

# Mission and Ministry Budget

## Central Christian Church, 2024-2025

### Mission Statement

Celebrating the unconditional welcome we receive from God through Christ,  
we join in worship, community, and witness:  
*to wrestle with deep questions of faith,*  
*to grow in love for God and one another,*  
*to confront oppression and injustice,*  
*and to extend God's boundless hospitality to all.*

### The Budget and Our Ministry

In addition to a line-item budget, we prepare this narrative budget each year to tell the story of Central Christian Church. This narrative budget highlights our ministries, outreach, and connections in a way that may not be as evident in the budget detail. In this budget, our personnel, administrative and facility costs are spread across our various ministries in order to reflect our values and activities as we serve our congregation, our community and the larger world.

As in all years, our pledges and offerings make the ministries at Central Christian Church possible. Our total proposed budget for 2024-2025 is \$623,784. In order to meet this budget, we need \$518,300 from pledged contributions from members and friends, a modest increase of around 1% over the previous year. The remainder comes from endowments and trusts, as well as income from parking lot and building usage fees. The primary increases in this budget are in cost-of-living adjustments for staff and additional support for our Children and Youth programs.

### What's New?

This is a year of transition as Linda McCrae retires after serving 22 years as senior pastor. We know and trust that the Holy Spirit is moving among us and inspiring us to continue our valuable and loving work together, inside and outside of our church walls.

Central is continuing to grow. We are connecting with new people and re-connecting with others through online worship and in the sanctuary. We are deepening our antiracist understanding and action. We are living into a future that holds on to the best of our past and present but will look very different in some ways. We celebrate all that God is doing in our midst.

To carry out Central's Mission and Ministry we are organized into Ministry Teams.

**Worship Ministry** 35% of the budget

The driving energy for all our ministries flows from the God we worship when we connect to celebrate God's boundless grace for all. The portion of the church's budget that goes to these ministries provides leadership of our pastors, organist, pianist, music director, building host and church administrator who guide, lead, and support us. Resources include materials for the choir, Communion and Worship & Wonder.

**Community Ministry** 10% of the budget

We gather not only for worship, education and service, but to welcome and care for one another. Pastors spend countless hours offering care and counseling for us in times of need. Our giving provides resources for meals in times of celebration and grief, and food for the hospitality time in fellowship hall after worship. We connect with others for community efforts such as Indy Pride and Creation Care.

**Children & Youth Ministry** 10% of the budget

When we gather in person, Central has Sunday morning programming for children from the nursery up to middle school and opportunities for growth and fellowship for all our youth. The Sunday morning childcare is included in this portion.

**Spiritual Growth Ministry** 5% of the budget

Opportunities to wrestle with deep questions of faith and to connect with others who are also exploring their faith are a core part of our identity. Through classes, Bible studies and neighborhood cluster groups, we have opportunities to study topics of interest, to practice spiritual disciplines and to build relationships with God and each other. Our Fellowship of Twelve program helps develop leaders.

**Witness/Outreach Ministry** 30% of the budget

Our ministry extends to the larger community and world. Our generous sharing of time, talents and treasures reveals God's gracious love to all. Our Witness Ministry supports our food pantry, free clothing and other outreach to the poor and marginalized. We stand in solidarity with marginalized groups and advocate for public policies that improve the quality of life for our most vulnerable neighbors. We continue our important focus on becoming an antiracist congregation. Our building is used by dozens of people each week who are trying to improve their lives. Finally, 10% of our congregation's offerings collected each Sunday are given to the Disciples Mission Fund which reaches out around the globe.

**Communications/Connections Ministry Support** 9% of the budget

Our Communications Ministry develops and implements strategies that help us share the mission of Central with our internal church family as well as the expanded community of the greater Indianapolis area and beyond. Our giving supports ongoing development of our website and the expansion of social media.

**Engagement & Growth** 1% of the budget

This Team seeks to help people develop commitment to discipleship and understand their own giftedness by matching people and ministries. This team supports all our ministries.

*Created by Jim Higginbotham (Finance team), Roger Roe (Stewardship team) and Linda McCrae (Pastor). For more detail consult the line-item budget.*