

WEAVING SPIRIT AND STORY TO DISCERN OUR WAY FORWARD

2022 Narrative Budget | Lake Oswego United Church of Christ



OUR MISSION

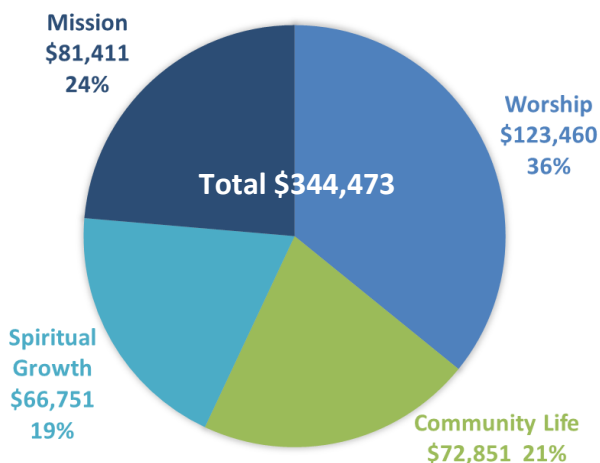
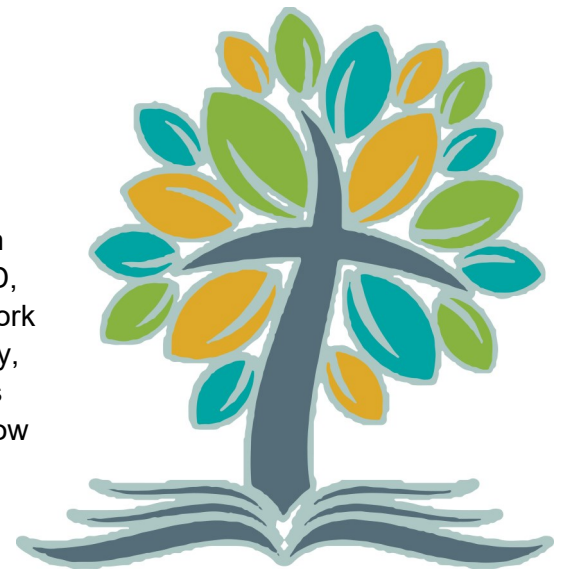
In Christ we are called together, as a community of unconditional love, to provide spiritual nourishment, to share God's love through active service within and beyond our church community, and to be responsive to the needs of our ever-changing world.

OUR LONG-RANGE GOALS

- Cultivate Our Faith
- Support Each Other
- Reach Out to the World

OUR 2022 THEME

Our church's theme for the year is "Weaving Spirit and story to discern our way forward." As we continue to navigate the pandemics of COVID, injustice, climate change, and more, we will listen for God's Spirit at work in us and in the world. We will listen to stories from our church's history, each other, and our wider community as we seek clues for how God is inviting us to serve. By weaving Spirit and story, we hope to discern how God is calling us to use our collective energies, resources, passions, and gifts to build a world with more justice and love.



As part of our discernment process, we continue our important missions while also providing new opportunities to engage the Spirit and our stories. The budget required to fulfill our hopes, dreams, and goals for 2022 is about \$345,000. The pie chart on the left depicts how the money will be spent in the different areas of our church life: Worship, Community Life, Spiritual Growth, and Mission. **Your financial gifts are key to achieving our ministry goals.**

Please Note: Fixed expenses (salaries & building related costs) are allocated to each of the four areas reflecting the integral roles our staff and building play in our Worship, Community Life, Spiritual Growth, and Mission. The fixed expenses for 2022 include salary increases for our hardworking staff.

WORSHIP (\$123,460)

- Offer dynamic, Spirit-filled worship services, both online and in person, that help us navigate these uncertain times.
- Provide opportunities for spiritual discernment through the sharing of stories, music, and contemplative practices in worship.
- Enhance the hybrid worship experience by adding new technology to the sanctuary.



SPIRITUAL GROWTH (\$66,751)

- Provide children, youth, and families opportunities to explore how our Christian faith informs our living and serving in these pandemic times.
- Provide opportunities for adult education on antiracism, indigenous spirituality, and environmental issues through book studies, guest speakers, and theatrical productions.
- Continue to offer meaningful opportunities for spiritual growth of all ages (through centering prayer, bible study, small group conversations, Sojourners, etc.).



COMMUNITY LIFE (\$72,851)

- Provide opportunities for connection and story-sharing among LOUCC members and friends (coffee hour, Zoomtails, regathering groups).
- Engage in a churchwide discernment/visioning process to listen for the Spirit's calling.
- Encourage people to use their time, talent and treasure to support our church as we discern our way forward.
- Continue responsible stewardship of our church building and grounds, making improvements that support our commitments to inclusion and justice (e.g. gender neutral bathrooms, improved technology, ongoing sustainability).



MISSION (\$81,411)

- Uncover, learn, and share LOUCC's land story through education, creating a land acknowledgement, honoring our indigenous siblings, and working towards ongoing recognition, repentance, and repair.
- Through our Justice Action Team, continue focused action and advocacy in three social justice areas: antiracism, LGBTQIA+ rights, and immigrant justice. (e.g. supporting Respond to Racism, The Living Room Youth, Refugee Care Collective, etc.).
- Educate and empower the congregation to adopt earth-friendly practices and be a voice of hope in environmental issues and the climate crisis.
- Tithe our church offerings by providing 5% to local organizations, such as Operation Nightwatch and Lake Oswego Transitional Shelter Ministry, and 5% to UCC's "Our Church's Wider Mission".

