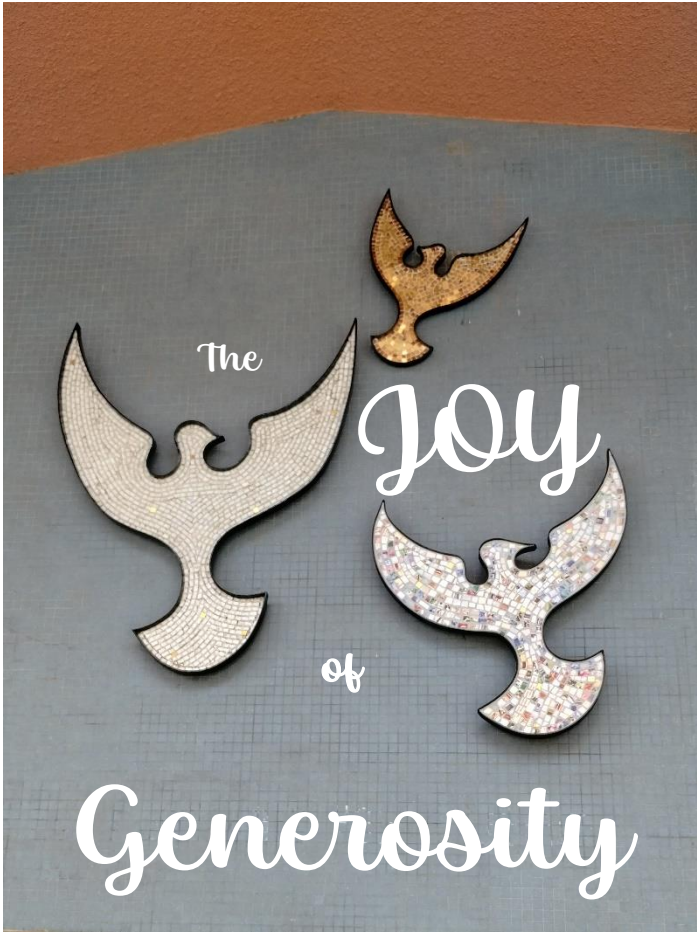


Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7



**First Presbyterian Church
of San Bernardino
Narrative Budget for 2025**

*We are standing in the doorway.
We look behind us to what we have done,
what we have been,
And where we have come from.
And we continue our journey
as we are, to what we will be.*

*Moved by the Spirit, we strive to create an
open and inclusive community embodying
the love, forgiveness, and grace of Christ
which we extend to ourselves, each other, our
neighbors, and our world through nurturing
relationships, creative celebrations,
continuous learning, and transformational
service.*

*Mission Statement of the
First Presbyterian Church*

*In this budget,
we happily look forward to 2025, and
our continuing joyful journey together
as God's people*

The estimated budget expense for 2025 is \$585,000.00.

Nurturing Relationships

2025 Estimate \$200,000.00

First Presbyterian Church plays a vital role in creating and maintaining relationships within and outside our congregation. Friendships made in **Mariners' ships**, **Church School**, and **Youth Group** last lifetimes—often long after the groups themselves have faded. Continuing relationships with **Adult Bible Study** classes, **PW Circles**, **Sanctuary Choir**, **Bell Choir**, the **Mensch Group**, volunteer opportunities like **Food Distribution**, and other activities develop new friendships, new interests, and new spiritual goals. What new groups will we see in our midst this year?

We also strive to create and maintain relationships with the community at large. In this tradition, we welcome **Oak Tree D Street** to our campus, along with **Key Essentials to Behavior Management**. The **Straight Up AA** group meets here every Saturday, as does the **Symphonie Jeunesse Orchestra**. Our relationship with **San Bernardino High School** has blossomed as the **Lifeskillz** group and our **Internship** program continue to benefit both the students and our church.



Lifeskillz leaders on Trinity Sunday.



2023 Carolers

Creative Celebrations

2025 Estimate \$190,000.00

We know how to celebrate our love of God and God's world here at First Pres. Remember candlelight Christmas Eve services, glorious Easter Sundays full of flowers from the congregation, and joyous Reformation Sundays with bagpipers, drummers, and shortbread. Remember the quiet peace of a healing service, the feel of the oil on your forehead as you are



Preparing for Easter Sunday.

anointed, the comfort of celebrating a life now ended in the hope of resurrection while surrounded by your church family.

We worship and celebrate our loving and generous God. Whether we do it in our beautiful Sanctuary, our bright and cheerful Fellowship Hall, outside in the Magnolia Courtyard or on the north lawn, or over the internet, we gather our hearts and minds together to offer our praise and thanksgiving.

We celebrate with music – inspiring harmonies provided by our **Sanctuary Choir**, directed by **Curtiss Allen, Jr.**, the brilliant playing by **William Zeitler** every week, and the lovely tones of our **Bell Choir**, directed by **Amy Gano**. Not to mention how we are blessed with volunteer musicians like **Susan Addington** on the flute, **Norm Wallis** on the trumpet, lovely piano playing from **Kendra Lamb**, and instrumental talents like **Aidan and Owen Morris**, and **Ethan and Asher Gano**. We also are grateful for the occasional use of talented musicians for our brass ensembles and, of course, the **Kevin Blandford Memorial Pipe Band** for our Reformation Sunday celebration.



Listening to the Halleluiah chorus

We celebrate as **Pastor Wendy** and **Pastor Steve** lead us in worship every Sunday every Holy Day, and every other occasion. We are blessed with their leadership.

In 2025, let's continue celebrating the gifts of our God and using them to extend the grace of Christ to the world!



Bell choir members

Pentecost/Youth Sunday

Continuous Learning

2025 Estimate \$195,000.00

First Presbyterian Church continues to be dedicated to education in all its forms.

- ✓ **Adult Bible Study** continues to grow. Aably led by Martha Pinckney, the group meets every Sunday in the Fireside Lounge to study the Word before worship services.
- ✓ **KidSpace** continues to be led by Jeanne Clark and Nancy Horstmann for our younger members.
- ✓ Our **Youth Group** is led by Pastor Wendy Lamb.
- ✓ **Presbyterian Women's** Bible studies continue to meet monthly in person and online.
- ✓ Scholarships are provided for **Companions on the Inner Way**, whose 5-day retreats offer a safe communal place to explore our deep longings for the Holy.
- ✓ The **Lifeskillz Circle** at San Bernardino High School began another new year in August.
- ✓ And our **Interns** continue to help us with campus maintenance, hospitality, and the food ministry, as we provide them with first time jobs and mentorship.

In 2025, we want to continue all of this, as well as exploring new programs and ways of learning.



Friendship Circle



Youth Sunday



Circle of Hope & Grace

Transformational Service

2025 Estimate **Joyful Hearts!**

Without the transformational service of volunteers much of First Presbyterian's ministry would be greatly diminished. Volunteers provide **security** and **ushers** for our gatherings, and make sure everyone is safe. Volunteers also **operate cameras** and **sound equipment** for worship services. Volunteers **teach** Kidspace and the Adult Bible Study. **Deacons** are volunteers who care for our congregation and our outer community. **Ruling Elders** are volunteers who make church policy and consider issues, making decisions that order our life as a congregation. **Presbyterian Women** volunteer to make breakfast for Lifeskillz kids, and to help our congregation be hospitable, as well as providing timely Bible Studies. Volunteers sing in the **Sanctuary Choir**, and ring bells in the **Bell Choir**. Volunteers fill **food bags** and help distribute them. Volunteers provide **pastoral care**, checking in on us when we're not well, and organizing help when needed. Volunteers provide **labor and know-how** to maintain and improve our campus.

As active participants in the Presbyterian Church (USA) **Special Offerings**, First Presbyterian Church transforms lives around the world, educating leaders and pastors for the future, aiding in peacemaking efforts, and paying pastor salaries for underserved churches. We are recognized as a long-time "Four for Four" congregation that contributes to all four Special Offerings (**Pentecost Offering, One Great Hour of Sharing, Peace and Global Witness Offering, Christmas Joy Offering**) each year.

You also transform lives by providing space for other missions such as:

- ♥ **Straight Up AA** meets here weekly;
- ♥ The **Retired Public Employees** meet here quarterly.
- ♥ The **San Bernardino Elections office** provides our neighbors an accessible place to exercise their right to vote.
- ♥ **Oak Tree D Street**, provides academics and social and emotional development for preschool children.
- ♥ And **Key Essentials to Behavior Management** helps children and adults learn the social skills required to succeed in school and life!



Marion Sischo

Joan Carpenter



Legacy Giving

We remember **Edie Leonard, Bonnie Hansen, Edna Dugger, Rosemary Krause, John & JoAnn Miller, Stewart & Helen Dodds, Marion Sischo, Marian Klefstad, Barbara Maupin, Herb & Anna Jane Andrews, Joan Carpenter, Paul & Marjorie Owen, Bob Wiens, Norma Lunn, Hazel Limric, Sally Morris, and Jeannie Marona.** Gifts left by them and given in their memory bless us every day. **Brenda Frederick** continues to provide for our congregation through a Presbyterian Foundation fund although she lives far away from here.

Their faith continues to bless and heal and delight us all.

If you would like to learn more about Legacy giving, please contact the church office.



Sally Morris

Marian Klefstad



Bob Wiens

2025 Challenges & Opportunities

There are always challenges.

- In 2024 we replaced the heating and cooling system in the Chapel. We began the work of remodeling the Chapel to make it more accessible, and more aesthetically appealing. We began revitalizing the Meditation Garden, work which is continuing. We installed new LED lighting in the Sanctuary, which will be longer lasting and save energy. We upgraded our alarm system, and the alarms can now be monitored on staff cell phones, an extremely helpful feature. We have almost completed the fence around the campus, which will help protect both our property and our personnel. We also moved the basketball goal to a safer area where cars are less likely to be damaged by enthusiastic players. We increased the amount of food we provide each week for many people in our neighborhood. The need continues to grow.
- In 2025, we will finish the Chapel remodel, replace the gates for the Children's Courtyard, and build a handicapped ramp from the Sanctuary to Magnolia Court to make Coffee Hour accessible to all. And we will certainly need to make other major repairs.

Your joyful generosity allows us to relate, celebrate, learn and transform our church and the world. When you pledge, when you volunteer, when you pray for another member or for a ministry, **you embody the love, forgiveness, and grace of Christ.**

What new thing is God calling you to do?

***With God's help, we continue our
journey into the future,
sharing our joy and love of God
with each other and our community.***