

Zion United Church of Christ's 2021 Stewardship Campaign



Dear Zionees,

What is the most important thing we can do right now to build community and move forward? What is needed in order for us to be a church that is ready, willing, and able to take the next steps in doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God?

If we are going to be good stewards of all the energy, momentum, ideas, and growth that we are experiencing right now, the most important thing we can do is to inspire, equip, and empower all members of Zion to fulfill their membership vows. (Not a member yet? You can join in November!)

Our stewardship campaign this fall is about way more than money. It's about generosity; not just as individuals, but as a congregation. So really, it's about "generUSity." No one can do everything, and in a church especially, no one should do everything. Instead everyone can do something. Not just anything, but the something(s) that make you feel alive. In this packet you'll find resources to help you consider how God is calling you and your family to feel alive at Zion in the coming year.

I look forward to seeing what God has in store for each of us and all of us!

Pastor Beth Gedert



Membership Vows:

I will maintain healthy relationships in the body of Christ
at Zion United Church of Christ by ...

1. Faithfully attending services of worship.

I will make our gatherings a priority in my life and the life of my family because I know that my presence, my spirit, and my energy make a difference not only for me but also for other people when we worship.

2. Regularly contributing to the financial support of Zion and our mission.

I will fight my fear of scarcity by investing in our life together on at least a monthly basis because I trust that God will do more with my generosity than I can do by holding back.

3. Consistently participating in Zion's life and work.

I will find my niche in one of our 6 Spheres of Service because I have skills that our congregation needs in order to keep growing.

4. Joyfully evidencing a Christian lifestyle.

I will bear witness to my faith in Christ by the way I live each day because our culture needs to see a version of Christianity that is progressive, inclusive, humble, bold, and loving.

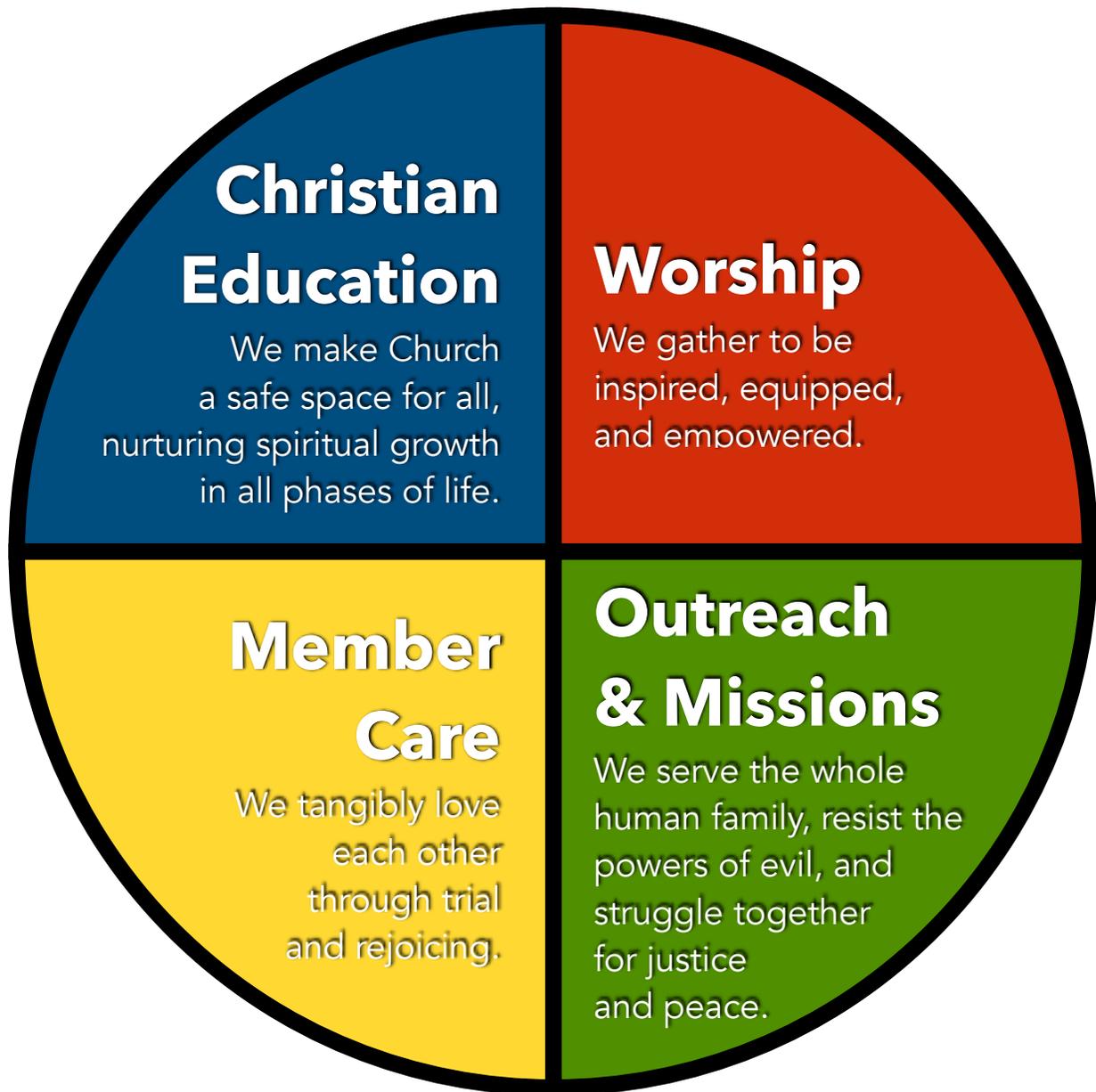
When we keep these vows, we build a church that is
ready, willing, and able to do justice, to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with our God.

The 6 Spheres of Service at Zion:



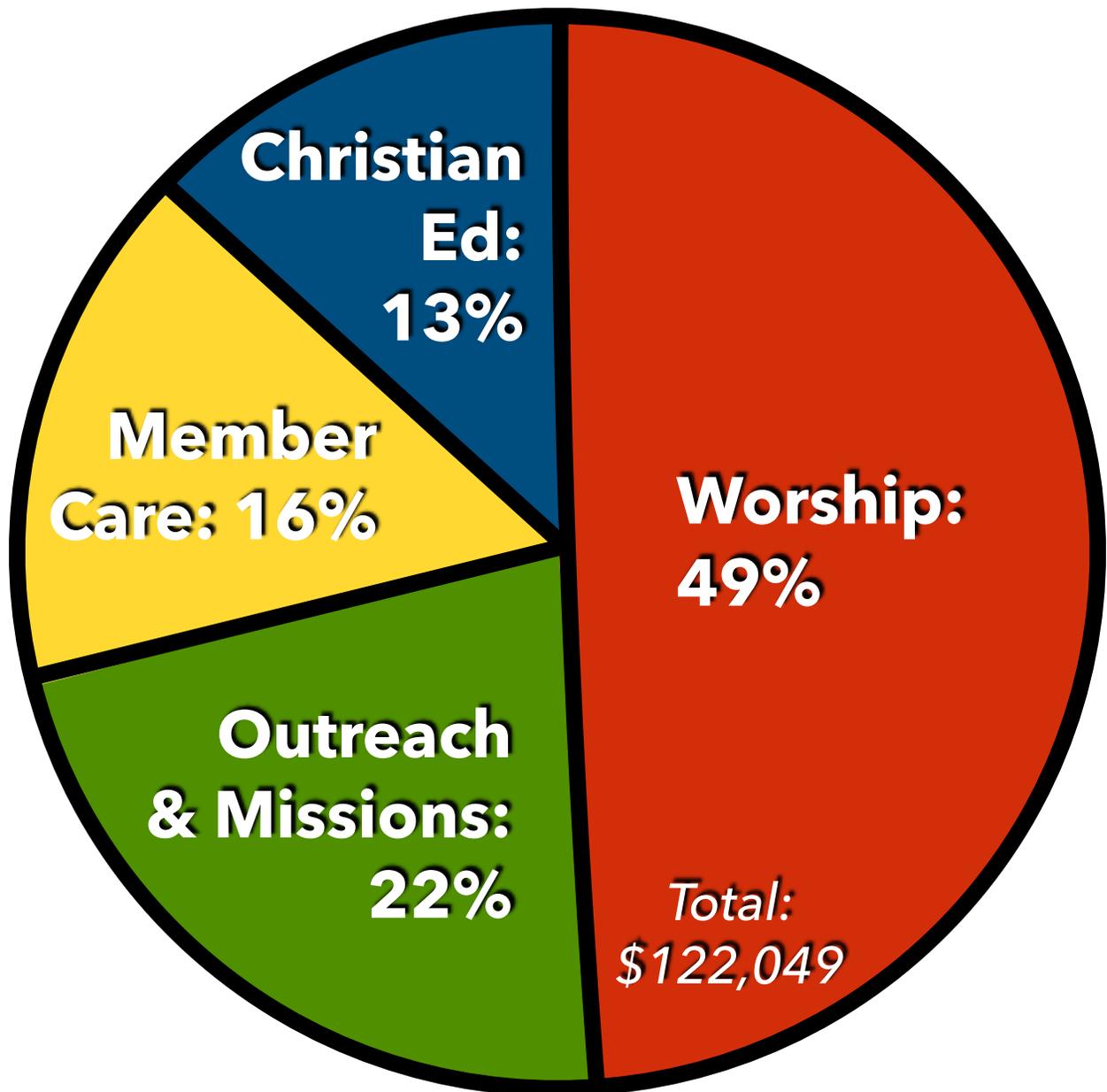
This is what we are doing as individuals, the many different opportunities available for you to use your skills to accomplish the 4 Core Ministries of our congregation (see next page).

Zion's 4 Core Ministries:



This is what we are all doing together.
Everything we do fits into one of these 4 Core Ministries.
These 4 Core Ministries are also four of our 6 Spheres of Service,
and are supported by the other two Spheres of Service:
business & finance and facilities.

Our 2022 Budget Spending Priorities:



Every expense line item in our proposed 2022 budget has been allocated to one of our 4 Core Ministries, including proportioning our staff time. This puts individual line items in context. We aren't just spending money on "Postage"—those stamps are used to mail thank you cards, sympathy cards, notes to shut-ins. Every expense has a purpose larger than itself.

Zion's 2022 Budget Process:

In the late summer, leaders began to submit to the budget team their spending plans for 2022. The budget team has created a budget draft that has been provisionally approved by Council. This budget draft is a stretch for us, both in income and in spending. But we believe this is how God is leading our congregation to move forward. After we receive your commitments, Council will approve a final draft of the budget, which will be submitted to the congregation in November for your questions and feedback. Church members will vote on the budget at a meeting on December 5.

2022 Proposed Budget Highlights:

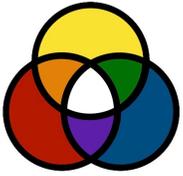
- Anticipated offering income of \$95,000 is based on a return to average of 2019 and 2020 giving.
- Pastor compensation is increased to 100% of UCC Heartland Conference guidelines (adjusted for 3/4 part-time), totaling \$35,910 (plus 75% of family health insurance and a 6% retirement contribution).
- Music Director compensation is increased 4% to \$13,541.
- Missions/Outreach includes \$1,200 for Zion ministry activities and \$3,000 for the Habitat Apostles' Build, plus missions giving for UCC special offerings and other campaigns, totaling \$7,150.

Top 5 Costs:

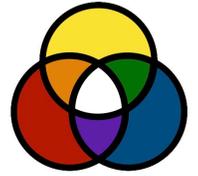
(excludes staff compensation and outreach & missions plans)

Property & Liability Insurance \$7,733
Building Maintenance & Elevator \$5,820
Custodial Services \$5,200
Outdoor Maintenance \$4,305
Electricity \$3,144

My/Our Commitment for 2022:



With the help of God, and with joyful anticipation of what God will do in each of us and through all of us, I/we recommit to Zion UCC's membership vows.



Name/s: _____

1. I will make **faithfully attending services of worship** a priority in my life and the life of my family because I know that my presence, my spirit, and my energy make a difference not only for me but also for other people when we gather together.

2. I will fight my fear of scarcity by **regularly contributing to the financial support of Zion and our mission** because I trust that God will do more with my generosity than I can do by holding back.

My/Our monthly commitment for 2022 is: \$ _____
e.g. \$30,000 income with 5% tithe is \$1,500 or \$125/mo.; 10% is \$3,000 or \$250/mo.

3. I will find my niche in one of our 6 Spheres of Service, **consistently participating in Zion's life and work**, because I have skills that our congregation needs in order to keep growing.

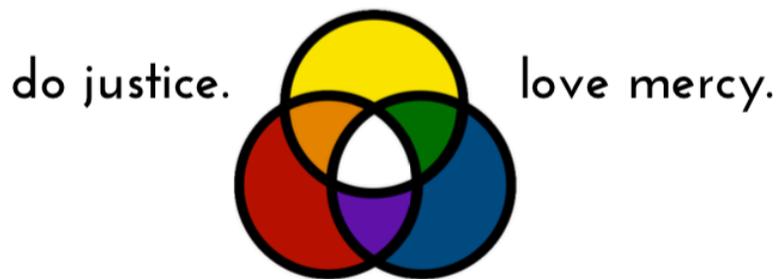
*I am / We are interested in exploring these spheres of service: (circle)
Worship / Christian Ed / Outreach & Missions / Member Care / Facilities / Business & Finance*

4. I will bear witness to my faith in Christ by **joyfully evidencing a Christian lifestyle**, because our culture needs to see a version of Christianity that is progressive, inclusive, humble, bold, and loving.

Signature/s: _____

The Mission of Zion United Church of Christ:

walk humbly.



When we do this, we will find lasting joy
and participate in God's plan to heal the world.

Our Open and Affirming Covenant:

As the people of God who gather at Zion United Church of Christ,
we make a solemn covenant with one another:

We will extravagantly welcome everyone who enters here.

We welcome every race. We welcome every gender.

We welcome every age. We welcome every expression of faith.

We welcome every marital status. We welcome every sexual orientation.

We welcome every political party. We welcome every type of body.

We will not be divided by social issues.

We will not judge as the world does: by health, wealth, or skills.

We will not allow our past to define our future.

We will transcend all labels.

We will always seek to affirm one another with loving hearts and open minds.

We will follow in the way of Christ Jesus, loving and being loved by both
God and neighbor, with the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.

We will love one another for exactly who we are.

We promise that whoever we are and wherever we are on life's journey,
we will extravagantly welcome everyone who enters here.