	Garbage Service	\$ 750.00
3010	Janitorial Supplies incl PPE	\$ 200.00
3011	Session Expenses	\$ 200.00
3012	Deacon & Fellowship Expenses	\$ 400.00
3015	Bank Fees/Charges	\$ 50.00
3016	Communications & Licensing	\$ 1,000.00
3017	Transportation Reimbursement	\$ -
	<b>TOTAL OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 23,970.00</b>



# Treasurer

## 2026 BUDGET

Bronwyn Curtis

	<b>Worship</b>	
4001	Worship - Supplies	\$ 50.00
4002	Worship - Liturgical Arts	
4003	Worship - Music Materials	\$ 100.00
4004	Worship - Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,600.00
4006	Worship - Technology	\$ 200.00
4007	Worship - Special Music	\$ -
	<b>TOTAL WORSHIP</b>	<b>\$ 1,950.00</b>
	<b>Finance</b>	
5003	Finance - Financial Review costs	\$ 175.00
	<b>TOTAL FINANCE</b>	<b>\$ 175.00</b>
	<b>Christian Education</b>	
6001	CE- Children	\$
6002	CE - Adult	\$ 200.00
6003	CE - Supplies	
6004	CE - Library	\$ -
6005	CE - Volunteer Appreciation	\$ 800.00
	<b>TOTAL Christian Education</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
	<b>Property</b>	
7001	Building & Grounds Maint	\$ 3,600.00
7002	Capital Improvement Exp	\$ -
	<b>TOTAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>\$ 3,600.00</b>
	<b>Mission</b>	
8001	Mission - Presbytery Pledge	\$ 8,718.00
8002	Mission - Backpack Buddies pledge	\$ 3,600.00
8003	Local - Misc.	\$ 4,120.00
8005	Special Offerings	\$ 4,000.00
8006	Food Bank Pledge	\$ 1,200.00
8007	Local - CHP	\$ 1,200.00
8008	Youth Mission Scholarship	\$ -
8009	Community Garden	\$ -
8010	Food Bank Donations	\$ 1,800.00
8011	CHP Donations	\$ 1,200.00
8012	Campus Ministry	\$ -
8013	Backpack Buddies donations	\$ 2,100.00
	<b>TOTAL MISSION</b>	<b>\$ 27,938.00</b>
	<b>Outreach</b>	
8501	Outreach	\$ —
	<b>TOTAL OUTREACH</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 102,580.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 113,070.20</b>
	<b>PROFIT/(LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (10,490.20)</b>