



WORSHIP SERVE LEARN BELONG

BUDGET IMPACT REPORT 2026



First
Baptist
Church
of Asheville





Beautiful Belonging



Worship. Serve. Learn. *Belong.*

I love the incandescent way these words brighten our lives. There’s an electric current running through their invitations to live, to move, to act, and to be “doers of the word” (James 1:22). Together they capture and illuminate the genuine spirit of our church.

To worship is to gather in humble awe of God, to be shaped into the likeness of Jesus Christ, and to enjoy the Spirit lifting our hearts in prayer and song. To serve is to respond to God’s good news by opening our hearts to others. To learn is to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. To belong is to embody the heart of the gospel that proclaims we are all one in Christ Jesus.

I invite you to read on and see how these themes intertwine and overlap in our common life. As you witness the dynamism of our congregation’s mission, let the good news quicken your heart and stir you to invest in the bright vision God has entrusted to us.

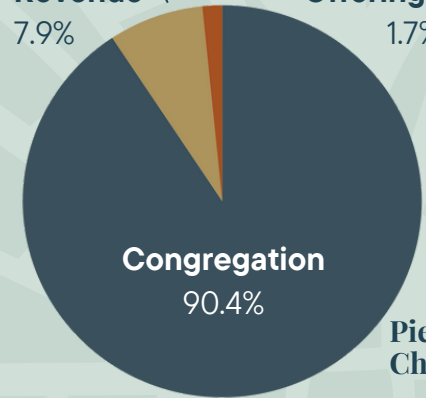
peace,

Mack
MACK DENNIS
 Senior Pastor



Outside Revenue
7.9%

Designated Offerings
1.7%



Pie Chart 1

Outside revenue projected at \$165,000 (7.9%) primarily comes from community partnerships with Mountain Aging Partners and the Asheville Symphony Orchestra. \$35,000 (1.7%) comes from designated gifts for Building Maintenance.

SOURCES OF REVENUE

TOTAL: \$2,101,385

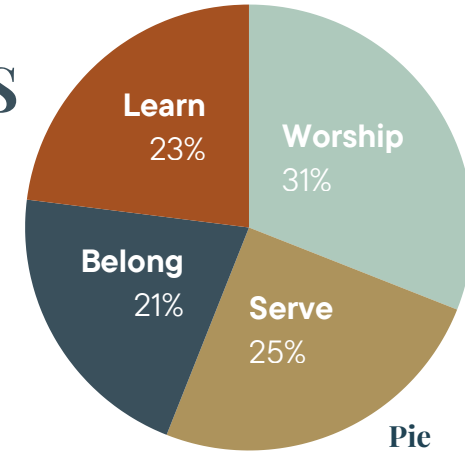
In 2024, we reframed our budget report in order to increase clarity on how dollars are received and spent. The Budget Planning Team and Finance Committee have built on the successes of last year's report and present the 2026 Budget Impact Report for your prayerful review.

Pie Chart 1 (left) shows how our total revenue of \$2,101,385 is sourced. Our congregation is being asked to fund \$1,901,385 or 90.4% of the total revenue through 2026 pledges and offerings. This 2026 budget goal requires an increase of \$105,825 or 5.9% over the current budget. Based on what we saw in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene and the abundance of faith, service, and provision that came through our church at 5 Oak Street, we believe we have the gifts needed to make this happen.

Pie Chart 2 (right) shows the allocation of all financial gifts and resources. This is a Narrative Budget, revealing the story of real ministry happening each and every day at 5 Oak Street. Our budget has always been about more than the numbers, and this Impact Report connects every single dollar of our budget to a specific aspect of our church's story. Narrative budgets include not only program costs, but also property and personnel. Every investment and expense has been integrated into the story of our shared and embodied ministry.

ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

There are four essential categories of our church life, and each one of them reflects a vital dimension to the call of Christian discipleship: **Worship, Learn, Serve, Belong.**



Pie Chart 2

In the pages that follow, we hope this report helps you see the importance of pledging and giving in a new light. Like God's own story that reaches out and draws us in, may the story of this budget inspire, encourage, challenge, and inform all members, supporters, and donors about why each gift matters.

- 267 online weekly worshippers (12% growth since 2023)
- 793 subscribers to YouTube Channel (40% growth since 2023)
- 145 total number of choir members across the five total FBCA choirs (Adult Choir, FBCA children's choirs, and AYC choirs)

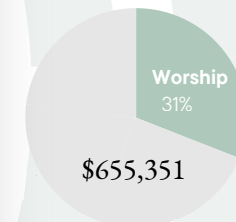
MAKING A JOYFUL NOISE IN SONG AND WORD

Signs of new life and growth are evident in Worship as we welcome new members into our congregation, choirs, and our online presence. From 2024-2025, our choir grew by 17%, which is a testament to our excellence in music and our invitational spirit. We've also welcomed 17 new members in our church since last fall.

In collaboration with the Asheville Symphony Orchestra and Asheville Youth Choirs, we held nine special community concerts last year, including a special Christmas concert that filled our Sanctuary.

Outside our own walls, our Prison Ministry Team faithfully leads worship each month at a local women's prison. And through online worship and our sermon podcast, our worshipping community continues to expand and draw more people closer to God in music, prayer, art, and word.

WORSHIP



Our comprehensive budget for Worship is \$655,351 (31% of our total 2026 Ministry budget). This number reflects the whole investment, including church utilities and maintenance in the Sanctuary, the Pastor for Music and Worship, the Associate Director of Music and Organist, and sound and live stream technicians.



GROWTH IN NUMBERS & NEED FOR OUR THURSDAY MINISTRY

JANUARY 2025

- 100 neighbors attended each week
- 64 pantry shoppers each week (serving 140 individuals)

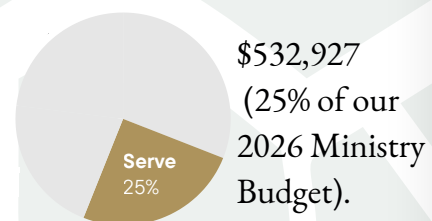
JUNE 2025

- 170 neighbors attended each week
- 93 pantry shoppers each week (serving 212 individuals)

BUILDING COMMUNITY WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

We are becoming increasingly known as a place that offers genuine help in the community. On any given Thursday of the year, over 150 neighbors enter our Charlotte Street entrance for our Free Market and Lunch at the Crossroads. With over 40 volunteers working to prepare, welcome, and serve, all of our guests are received with Christian hospitality. Nametags and dedicated volunteers allow us to greet many neighbors by name. Each person can freely shop in the food pantry or one of the clothes closets, then sit down together around common tables for a hot meal. At the conclusion of the program, everyone is invited to a Communion Chapel Service to receive from the Table of Christ.

SERVE



An increased budget, local grants, and new partnerships have enabled us to offer Lunch at the Crossroads each Thursday of 2025 (excluding holidays).

- In 2025, MANNA Foodbank identified the FBCA Food Pantry as a *Transformer* community partner, allowing us to receive more food items at a reduced cost.
- Each week, FBCA volunteers pick up donations from Trader Joe's.
- In spring 2025, we entered a new partnership with All Souls Counseling Center, using a Helene Recovery Fund Grant to provide a licensed counselor onsite each Thursday for introductory counseling, appointment scheduling, and community referrals.
- Since partnering with MercyChefs after Hurricane Helene, they have continued to provide us with hot meals at least twice each month, greatly reducing our program cost.



Thursdays are just part of our community-minded mission, but they are vital to our identity as the hands and feet of Christ. As the income gap widens, and global poverty remains exposed, we are preparing to welcome and serve even more neighbors in 2026.

DISCIPLESHIP SNAPSHOT

JANUARY-JUNE 2025

- 33 Bible study classes
- 261 Average weekly attendance
- 40 children in AgapeKids and Wednesday Preschool
- 7 Wednesday Night Programs

Family Meal, AgapeKids, Youth Koinonia, Adult Chapel Study / Center for Faith and Life, Adult Choir, Cherub Choir, and Junior Choir

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR EVERY AGE

Last year, we saw a sizable increase in attendance for our many Wednesday ministry programs. Our affordable Family Meal is regarded as the “best deal in town” and helps support a growing engagement from children and families, Chapel study participation, energetic children’s choirs, and our remarkable adult choir. This year we want to continue to grow our engagement, widen our participation, and deepen our faith in Christ.

Last year, we celebrated a new director for *The Center for Faith and Life*, with inspiring attendance for the CFL’s “Speakers and Artists Series” and “The Real Bonhoeffer” studies. In 2026, there is a modest increase for the CFL budget in order to support continued program growth and development.

LEARN

Learn
23%

\$473,311
(23% of our
2026 Ministry
Budget).

Jesus says, “*Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls*” (Matthew 11:29a).

We take this command seriously, striving to connect all members with small groups for learning and experiencing together the transformational power of Christian discipleship.





ROOM FOR EVERYONE AT THE TABLE

Holy Communion offers a vision for true belonging: a sacred space that is already prepared for everyone. At the table, all are fully welcomed by Christ to come, receive, and share life together. Ours is a hospitable, vibrant, and transformative community enriched by each new child of God.

One place to glimpse this belonging in action is at our annual FirstShine Camp. Building on a decades-long tradition, this initiative focuses on young adults with special needs and extraordinary gifts, offering a welcoming, adventurous, and uplifting camp experience. This summer's FirstShine community included 23 volunteers (adults and youth) and 10 participating young adults and their families.

BELONG

Over the past year, new community has also formed among our young adults. Through both social events and The Forum, a weekly small group Bible study, this community is steeped in belonging and presents a growing edge for our congregation in the years to come.

\$439,796
(21% of our
2026 Ministry
Budget.)



MINISTRY PARTNERS

are initiatives that have grown out of the life of the church. These ministries impact the wider community, but remain rooted with support and guidance by committees and teams from our congregation, along with the provision of facility space. We celebrate the creative and forward-thinking church members who dreamed and worked to bring these vital ministries to life. Financial offerings to the 2026 Ministry Budget provide essential support to each one of these programs.

Est.
2005



Our First Kids Preschool offers a warm, nurturing, safe environment where children grow in all areas to their fullest potential—including spiritually—through age-appropriate learning and Christian values. We serve ages 1 through PreK, with classes Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m., September–May.

Est.
1973

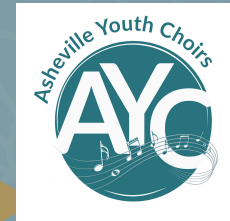


Our Child Development Center (CDC) nurtures children in a loving, Christ-centered environment. With a 5-star rating, we offer full-time care for children ages 6 weeks through PreK, focusing on their physical, emotional, social, cognitive, and spiritual growth. Our mission is to help children experience God's love while supporting families in our community.



Est.
2014

The Academy for the Arts is committed to excellence in music education, performance, and community. Our diverse students thrive under skilled faculty in a supportive, high-expectation environment. We celebrate our growth and look forward to years of continued creativity and innovation.



Est.
2014

The Asheville Youth Choirs (AYC) welcomes students in grades 3–12 who love to sing and seek community. AYC nurtures musicianship, faith, leadership, and lasting friendships. Sponsored by First Baptist Church of Asheville and these Asheville Symphony Chorus, the choirs perform at concerts, civic events, and choral festivals.



Est.
2024

Karis Parenting supports parents of preschoolers with faith-based tools grounded in early childhood development. Funded by Lilly Endowment's Christian Parenting and Caregiving Initiative, we blend theology and science to meet the needs of families with children ages 0–3 with hands on materials and resources.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS are independent organizations who have come alongside our congregation through mutual agreements involving facility usage and an alignment of community values. We respect the vision and goals of each partner, recognizing the unique gifts offered to the community through their collective work. We aim to find creative ways to develop friendships and serve our wider community together.



Mountain Aging Partners (MAP) supports older adults and their families through vital services. In Buncombe County, the Adult Day Program at FBCA offers a safe, engaging space for older adults and relief for caregivers. In Henderson County, MAP provides Meals on Wheels, adult day care, community dining, caregiver support, and personalized aging guidance. With compassion and dedication, MAP ensures that no one ages alone.

ASHEVILLE SYMPHONY

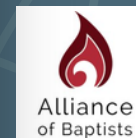
The Asheville Symphony Orchestra has performed and promoted symphonic music for the benefit, enjoyment and education of the people of Western North Carolina for nearly 60 years, embracing the orchestra's endless creativity, artistic expression and collaborative explorations.



MANNA FoodBank has fought hunger in WNC since 1983, serving 130,000+ people monthly across 16 counties. In 2023, First Baptist Church of Asheville partnered with MANNA to open a weekly walk-in Food Pantry, allowing neighbors to choose their own groceries. Food is picked up from MANNA on Wednesdays, sorted, and distributed Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We are a Baptist church approaching our 200th anniversary. As Baptists, we value collaboration around missions and education, and our budget supports the ongoing work of several key denominational partners.

DENOMINATIONAL PARTNERS



All Souls Counseling Center provides affordable mental health care to uninsured and underinsured adults in Western North Carolina. In response to a regional care gap, local therapists began offering sliding-scale counseling, eventually growing into a nonprofit with over 18 licensed professionals. Each week at our Thursday Ministry they provide a counselor for our guests to be able to connect with.

A FAITHFUL APPROACH TO GIVING

We give to the church not just as a tradition, but as a powerful act of faith, love, and purpose. Our giving is a response to the blessings we've received from God. When we give, we become part of something greater than ourselves: supporting ministries that feed the hungry, caring for the broken, spreading hope, and sharing the message of Christ. It's not about the amount, but about the heart behind the gift. Giving deepens our trust in God's provision and transforms our community one step at a time.

The financial support of all members, regular attendees, and program participants will enable our church to fully serve God, our community, and congregation as shared in this report.



Give securely online at fbca.net/generosity2026/



Scan QR Code
with your phone's camera to complete a 2026 Pledge Card.



Fill out a 2026 Pledge Card
and return to the church office in person or by mail

WAYS TO GIVE

STEP UP TO GIVING

A Guide to Giving as a Percentage of Annual Income

STEP 1

If you are not regularly giving to the church, **make a commitment to giving \$20 per week (\$80 a month)** and return a 2026 Pledge Card.

STEP 2

If you are already regularly giving to the church, prayerfully **consider increasing your giving by 6%** (e.g., \$106 per week instead of \$100). Indicate this on the 2026 Pledge Card.

STEP 3

If you are currently tithing (giving 10% of your annual income to the church), thank you for your commitment. **Return your 2026 Pledge Card** and help encourage others to prioritize faithful giving.

WEEKLY GIVING BY THE NUMBERS

ANNUAL INCOME	WEEKLY GIVING				
	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%
\$10,000	\$4	\$8	\$12	\$15	\$19
\$20,000	\$8	\$15	\$23	\$31	\$38
\$30,000	\$12	\$23	\$35	\$46	\$58
\$40,000	\$15	\$31	\$46	\$62	\$77
\$50,000	\$19	\$38	\$58	\$77	\$96
\$60,000	\$23	\$46	\$69	\$92	\$115
\$70,000	\$27	\$54	\$81	\$108	\$135
\$80,000	\$31	\$62	\$92	\$123	\$154
\$90,000	\$35	\$69	\$104	\$138	\$173
\$100,000	\$38	\$77	\$115	\$154	\$192
\$110,000	\$42	\$85	\$127	\$169	\$212
\$120,000	\$46	\$92	\$138	\$185	\$231
\$130,000	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$250
\$140,000	\$54	\$108	\$162	\$215	\$269
\$150,000	\$58	\$115	\$173	\$231	\$288