

# Chesterton United Methodist Church

*"Where Love is...  
Celebrated, Practiced and Shared"*

## How Your Money Becomes Ministry



## 2019 Narrative Budget

*"Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the  
Transformation of the World"*



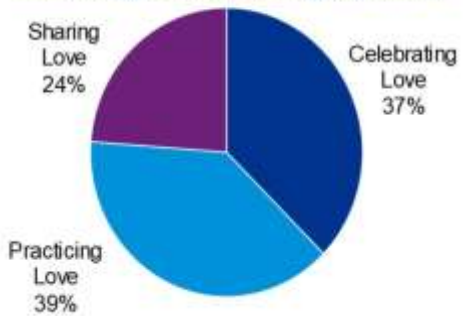
As disciples of Jesus, we have adopted his priority to love God with all we are and love others as ourselves. With every act of ministry, we seek to love as he loved; serve as he served; and let our lives speak the transforming power of Christ's presence in the world.

**Our budget for 2019 is \$532,479.**

(includes operating funds and regularly used designated funds)

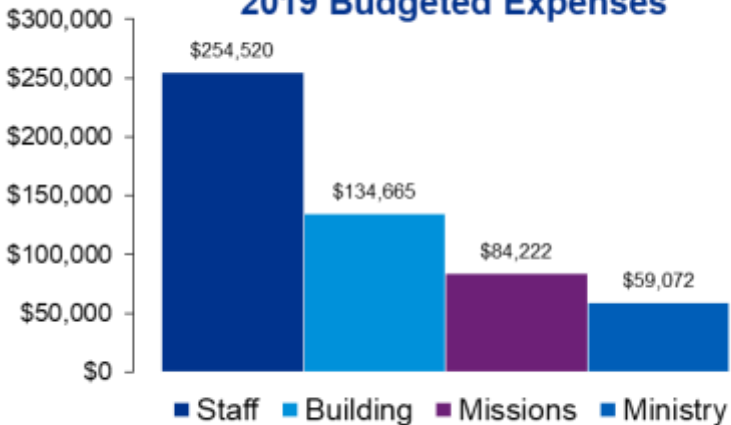
The Finance Team and Staff have worked very hard to understand how our expenses are allocated among the three main categories of our church's vision, which are: Celebrate, Practice and Share Love.

**2019 Budgeted Operating Expenses**



We want our congregation to have the best possible understanding of how we are using the monies you give our church. A detailed line item budget is available in the church office for any who wish to review it and members of the Finance Team and Staff are available to answer any questions.

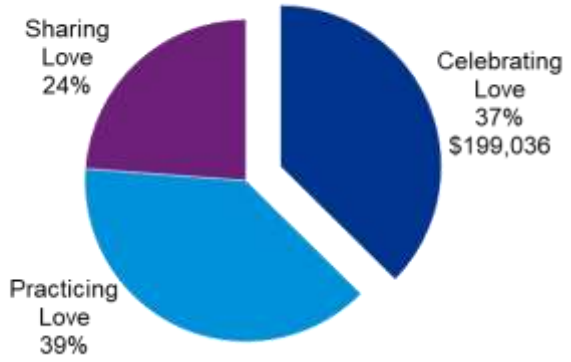
**2019 Budgeted Expenses**



# Where Love is...Celebrated

We celebrate God's abundant and unfailing love FOR us and his ever-growing love IN us for others.

Last year we held 163 worship services where, on an average week, 232 people gathered to praise God and hear God's Word.



*Praise the LORD, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Psalm 103:1*



Six persons were baptized, thereby receiving the Holy Spirit, new life in Christ and a place of belonging.

Ten persons made first-time public professions of faith and church membership.

We continue to provide the only Protestant worship service for residents of Symphony Senior Living.

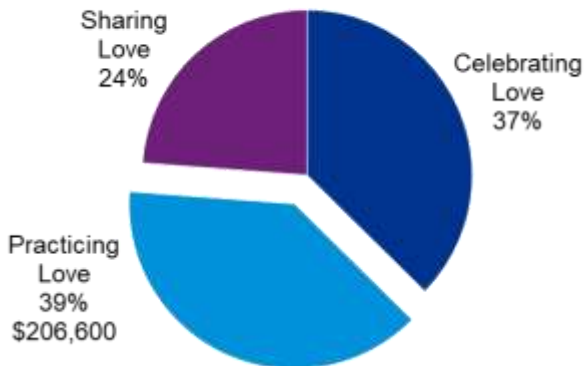


2019 brings exciting opportunities. We anticipate welcoming a new organist and special musicians to our sanctuary services. We want to further develop excellence in contemporary worship. And the Young Adult team was awarded grant money to implement live web streaming of our worship.

# Where Love is...Practiced

We practice love for God and for others as our relationship with Jesus deepens.

As we receive God's love, it bears fruit in our lives through spiritual practices of prayer, scripture meditation, giving, small group participation, and works of compassion and justice.



*Let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Hebrews 12:1-2*



Last year we gathered in 34 ongoing and short-term groups for learning and fellowship with all ages.

In a new effort to make healthy individuals and a healthy church, the Finance team hosted two financial wellness classes at the public library which dealt with personal budgeting, saving for college and retirement planning. A third class on estate planning is in the works for Spring 2019.

In August 2018 we started a special ministry for preteens on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. They are thrilled to have their own space to connect with Jesus and each other.



We continue to build trusting and supportive relationships with our neighbors at Aspen Pines Apartments. We partnered with people of other churches and faiths for the Back to School celebration which included prayer, food, swimming and free school supplies. The residents share in the work and joy by helping serve and cleanup. They also started a weekly prayer group and hosted a taco lunch for students on the first e-learning day.

We are a congregation who gives generously and help many in need, both locally and globally!

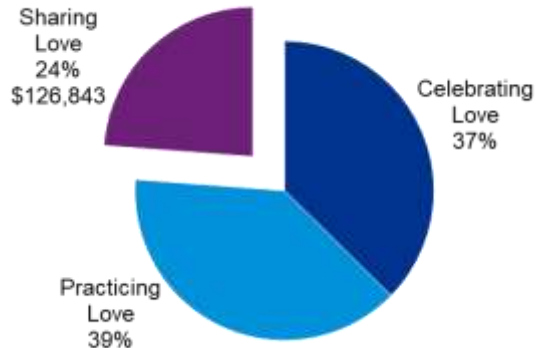
Through our community assistance fund, Practice Faith Sunday, Jacob's Table free weekly meal, Angel Tree and several other mission projects love radiates from our beautiful church building.

Additionally, we take opportunities outside the church through our jobs, schools and community activities to serve the poor, encourage at-risk kids and women, work for justice, care for creation, and more.



# Where Love is...Shared

We share God's love by connecting with others outside the church and developing trusting friendships. Then we are in a position to share our own faith story and invite others into a loving relationship with Jesus.



*Philip went to look for Nathanael and told him, "We have found the very person Moses and the prophets wrote about! His name is Jesus...Come and see for yourself." John 1:45-46*

REACH is our ministry for young adults age 21-40, led by Pastor Jason. After an intentional year of listening and experimenting with sharing love in our community, the team helped us receive a matching grant to fund this ministry in 2019.



We're looking forward to beginning a monthly bible study, small group social gatherings and various outreach events.—all which will take place outside the walls of our church.

In today's digital and internet age, the church's website is our front door. Most visitors will get to know us first by our online presence (Pastor Heather did before moving here!). We've launched our new website making it visually appealing, informative, and interactive. We will continue to make more welcoming and helpful in 2019.

[www.chestertonumc.org](http://www.chestertonumc.org)



Our church's mission, the reason we exist, is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The vision, or picture of our future, that we believe God is creating through us as we live out the mission is one of love: celebrating, practicing and sharing love.

The way that we discern if we are on the right path toward the vision is by the healthy interaction metrics.

In 2018, we established a baseline for measuring our spiritual, physical, financial and relational health.

For some metrics we had previous data and are able to provide an update on our progress this last year.

- ◆ Worship attendance decreased by 10% in 2018 following an increase of 16% in 2017. This affected all three Sunday services.
- ◆ We wish to have a sufficient balance in operating cash at all times. In 2018, we raised the average balance from \$7,600 to \$11,600. Our goal is \$39,000. Operational income was down 2% from 2017 and was equal to 2016.
- ◆ The Trustees did an preliminary assessment of the MAC and determined that the maintenance needs far exceed their budget. Church Council approved the formation of a study committee to evaluate all of our property usage including the MAC, the contemporary worship space and our current debt and develop a proposal for how we might best utilize our property to make disciples of Jesus in the current culture.

For 2019, a negative budget was passed and at current giving levels, it's estimated that Operating Income will be inadequate to cover Operating Expenses. The Finance Team's plan is to use dedicated funds, where applicable, and possibly have a Capital Campaign in 2019 if that is deemed necessary. Let us all remember, that God is able to provide more than enough to resource the ministry He calls us to.

*The LORD appeared and said, "I am the God of your father...do not be afraid, for I am with you and will bless you. Genesis 26:24*

## You can financially support CUMC Ministries by...

- 1. Placing your cash or check in the offering plate during worship**  
If you currently give this way and are happy with it, please continue to do so!
- 2. Setting-up automatic payment through your bank account**  
You can set-up CUMC as a payee through your bank account and a check is automatically mailed to the church. You can even set-up recurring payments!
- 3. Making an online donation using your PayPal account or Credit Card via these QR Codes or at [www.chestertonumc.org](http://www.chestertonumc.org)**  
You can specify where to apply the funds, otherwise the donation will be applied to the Operating Fund.  
A 2.2% + \$0.30 fee is assessed per transaction.

### General/Operating Fund Donation



### Designated Fund Donation



Questions? Ask a Finance Committee Member!

# Thank You

Your generous support makes the ministries of CUMC possible. Each activity described in this narrative, and all the activities of CUMC, are impacting the lives of others because of your gifts. You are making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world as you invest your time, your talents and your treasures at CUMC. We sincerely Thank You!

*"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."  
~2 Corinthians 9:7~*