STEWARDSHIP for 2027



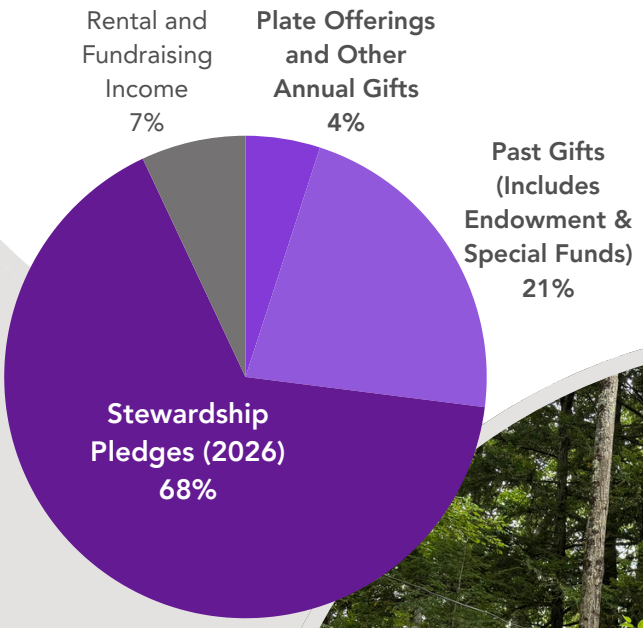
MIDDUCC

giving thanks

Our Budget

WHERE DOES OUR ANNUAL BUDGET COME FROM?

93% of our budget comes from us!







OUR BUDGET IS FUNDED BY EACH OF US AND ALL OF US.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 25TH.

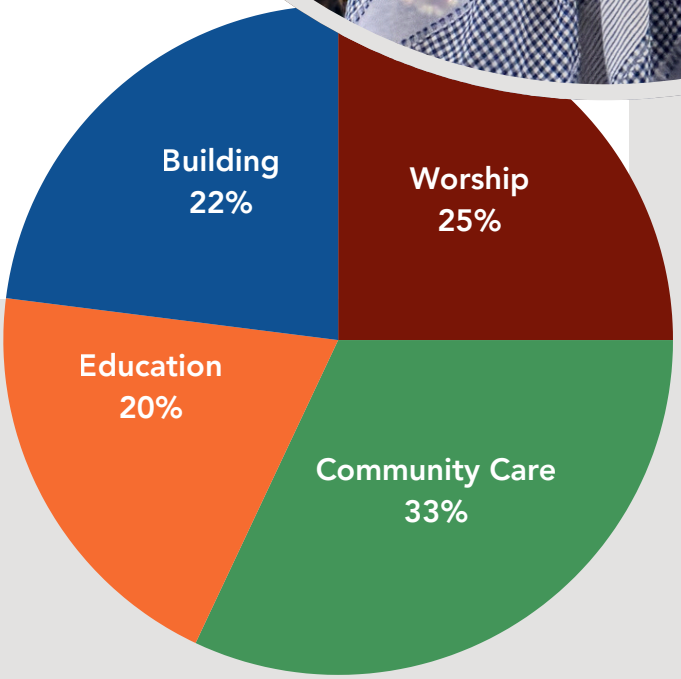
Making your pledge on or before this date will help us to plan our budget for 2027.



What is Stewardship?
Stewardship is the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care. As Christians, we are entrusted to care for our neighbors as we care for ourselves. As members of this church, we are entrusted to contribute our resources to the care of this faith community, including our financial resources.

What is pledging?
A pledge is a promise that you will support the church financially throughout the year. It is a good faith estimate of the dollars that you will be able to contribute to the mission of the church over the next calendar year.

Why is pledging important?
We ask you to make a pledge to support the many things you love about this church, including our staff and ministries, our church's outreach and programs, and our building.



OUR GOAL THIS YEAR IS TO RAISE $533,000, WHICH IS A 3% INCREASE OVER 2026.

Where do your pledge dollars go? Read ahead for more information on how your dollars support worship, community care, education, and our building.

Worship

giving
thanks
FOR JOYFUL WORSHIP







"Let us hold fast the confession
of our hope without wavering...not neglecting to meet
together, but encouraging one another."
Hebrews 10:23-25

BUDGET

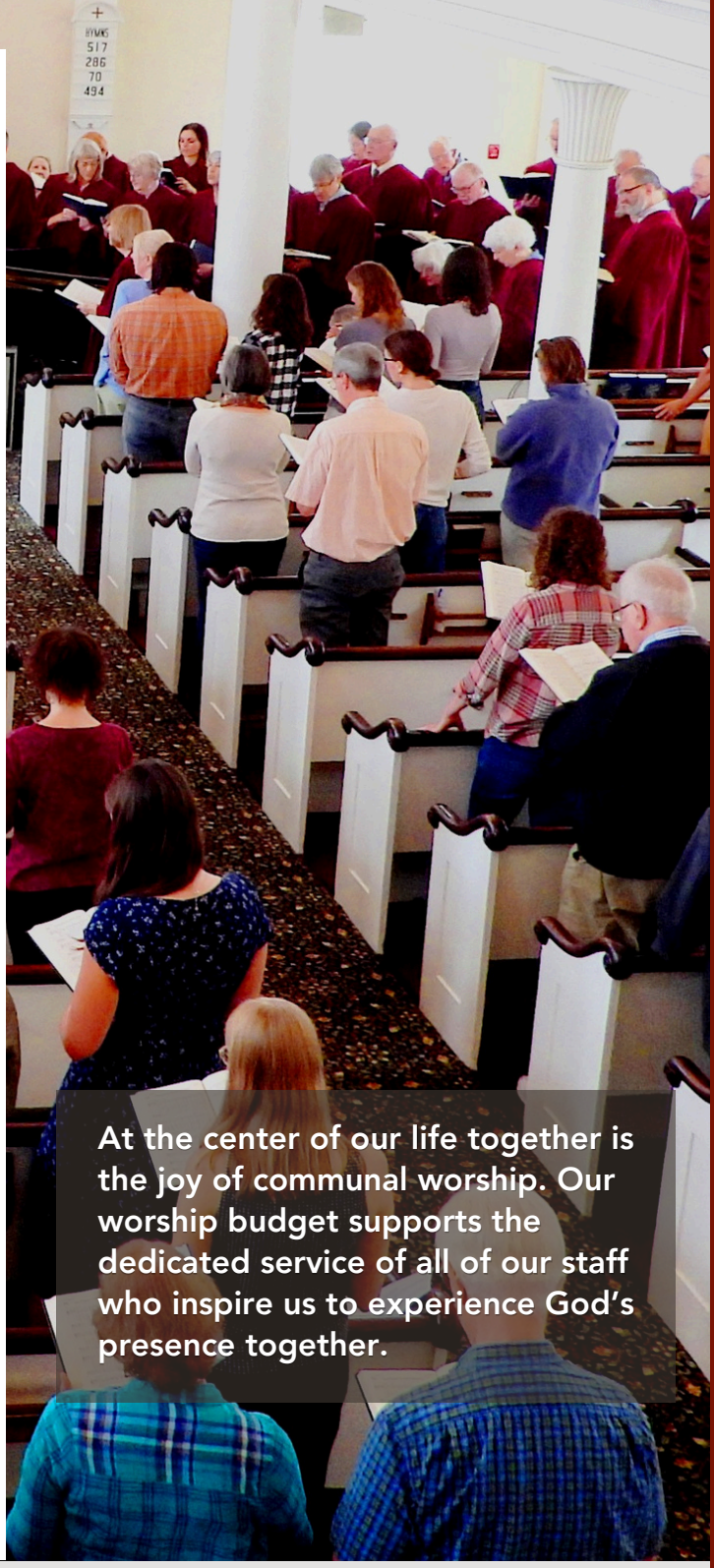
2026

SENIOR PASTOR'S TIME*	$52,473
ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S TIME*	$22,194
WORSHIP SUPPLIES (DEACONS)	$450
FELLOWSHIP HOUR EXPENSES	$700
FLOWERS	$2,000
NURSERY CARE PROVIDERS	$3,750
SUBSTITUTE MINISTER	$1,500
ADULT CHOIR	$2,000
CHURCH SCHOOL MUSIC	$90
ADULT HAND BELL CHOIR	$200
INSTRUMENT MAINTENANCE	$2,000
GUEST MUSICIANS	$6,000
MUSIC LICENSES	$550
TAIZÉ	$1,100
ORGANIST	$13,838
MUSIC DIRECTOR	$37,575
SUBSTITUTE ORGANIST	$900
SUPPORTING COSTS**	$39,770

*Estimated pastors' time associated with Worship
**Supporting Costs include administrative staff, human resources, and operating costs

TOTAL $187,090

25% OF OUR ANNUAL BUDGET



At the center of our life together is the joy of communal worship. Our worship budget supports the dedicated service of all of our staff who inspire us to experience God's presence together.



"Our Sunday services, sermons, and music have been an important part of our lives for more than 53 years. Always inspiring and thoughtful, the sermons have had a growing impact in recent years. Our pastors challenge us with prophetic sermons, at times when this is much needed. Church members are deeply committed to serving the needs of our neighbors…locally and beyond our county and state. Thank you, Church!"

~ John & Amy Emerson, Members since 1973

Community Outreach & Pastoral Care

giving
thanks
FOR CHRIST'S CALL TO SERVE







"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,
serve one another with whatever gift
each of you has received."
1 Peter 4:10

BUDGET

2026

OUTREACH

SENIOR PASTOR'S TIME*	$17,491
ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S TIME*	$11,097
UCC - OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION	$40,000
LOCAL MISSION (BMSC)	$12,000
COMMUNITY SUPPER	$44,000
YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL DONATION	$300
MEMBER IN DISCERNMENT SUPPORT	$2,000
PARENT PLAYDATE	$2,500
ART IN UNITY	$800
GREEN TEAM	$300

PASTORAL CARE

SENIOR PASTOR'S TIME*	$34,982
ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S TIME*	$27,743
PASTORS' TRAVEL ALLOWANCE	$5,000
BOARD OF PASTORAL CARE	$1,350
BOARD OF MEMBERSHIP	$630
LAY VISITATION MINISTRY	$250

SUPPORTING COSTS**	$54,110

*Estimated pastors' time associated with Comm. Care
**Supporting Costs include administrative staff, human resources, and operating costs

TOTAL **$254,553**

33% OF OUR ANNUAL BUDGET





Driven by our mission to live as Jesus taught, our church is deeply committed to loving our neighbors as ourselves. Our budget directly reflects this promise to strengthen relationships and share God's love, supporting one another, our neighbors down the street, and across the globe.

"It takes a tremendous amount of effort to care for us and our kids and we feel that as parents when we come to church and [to the parent] play dates. We feel seen and cared for! I also loved that the church put our meal train on after our twins— it really shows they want the whole church to be involved in welcoming new families and new family members."

~ Rita Munro, Member since 2024

Educational Ministries

giving thanks
FOR GROWING FAITH







"'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?'"
Luke 24:32

BUDGET
2026

SENIOR PASTOR'S TIME*	$43,727
ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S TIME*	$33,291
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH	$28,752
BOARD OF CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT	$540
YOUTH SERVICE TRIP	$6,000
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	$2,800
JR. HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY	$1,000
SR. HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY	$2,000
COLLEGE STUDENT MINISTRY	$750
CONFIRMATION CLASS	$600
ADULT EDUCATION	$100
SUPPORTING COSTS**	$32,276

*Estimated pastors' time associated with Education
**Supporting Costs include administrative staff, human resources, and operating costs

TOTAL $151,837

20% OF OUR ANNUAL BUDGET



Christian education is a priority of our church family, and our budget reflects this commitment to lifelong faith formation. As an intergenerational community, we are proud to invest in one another as we deepen our faith and strengthen our relationships.



"Belonging to the UCC has been a wonderful thing to experience as a growing kid. This place is not just a church but a nurturing and expansive community as well. I've made many connections here at church that have changed my life for the better. The people here do great work and continue to teach others the same. I am well aware of how amazingly lucky I am to get to call myself a member."

~ Eleanor Orten, Confirmed in 2025

Our Church Building

giving thanks
FOR A HOUSE OF FAITH







"How lovely is your
dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!"
Psalm 84:1

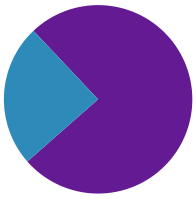
BUDGET

2026

BUILDING MANAGERS	$47,772
NATURAL GAS	$6,750
ELECTRICITY	$14,371
WATER & SEWER	$2,000
PLANNED ANNUAL MAINTENANCE	$12,000
BUILDING REPAIRS	$19,000
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	$9,000
BUILDING & LIABILITY INSURANCE	$21,304
LAWN CARE, SNOW, TRASH	$7,500
CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	$3,000
GARDENING SUPPLIES	$1,000
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS	$1,300
RED CLOVER CONTRIBUTION	-$11,868
SUPPORTING COSTS*	$35,939

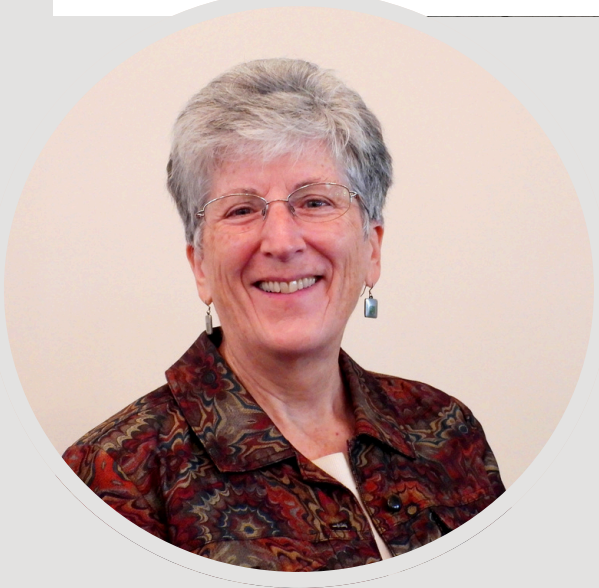
**Supporting Costs include administrative staff, human resources, and operating costs

TOTAL **$169,068**



22% OF OUR ANNUAL BUDGET

For 217 years, our historic Meeting House has stood as an iconic Middlebury landmark and sanctuary. Today, we are called to be the stewards of this sacred space and its addition, and our operating budget reflects our intentional support.

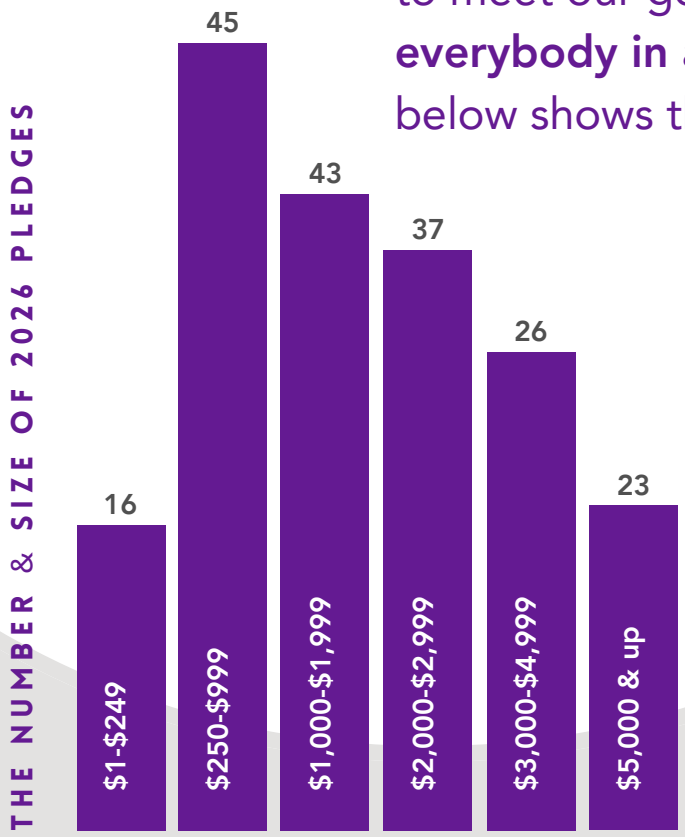


"Our church building is a beacon in our community. It serves as a place of worship, welcomes community events, hosts a child care center and provides space for Friday night suppers, among other uses. For these endeavors to succeed, the building needs to be well maintained to serve our members' needs as well as our wider mission. Many hands have provided the stewardship that has allowed it to flourish for more than two centuries; we must continue that effort so that our church shines brightly for generations to come."
~ Dorothy Douglas, Member since 1968

Why Pledge?

WHEN WE COME TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A HUGE IMPACT!

Our Stewardship Campaign relies on everyone giving as they are able. In order to meet our goal, we need **gifts from everybody in all amounts.** The graph below shows the range of giving in 2026.



Average household pledge in 2026 was $2,721

We strive for 100% participation in pledging. **Every pledge matters!**

Please prayerfully consider increasing your pledge by 3% or more.

Please pledge on or before OCTOBER 25th!

- return pledge card by mail or in the offering plate
- pledge online at midducc.org or scan the QR code

Thank you for your generous support!

Thank you to Caleb Kenna, David Phelps, and all those who contributed photographs of our church community.
Thank you to the Stewardship Committee and Mira Cabrera for design and publishing.