

FPC Narrative Budget Summary, 2025

Our Plan for Ministry:

<i>To provide meaningful, life changing WORSHIP every week</i>	\$90,000 <i>(75% of general budget)</i>
---	---

- **Worship**

- Weekly worship services were held with an average of 30 to 35 worshippers gathering together to praise God and hear God’s word
- Live Streaming of weekly services allowed for anytime viewing; a few individuals made regular use of this format via *YouTube*
- Special worship services were held Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday
- Earth Care Team members provided special readings and reflections during Sunday worship on April 27th, and Pastor Andy Kennaly shared about beekeeping.
- Over 20 church members assisted Sunday worship serving as worship assistant, usher, or Live Streaming technician
- During Pastor Andy Kennaly’s and Pastor Catherine Lyle’s study leave and vacation weeks, Sunday worship services were led with a blend of visiting ordained clergy and lay leaders from the church
- Worship services were enhanced with special music from the choir with the leadership and musical voice of Dana Stockman and the talents of Annie Welle at the piano

Narrative Budget Update, January to Oct. 2025 continued

<p><i>To NURTURE people on their faith journeys</i></p>	<p>\$18,000 <i>(15% of general budget)</i></p>
---	---

- **Adult Nurture**, facilitated by Sharon Anderson, Judy Labrie, and Pastor Andy, completed a study of John Newell’s, *The Great Search*, grounded in Matthew 7: “*Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.*” -NIV. This collection of different writers over hundreds of years and different cultures focused on ways nature informs our spiritual journey and helps us relate to each other, to nature, and to God.
- **Adult Nurture** began a fall study of *Holy Envy, Finding God in the Faith of Others*, by Barbara Brown Taylor. An American Episcopal priest, academic, and author, Taylor reflects on her experiences teaching world religions and the unexpected lessons she learns from faiths outside her own. With warmth and humility, she explores how encountering different spiritual traditions can deepen one’s own beliefs while cultivating respect for others. The book invites readers to embrace curiosity over certainty and to find beauty in the unfamiliar.
- **Retreats**
 - Three community retreat sessions facilitated by Ginna Minervini were provided to explore “*Living with Dying – What death teaches us about living*”
 - A “*Lenten Journey on a Labyrinth*” retreat and walk was facilitated by Pastor Andy
 - World Labyrinth Day, also facilitated by Pastor Andy, was celebrated with another opportunity linking us with the global community for an experience of contemplative faith and active, embodied prayer
 - In October a Dream Workshop facilitated by Colleen Russell was held in two sessions to explore and learn about dreams as a way to listen to where God might be calling
- **Fellowship**
 - With coordination by Sylvia Humes, Dyno Wahl and the help of many volunteers, weekly fellowship was provided following worship with additional soup suppers on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday
- **Special celebrations** were held to honor:
 - The life and love of Dee Dreisbach and Geri Stockman
 - Lynn and Dave Pietz prior to their move to Colorado
 - The wedding and reception for FPC member Lexie deFremery and Brian Tighe
 - Pastor Andy’s retirement as a Minister of Word and Sacrament and 14 years of service at FPC
 - Pastor Catherine Lyle’s welcome as our Interim Pastor, spiritual leader, and guide during this time of transition

Narrative Budget Update, January to Oct. 2025 continued

<i>To WITNESS to our faith in ministry and MISSION beyond ourselves</i>	\$12,000 <i>(10% of general budget)</i>
---	---

- **Mission**

- Provided financial support through mission giving to several local nonprofit organizations:
 - Homelessness: Bonner Homeless Transitions
 - Illness: Community Cancer Services
 - Mental Health: NAMI Far North Idaho
 - Domestic violence/child abuse: Priest River Ministries Advocates for Women
- Co-Sponsored the annual Fundraiser Dinner with Sandpoint Senior Center (SASi) netting \$1777 which was divided between SASi and FPC's Mission fund
- Provided financial support through participation in the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering (\$784 given)
- Together with the Methodist Church family celebrated the holiday food collection:
 - 3,721 pounds of food collected for the Bonner County Food Bank exceeding last year's record of 3,000 pounds
- The raised beds on the south wall were again planted in the late spring, by community volunteers. The resulting harvest was delivered by a volunteer to the Food Bank in September.
- In August, FPC partnered with the United Methodist Church (UMC) to host 36 "Bike the US for MS" riders in Sandpoint by providing places to sleep and put up tents. The riders were from the US, Canada, Great Britain, and Australia. Several members of the UMC spearheaded preparation of their weekly community meal and FPC members assisted to help accommodate the bike riders with 100 meals being served. The bikers expressed much appreciation for all the support shown to them by the two churches while they were here.
- FPC is partnering with The Presbytery of the Inland Northwest (PINW) in a project funded through a grant from the Lilly Endowment: the **Thriving Congregations Initiative**, entitled the Ezra 3 Project. With guidance from PINW staff and national consultants from the **Sacred Places** FPC has begun exploring how we can best steward our land and buildings for community impact in a way that aligns with the mission of the church.

Narrative Budget Update, January to Oct. 2025 continued

- FPC meets the per capita request of \$39 per member to support our connectional church with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly, Synod, and Presbytery in addition to missional gifts to General Assembly and Presbytery
- FPC provides additional mission support of \$250 for the General Assembly and \$600 for the Synod/Presbytery
- Pastor Andy’s weekly sermons were posted on the church website and on Andy’s Substack profile; the Live Stream video is on U-Tube
- Pastor Catherine initiated a summer worship focus using tools from Marcia McPhee’s Quest series of “*The Awakened Traveler*” emphasizing widening perspectives and expressing love of our neighbors; these sermons are also available through the church’s website and You-Tube
- Providing Fellowship Hall space and use of the kitchen in partnership with the Wednesday Soup Kitchen regularly provides a hot meal for 25-30 individuals; volunteers and soup donations are always needed, just contact Paddy, 208-290-0685 to help with this important service to the community.
- Meeting space is offered for community use and local chapters of AA, Al Anon, and TOPS
- FPC partners with the Bonner County Human Rights Task Force by providing and supporting space for retreats, training and community gatherings; from membership meetings to community events, the BCHRTF board of directors continue to express appreciation for the hospitably and meeting spaces the church offers
- The sanctuary is frequently used by many of the local music schools and groups for recitals and community concerts
- The ***Music Bridges Borders*** concert, held on July 19, was as inspiring and energetic as it could be! It was truly delightful to enjoy the talents of local and international musicians. Some of the church choir members even participated in the closing number.
- The gift of space in the Peace Garden, including a “Little Free Library” gets frequent visitors; the little library is frequently restocked with donations from the congregation and coordination with the Sandpoint Community library.
- Congregation members volunteer in many ways at Sandpoint Senior Center serving as meal delivery drivers, food service helpers, and helping with special/fundraising events

Total needed to fulfill our <i>VISION: To follow Christ’s light as a congregation of people, loving, living, learning the joy of faith.</i>	\$120,000
--	------------------