



**Mission Spending Plan
2009**



our mission

**Holy Covenant, a church for all people —
Where love of neighbor is expressed,
Feelings of the heart are shared, and
Thinking is encouraged.
Responding to God's Love is our purpose.**



October 2008

Dear Holy Covenant Friends,

Welcome to a fresh way of considering your annual support for the work of our church. Since we build our final Spending Plan based on the commitments we receive from our members, our financial committees wanted you to see how our giving supports the ministries of Holy Covenant that we cherish.

Each page of this Plan describes an element of our ministry, identifies the components and costs associated with that ministry, and shows a single amount that our Budget & Finance Committee has estimated will be required to carry out that ministry. Included in each section are portions of such things as staff time and salary, “ministry administrative support” and programming expenses dedicated to that particular element of ministry. You’ll also see pie charts and percentages to help place the various elements of Holy Covenant’s ministry in perspective. You may most enjoy the photographs that show your gifts in action.

Budget & Finance and Consistory will continue to create the financial documents which help monitor our spending based on our anticipated giving. Each member of the congregation is always welcome to be a part of these discussions. Our Annual Meeting for final consideration of our 2009 Spending Plan will be held November 16.

Our stewardship team hopes this lively, descriptive approach will help you connect more closely to the ministries you value, and which your gifts support. Thank you for giving generously to our ministry together.

Blessings,

Nancy Ellett Allison

worshiping together

\$67,381

At Holy Covenant, we celebrate our worship experience, where we gather as a community of faith to enter God's presence, hear the Good News preached with power and conviction, respond with music and prayer, and leave encouraged to do God's work in the world. In addition to gathering each Sunday, we celebrate worship throughout the Christian holiday seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, and gather for other events that mark milestones and passages in the lives of our family of faith.

Our worship ministry includes —

- Worship leadership
- Sermon preparation
- Chancel choir music
- Music direction & leadership
- Musical accompanists
- Communion
- Bulletins & other worship resources
- Sanctuary decoration
- Special offering materials
- Holiday events
- Weddings & funerals
- Sanctuary furnishings
- Ministry admin support



Holy Covenant celebrates the participation of every member in our life and worship.



The celebration of baptism and offerings from our talented musicians and singers enrich our Sunday worship.



worship & music



23.8%

worshiping together

working for justice

\$41,606

As people of God, we are called to serve the world around us. At Holy Covenant, we respond to that call with time and money for the work of the church beyond our walls — in our city, our country, and in communities in need around the world. In addition to supporting the work of the United Church of Christ through gifts to our association and conference, our national offices and special offerings, our congregation maintains a strong ministry of seeking justice and equality for all of God's people through our financial and volunteer support of a range of ministries that alleviate suffering and address essential human need.

Our mission and outreach includes —

- Support of the Our Church's Wider Mission and the UCC's four special offerings: Neighbors in Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church and The Christmas Fund
- Habitat for Humanity
- HELP (Helping Empower Local People)
- Ministry of the Upper Room
- Fruit & Water Ministry
- Urban Ministries
- Room in the Inn
- Newsletters
- Website
- Ministry admin support



Women Connecting for Justice study and support a number of charities, including the Metrolina Food Bank.



Throughout the year, Holy Covenant volunteers regularly help Habitat for Humanity build Charlotte-area homes.



mission & outreach



14.7%

working for justice

growing in faith

\$78,912

Through Christian nurture, each of us grows in our knowledge of God's call and claim on our lives — and at Holy Covenant, we take seriously Christian Education for all. We offer adult discussion groups and Bible studies each Sunday, in addition to special reflection opportunities. Our children and youth enjoy age-appropriate education, with special programs for our youngest children provided during worship services. We also offer ongoing care and support to members and friends of our congregation in times of crisis and loss. We maintain connections with those who are housebound, or who live in seniors' residences and can no longer attend services. Led by our pastor, we seek to live out our call to be a caring community where each person may experience the love of God.

To grow in faith, we need —

- Church School curricula
- Nursery workers
- Visits to the hospitalized & home-bound
- Special Christian education events
- Child care
- Youth camp scholarships
- Pastoral counseling
- Vacation Bible School
- Confirmation
- Youth programs
- Ministry admin support



In class and out, our entire community participates in Christian education.



Youth and children hold a special place in our hearts, our worship, and our life together.

Potluck dinners and other all-church events strengthen the bonds among our family of faith.



christian education & pastoral care



27.9%

growing in faith

building for ministry

\$94,964

Our building remains a focal point for much of our ministry, and we're privileged to have begun an expansion project that will serve the needs of our growing community of faith. In addition to housing our regular Sunday worship, our building supports meetings that further the work of our church and our commitments, serves as a host to community groups seeking a home for their ministries of support and recovery, and gives the homeless a periodic respite from the pain of life on the street. In addition to heating, cooling and maintaining our building and grounds, we will be making higher interest payments on our increased debt in 2009, but look forward to reducing the debt on our building loans as capital campaign pledge commitments are met.

We equip and maintain our building to serve a variety of ministries —

- Sunday services
- Spiritual Formation
- Room in the Inn
- Choir rehearsal
- PRIZM
- Women Connecting For Justice
- Ministry admin support





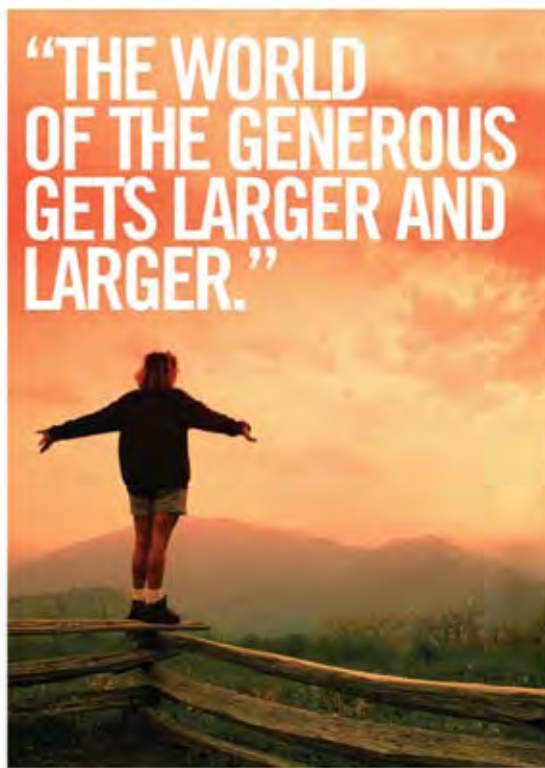
On July 13, 2008, Holy Covenant broke ground for the new wing of our building, which will include additional Sunday School and meeting space, a music rehearsal room, storage and more.

building & grounds



33.5%

building for ministry



Holy Covenant United Church of Christ

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