

Damascus United Methodist Church

Serving Damascus Faithfully Since 1822

Rooted in faith, growing in love, branching out into God's world

2024 Narrative Budget

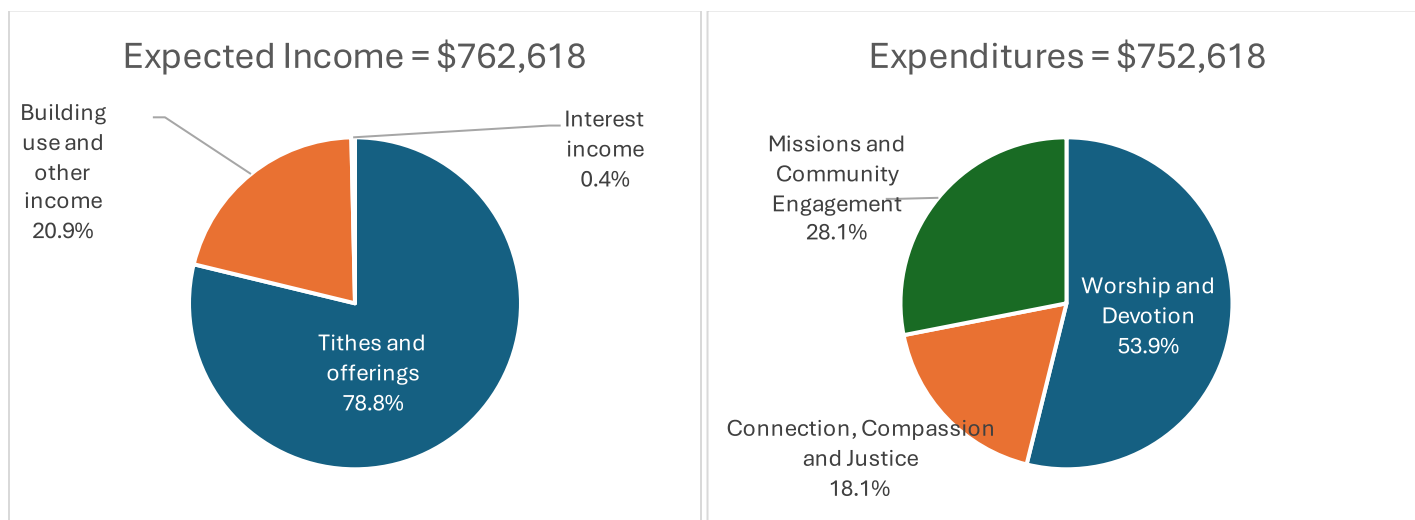
This year DUMC is joining many other churches in presenting its financial plans for the current year in the form of a narrative budget. A narrative budget is a story-focused way to demonstrate how funds will be used to accomplish our Church's mission.

A narrative budget organizes all our planned expenditures around our key ministry categories. To identify those key ministry categories, we reference the Vision Statement adopted by DUMC last year:

- Rooted in Faith => Worship and Devotion
- Growing in Love => Connection, Compassion and Justice
- Branching out into God's World => Missions and Community Engagement

The advantage of a narrative budget is that it reflects how we prioritize the direction of our Church's resources and energies. Expenditures such as administration, building and grounds and personnel are not listed as separate categories. Rather, their costs are integrated into the mission and ministry categories they support.

A traditional line-item budget remains a valuable accounting tool, and we will preserve it for our staff to manage and record expenses. However, we hope that presenting our plan in the form of narrative budget gives you better insight into how we are attempting to live out our mission as a church.





Expected Income \$762,618: Tithes and offerings are by far the most significant source of income for DUMC representing over 78% of the Church's total budgeted income in 2024. That underscores the importance of generosity to the vitality of the Church. Other income sources include donations from a portion of the profits generated by the Harwood House Thrift Shop and rental income from individuals and groups using the Church's facilities for meetings and other events. In 2024, the Pleasant Plains Preschool also made a special non-recurring contribution to the Church's operating fund.

Expenditures



Worship and Devotion: \$405,388 (53.9%): Nurturing the faith journeys of our congregation members and guests is the root of the Church's vision statement. Key to this mission are our inspirational worship services and an array of Christian Education offerings. Worship services are made all the more beautiful and inspiring by our renown music department and priceless organ. Christian education is offered through Sunday School classes available for children, youth and adults along with Bible and book studies.



Connection, Compassion and Justice: \$135,942 (18.1%): When you are a member or guest of DUMC, you are part of a Church family--a family that seeks to share in the celebration of joys and to lift each other up in times of suffering. The church's clergy are available for hospital, home or office visits and also serve to coach and equip congregation members in discipleship. Facilities are available to support congregational ministries such as Stephen Ministries, the providing of funeral meals, prayer shawls and card ministry.



Missions and Community Engagement: \$211,288 (28.1%): DUMC seeks to follow the example that Jesus set for us all and share our blessings with those in need beyond the walls of our Church and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others. Our Pleasant Plains Preschool and our summer VBS programs are open to all and introduce children to Christian concepts. Harwood House uses its profits to benefit over two dozen local charities. The Church supports ministries to feed, shelter and provide other help to those in need. Overseas missions in Kenya and Nicaragua are funded with funds both in the operating fund and special fundraising efforts.