STEWARDSHIP 2025

How firm a foundation



Government Street Presbyterian Church

GOVERNMENT STREET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Narrative Budget 2025

As we begin Stewardship season, we once again consider the “firm foundation” on which our church stands. We have a deep and rich history, of course, but as the old hymn reminds us, our foundation is first and foremost Jesus Christ and the sacred words of scripture. The gospel message that we find there is a true gift, one that has been passed down to us and which we are tasked to share today.

Enclosed you will find a narrative budget for 2025. It tells the story of what we are doing and what we pray to do in the months to come with the money given through pledges and other sources. You will see that the budget is in four categories: Worship, Mission, Christian Education, and Congregational Care. All staff salaries, property expenses, and administrative costs are broken into these categories so that we can see how those funds support the ministry of the church. Thank you for your generous support of GSPC as we prepare to follow God’s call into a new year of ministry together.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC $240,492



Worship is the heart of the church's life together. These funds enable our regular worship of God throughout the church year. They include compensation for guest musicians to support the regular Sunday worship as well as special services throughout the year. The worship budget provides for art such as our weekly memory verses to aid in the worship experience and special seasonal additions to worship. During 2024, Worship and Music funds were used to enable high-quality music especially during the summer as our choir took a well-earned break. Funding for Worship and Music includes the salary of our Director of Music and staff singers, as well as portions of the salaries of our Senior Pastor, administrative and custodial staff. It also includes property costs associated with maintaining our instruments and worship space. In 2025, we hope to address acoustics and pew upholstery.









MISSION AND OUTREACH $262,053



"Called to serve" is a motto of GSPC. During 2024, the church continued its Meals on Wheels ministry to 45 low-income, elderly individuals who receive a hot lunch and a snack bag five days a week. GSPC also provides meals for McKemie Place, a shelter for women, and continues our partnership with Barton Academy. We provided assistance with uniforms, hygiene items and other supplies. We have provided hygiene kits and reading material for Mobile Area Interfaith Conference's ministry at Metro Jail. In the past, we have welcomed families from Presbyterian Home for Children to Baytreat for a week this summer. In 2025, we would like to be able to support this ministry in new ways. In addition to these ministries, our mission budget supports the Presbytery of South Alabama, keeping us connected with Presbyterian congregations in our area. With increased funding, GSPC looks forward to new ministries in our community in 2025. Funding for Mission includes portions of the salaries of our new Director of Food Service, Willie Mae King, pastoral, administrative, and custodial staff, as well as property costs associated with kitchen services.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION $255,866



GSPC seeks to provide opportunities for faith formation for children, youth, and adults. Vacation Bible School, the Montreat Middle School Conference, and Montreat Youth Conference are summer highlights. Christian Education funds provide Bibles to our children, meals and supplies for youth ministry, subsidies for trips to Montreat conferences in the summer, children's curriculum and supplies, and adult study materials. The Easter Egg Hunt is a highlight of the spring for children. Regular Bible studies, including our Interfaith Bible study, meet regularly. In June, we welcomed Bradley Daugherty as our full-time Director of Christian Education. With this investment, we look forward to renewed and revitalized ministry with our children and youth as well as adults. Funding for Christian Education includes the salary for this position and funding for nursery workers. In addition, portions of the salaries of our Senior Pastor and administrative and custodial staff are included along with property costs.





CONGREGATIONAL CARE $176,589



Congregational Care includes the ministries that connect us as Christian believers within the church community. These activities range from flower delivery to those unable to worship together, to pastoral care calls, to meals for the sick, to funeral receptions, to events that help us build our community of faith. A significant portion of the pastors' time is given to caring for our congregation, particularly in times of illness or crisis.



In 2024, we began our Second Sunday Lunches to add to our regular fellowship. Supper Clubs restarted in fall of 2023. Our Tuesday Lunch and Learns are a time of fellowship for GSPC and the community. The funding for Congregational Care includes portions of the Senior Pastor's salary, a portion of the Director of Food Service's salary, portions of administrative, and custodial salaries as well as property costs.



TOTAL Projected 2025 Budget $935,000

This total represents an 8% increase in the annual budget.

How Can Your Pledge Help?

By increasing pledge support of GSPC from $535,000 to $560,000, GSPC can do the following:



- Increase program budgets which have been reduced in recent years to rebuild and grow these ministries. These include
  a. Christian Education: allow increased participation on youth trips, increased programming and outreach.
  b. Worship: support our ability to engage guest musicians and staff singers
  c. Urban Ministries: maintain our Meals on Wheels ministries even with rising food costs and expand to other local missions in our downtown community.

- Add a part-time Youth Ministry Coordinator to our staff to minister to our middle and high school students.

- Address non-emergency property maintenance that have been deferred the last couple years.

- Reduce our reliance on interest from our invested Permanent Funds and allow for reinvestment of a portion of earned interest back into the funds, allowing them to grow and continue to support the ministries in the future.







– Generosity by the Numbers –

	2022	2023	2024
Commitments	90	96	98
Average Commitment	$5,813.22	$5,363.77	$5,480.98
Total Amount Committed	$523,190	$514,922	$535,112

Age	Givers in Age Group	Total # Members in Age Group	Age Group % of Total Giving
20-29	0	31	0.00%
30-39	11	41	1.00%
40-49	17	42	7.20%
50-59	18	42	6.96%
60-69	30	54	22.76%
70-79	38	54	29.56%
80+	26	36	32.52%

But What About Baytreat?

The Session continues to work toward a sale of Baytreat and hopes to report to the congregation soon about these details and their impact on our short-term and long-term financial picture. However, to use the funds responsibly, we need the increased pledge support of the congregation as well. The proposed budget for 2025 includes both increased income and reduced expenses for Baytreat.

