



John Knox Presbyterian Church

2025-26
Generosity & Mission Giving

God's Invitation: Life Together

Dear Friends,

It is an article of our faith: Christians exist not in isolation, but in community.

The longer I serve, the more clearly I see how gracious God is to establish and sustain the Church of Jesus Christ. In a world like ours, how else would the gospel be known? Where else could people turn who needed God's care? By God's design the faith exists through community. We share in Christ's life together.

The Church exists to glorify God, to serve as the Body of Christ in the world. We exist to fulfill Christ's mission in the power of the Holy Spirit. We live as the demonstration of the rule of God in the world.

It's a tall order--one that no one can accomplish on one's own. Graciously, we don't have to do so. We have each other.

By God's design we followers of Jesus exist in community with each other. We learn the gospel from others and grow in grace through community. Our worship, study, fellowship, and service are practices by which we enact and confirm our identity as Christians. As these practices make Christ visible to others, we serve as ambassadors of God's reconciliation of the world; we embody the invitation for others to join with us in Christ's love.

Christian faith requires community, and it creates community. We do not follow Jesus individually, but together.

I invite each of us to claim our part in the life and ministry of John Knox. Your prayerful consideration and generous devotion of financial support will allow us to deepen and extend our ambitious ministry. Your gifts and commitment will help us to thrive as a growing community of God's people: a congregation sharing with all—members, visitors, and neighbors—the life of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for the rich privilege of sharing this life with you.

Faithfully yours,

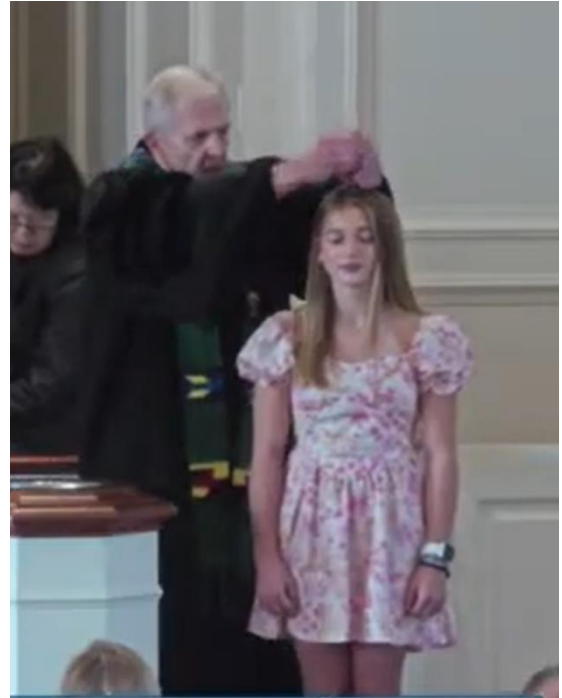
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gordon".

Life Together Worshipping



We celebrated the Ordination and Installation of the Rev. Carter Rief on July 20, 2025, with sermon by his esteemed mentor, the Rev. Dr. Will Willimon.

Lila Robinson receives the Sacrament of Baptism



Through the leadership of Dr. Luke Browder, John Knox hosted a Hymnfest for Foothills Presbytery in August, featuring 150 singers from 13 different churches. The offering from this service provided over \$1,800 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Learning and Serving



Sunday School class with Dr. Jean



VBS Mission Project: Neighborhood Blessing Box



In Spring 2025 High School students and their leaders engaged in a week of service with Mission Emanuel in the Dominican Republic.



Side by Side Respite Ministry serves friends and their families experiencing memory loss. The program currently engages 12-14 participants and will expand to three days per week in October 2025.

Side by Side enjoys the support of John Knox through a grant from the ministry budget, the use of our facilities, and the generous service of a host of volunteers.

John Knox Kindergarten & Parents' Day Out serves over 130 children and their families. Through Christian teachings of love and respect for others, children are guided to grow in their relationships to others and especially to God.

John Knox Church provides the use of our facilities. JKK/PDO provides a generous contribution toward the facility cost for the program.



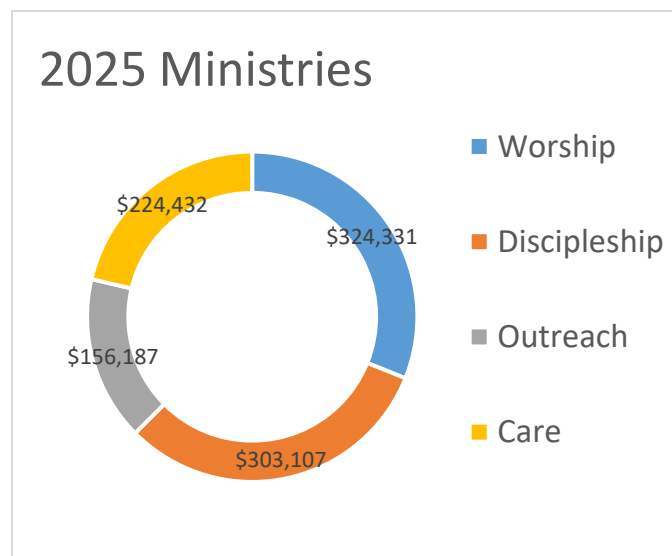
JOHN KNOX
KINDERGARTEN & PDO

John Knox Music for Missions

Our concert series **John Knox Music for Missions** has sponsored three events in the last year: organ recitals by Josh Harrington and Matthew Hall and a program of vocal music featuring Chelsea Rudisill and Luke Browder. These programs provided valuable exposure and extra financial support for Side by Side Respite Ministry, Greer Relief, and United Ministries.

2025 Mission Funding (Current) John Knox Presbyterian Church

<u>Ministry Expenses</u>	<u>2025 Budget</u>
Administrative	\$ 52,360
Christian Education	\$ 44,098
Christian Mission & Outreach	\$ 40,600
Evangelism, Nurture, & Fellowship	\$ 18,450
Property & Operations	\$282,061
Worship	\$ 18,550
Personnel	<u>\$551,937</u>
Total Expenses	\$1,008,056



Major Ministry Divisions**

Worship \$324,331 32%

Our chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Our worship invites us to grow as people who behold God's glory and ascribe God praise.

Discipleship \$303,107 30%

Jesus instructs us to make disciples. As His followers, we seek to grow in the faith and to equip people of all ages to do the same.

Outreach \$156,187 15%

Our service to Christ demands our service to the world. We are given the Good News to share in word and deed, to neighbors near and far.

Care \$224,432 22%

(Evangelism, Nurture, Fellowship)

Jesus says, "By this they will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Our care embodies the love with which God loves us and the world.

**Allocating personnel, administrative, and property costs among program areas.

Interested in seeing the detailed 2025 Ministry Operating Budget?

Except for individuals' personal giving information, which is confidential, our financial reports are open and available for every church member.

Use the QR Code to the right for 2025 Budget



Life Together—Our Faithful Commitment

We invite you to respond to God's love with your commitment to our service in Christ's name. Please pledge your financial support for the 2026 ministry of John Knox Presbyterian Church.

How do I pledge?

First, pray about this commitment and its meaning in your life and in our church.

Then complete the enclosed pledge card, place it in the return envelope, and return it to the church, either by mail or in person.

You may also pledge at any time electronically. Look for the link in our newsletters, or go to the church's website (johnknoxpres.org) and complete your 2026 pledge form.

When do I pledge?

As soon as you are ready to do so! Members and friends of John Knox are invited to **pledge at any time**, and the sooner the better! Your timely response now will help us build momentum for our ongoing and future ministry. The earlier you pledge, the clearer picture our Session has for planning next year's ministry.

We will be celebrating our commitments during a time of dedication in worship on **Sunday, October 26.**

Why pledge?

1. Pledges of financial support allow the church to plan more accurately.

Our church gratefully receives all gifts, pledged and unpledged. But our budgeting for the next year is most accurate when we can depend upon the good-faith estimates of those who intend to give. Your pledges help us plan responsibly and staff appropriately.

2. Pledging helps givers to honor their priorities for financial commitment.

Some people are reluctant to pledge, fearing that they will be unable to keep their commitment. Those who do pledge usually find that this commitment reminds them of their intention. Expressing our commitment ahead of time reduces the chance that unforeseen events will derail our intended support.

3. Our faithful commitment to Christ's ministry deepens our sense of God's unfailing commitment to us.

Committing ourselves in faith shows that "we get it." Having experienced God's faithfulness, we trust God's faithful care in our future. Responding in faith demonstrates and deepens our trust in God.

A Prayer for Our Church

We give thanks to you, O Lord, for you are good,
and your steadfast love endures forever.

We praise you for the grace with which you bless us:
forgiving our sins through the costly love of Jesus our Savior,
providing all the blessings for our well-being,
and calling us to enjoy deep communion
with you and with each other through your Holy Spirit.

Help us so to trust you that in every circumstance
we may seek and discover your never-failing care.
May the grace of your love continue to transform us,
deepening our love for you and the world you have made.
May our devotion of all our gifts—spiritual and material—
strengthen your Church, bless our world,
and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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