

EASTRIDGE

Presbyterian Church



Christ-Centered. Community Strong.
2024 Annual Report

Our mission statement:

*The God of Scripture
Calling Individuals
Into Community through Christ
Empowered by the Spirit
To Worship, Learn and Serve.*

Eastridge Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon Senior Pastor
mjonespointon@eastridge.org

The Rev. Thomas Dummermuth Associate Pastor
tdummermuth@eastridge.org

Kris Adler-Brammer... Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Donna Gustafson Office Manager

Andy Kalnins... Weekend Custodian

Will McGuire Worship Leader

Brent Shaw... Choir Director/ Organist

Vince Ruhl... Director of Online Worship

Laura Siemsen... Administrative Assistant

Brett Meier..... Audio Visual Tech

Sydney Mitchell.....Nursery

Eastridge Presbyterian Church
1135 Eastridge Drive
Lincoln, Nebraska 68510-5014
Phone: (402) 488-7844
www.eastridge.org

**2024 Annual Congregational Meeting
Agenda
January 26, 2025
10:45 am**

Declaration of Quorum

Opening Prayer – The Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon

Approval of the Docket

Meeting of the Congregation – The Rev. Melodie Jones Pointon, Moderator

- Minutes of the 2024 Congregational Meetings
- Annual Report
- Necrology Report – The Rev. Thomas Dummermuth
- Motion to suspend the Congregational Meeting

**Meeting of the Corporation - Robby Shortridge, President
Bill Bevans, Vice President**

- Opening Prayer
- Questions, Answers, Suggestions, and Recommendations for the Trustees
- Closing Prayer

Reconvening of the Congregational Meeting

- Study: *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*
- Vision: The Green Team
- Report and Review of 2024 Financial Records—Steve Anderson, Treasurer
- Presentation of the 2025 Budget – George Kilpatrick, Finance Chair
- Expression of Thanks to those serving
- Questions, Answers, Suggestions and Recommendations for the Session

Motion to Adjourn

Postlude

Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon

Associate Pastor
Rev. Thomas Dummermuth



At last year's Annual Meeting, the congregation voted to amend the bylaws of the Congregation and Corporation to adjust the number of officers for both entities. While the number of elders serving on the Session remained at 13, the number of Trustees went from 9 members to 7 members, Memorial and Endowments became a committee with no term limits and a membership of at least 5, and the Deacons were moved from an elected board to a caring ministry. These changes were helpful in "right-sizing" our elected officers while at the same time allowing for flexibility in areas of service.

A major shift in how the session is structured has led to seasonal leadership. This new model is designed to provide more flexibility and responsiveness to the changing needs of our congregation and community. Organized around four seasons: (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany; Lent-Easter-Pentecost; Pentecost-Labor Day; Labor Day-Christ the King), the session begins planning for each season with a study of the proposed Scriptures, materials, and theme, after which time 2 conveners are identified. The seasonal conveners work closely with the pastors and staff to ensure that all the church's ministries are coordinated and integrated. This rotation leads to a pattern of meetings where the session studies the Bible together four times a year, plans together four times a year, and has four business meetings a year.

We believe that this new model of seasonal leadership has strengthened our involvement and enabled us to better serve our congregation and community. We encourage you to read the seasonal convener's reports for more information about the ministries of each season.

Additionally, the EPC Care Connections ministry had its inaugural year! We commissioned care leaders on Mother's Day, encouraging those commissioned to reach out and care for others. This new ministry is a way to provide more comprehensive pastoral care, particularly to families, homebound individuals, and those experiencing dying, death, and grieving.

We are grateful for the leadership of Barb Anderson, LaDonna Grubbs, Tim and Ivy Hanson, and Pam Schumacher, who have played a vital role in guiding this new ministry. Special recognition goes to those who have dedicated their time and effort to visiting, checking in on, and caring for one another, truly embodying the spirit of a community that cares.

Finally, we should note that Melodie took a six-week sabbatical in June and July. During her time away, she focused on her family history on the Mormon Trail and family connections in south central Iowa and north central Missouri. She also spent time with extended family in the Pacific Northwest.

We both continue to enjoy our personal and professional involvement serving on boards of nonprofits and participating in the life of our community. Thomas serves on the board of the Lutheran Center on the UNL Campus, as Vice President of Justice in Action, and as Vice President of the Faith Coalition of Lancaster County. Melodie continues to be passionate about issues of justice, equality, and care; participating in Justice in Action, BraveBe (Child Advocacy Center), Missio Lincoln, and Habitat for Humanity.

This year also brings a notable anniversary for both of us - having served as pastors for this faith community for twelve years. During this time, we have witnessed many changes at Eastridge Presbyterian Church, but the commitment to community inside and outside of our building remains a vital part of our understanding of our faith in God.

Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon and Rev. Thomas Dummermuth

Eastridge Session 2024

Chris Boden
Chris Boone
Carolyn Brandle
Kris Brenneis
Jean Dunbar
Rena Oestmann
Shirley Flynn
Gary Kilian
George Kilpatrick
Carol Ripley
Hope Shortridge
Alinda Stelk
Lois Wies

Robin Hadfield
(Clerk) *non-voting member

Melodie Jones Pointon (Moderator,
Senior Pastor)

Thomas Dummermuth
(Associate Pastor)

Eastridge Trustees 2024

Susan Budler
Bill Bevans
Nancy Hall
Jane Kinsey
Diane Rice
Rob Shortridge
Barry Stelk
Steve Wherry

FAITH FORMATION

Children's Ministries (K-5th grade):

- *Faith Formation
Tuesday Afternoon Program
- *Camp Calvin Crest- Summer Camp
- *Children's Christmas Program

Youth Ministries (6-12th grade):

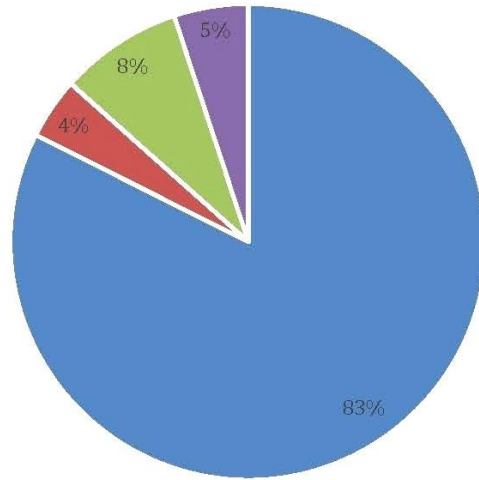
- *Faith Formation
- *Youth Group
- *Retreats
- *Mission trip
- *Fundraising
- *Youth Sunday
- *Graduate Recognition

Adult Ministries:

- *Bible Studies (in person and Zoom)
- *Lent and Advent Studies
- *Book Club(s)
- *Men's Breakfast
- *Circles

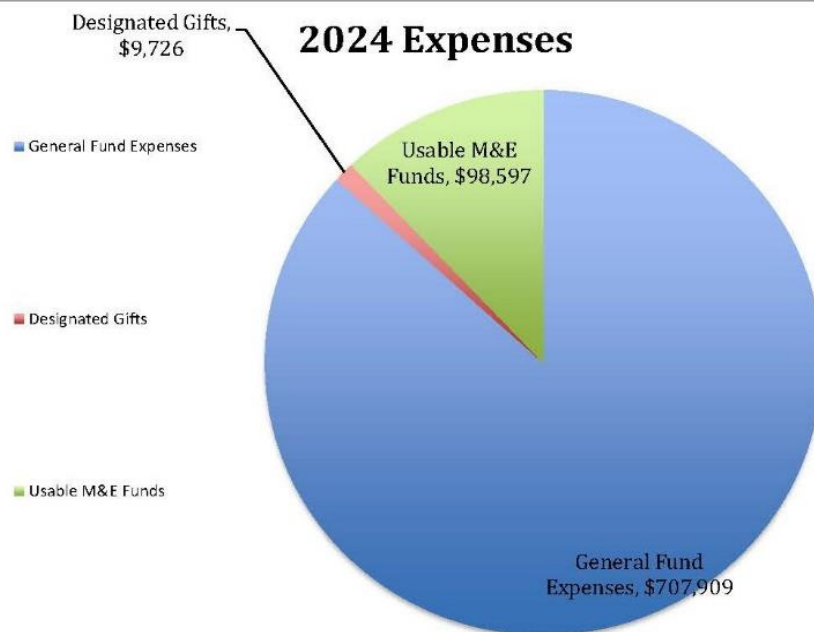


2024 Income



■ General Fund ■ Designated Gifts ■ Restricted Gifts ■ Other Income (rent, special events, flowers)

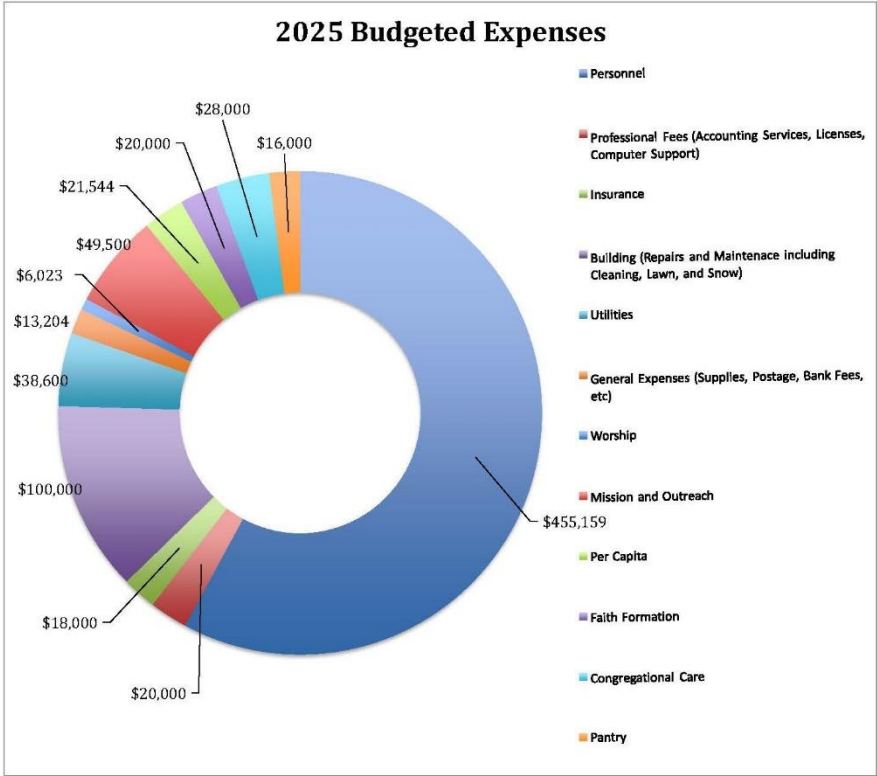
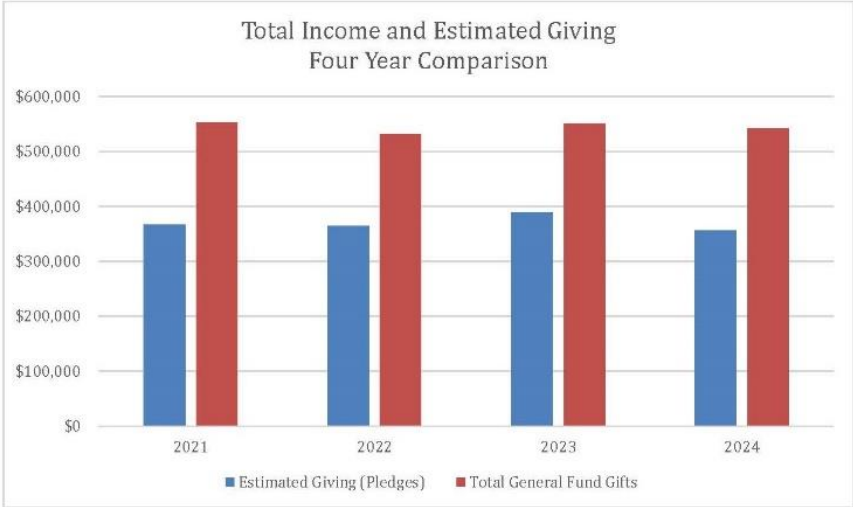
2024 Expenses



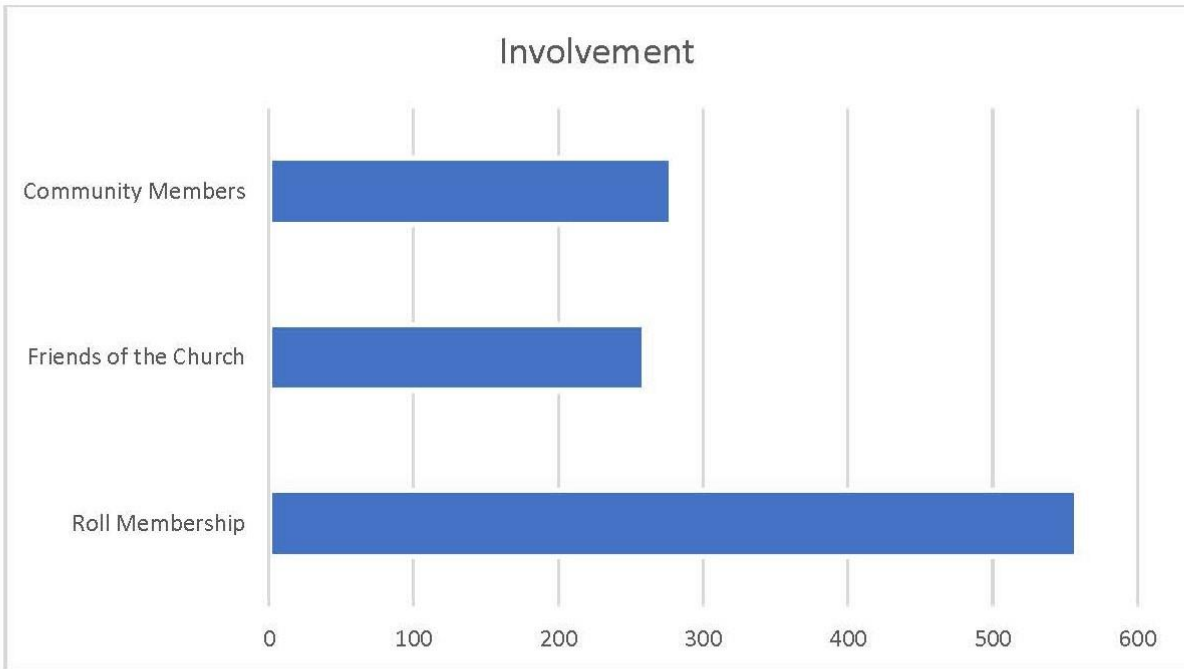
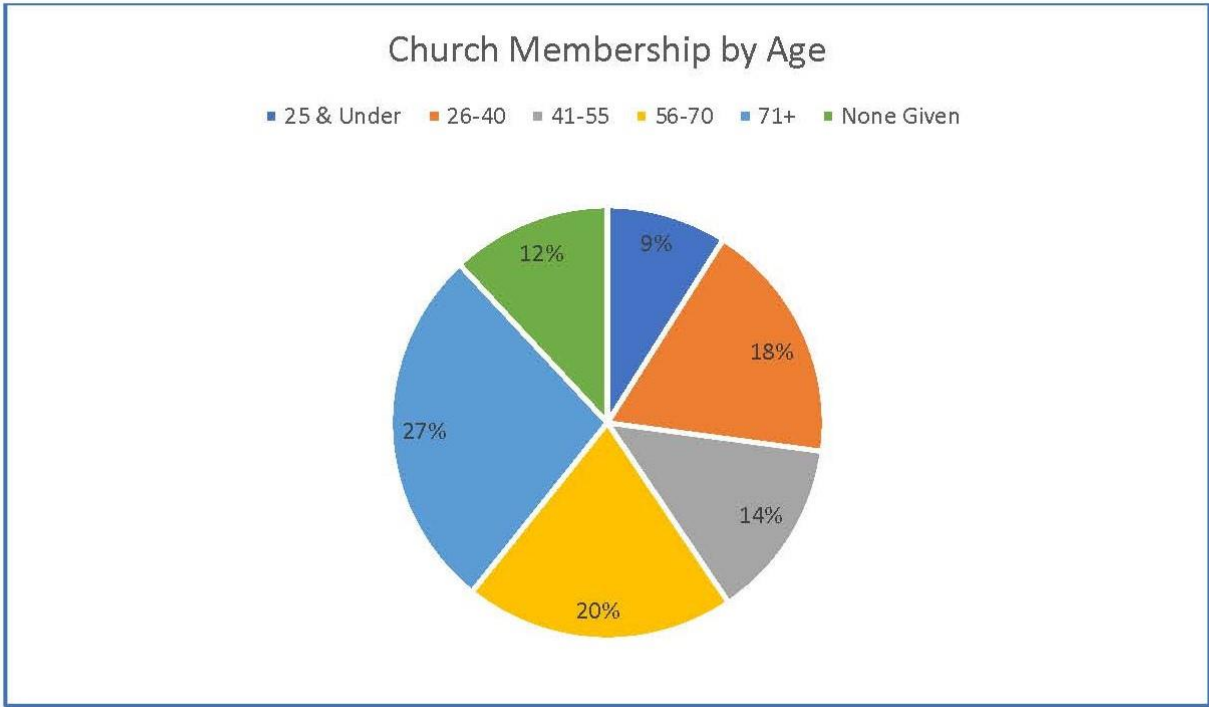
■ General Fund Expenses

■ Designated Gifts

■ Usable M&E Funds



2025 Budget	
Budget Approved 1/23/2025	\$789,840
Anticipated General Giving	\$550,000
Anticipated Designated Giving	\$ 68,125
Anticipated Transfers	\$171,715
Over/(Under)	\$ 0



***Community Members** are those who participate in events and ministries in our building that are open to the community - i.e. daycare, yoga, tai chi, volunteers at pantry, AA, Faith Coalition, PEO groups, blood drives, etc..

***Friends of the Church** are those who participate in the life of the church and its ministries (Bible studies, worship, fellowship groups, etc) and are not on the official membership rolls.

***Roll Members** are those who have become members through profession of faith, transfer of membership, or reaffirmation of faith. This includes Members, Associate Members, and Members of Homestead Presbytery (pastors).

2024 Financial Information

Our donors (General Fund giving):

Number of donors: 174

Average per donor: \$ 3,113

Number of gifts: 1,381

Average per donation: \$ 392

Other gifts

(Where donors designated their gifts other than general fund giving):

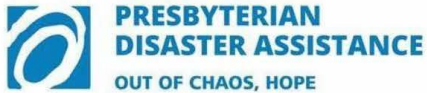
Food Pantry:

\$ 11,454



Extra giving opportunities (Presbytery offerings, PCUSA Disaster Relief, Care & Share Offering, Thank Offering):

\$ 8,456



Per Capita:

\$ 4,009



Faith Formation (Children & Youth):

\$ 8,891



Group Fees/Daycare:

\$28,610



Legacy Gifts

(in honor of or in memory of):

\$ 37,534



Eastridge Presbyterian Women:

\$ 1,889

