2026-2027 Grace Lutheran Church Budget

	LAST YEAR (Actuals)			THIS YEAR (Projected)			NEXT YEAR	
	2024-2025 Actuals	**2024-2025 Budget**	***2024-2025 Actuals to Budget***	**2025-2026 Projected**	**2025-2026 Budget**	***2025-2026 Projected to Budget***	***2026-2027 Proposed Budget***	
Revenues								
Tithes and Offerings								
015201 - General Fund Offering	$ 358,463.35	$ 380,000.00	*$ (21,536.65)*	$ 375,000.00	$ 400,000.00	*$ (25,000.00)*	$ 420,000.00	[1]
015205 - NC & ELCA Synod Income	$ 16,625.50	$ 15,000.00	*$ 1,625.50*	$ 16,500.00	$ 16,500.00	*$ -*	$ 16,500.00	
Total Tithes and Offerings	$ 375,088.85	$ 395,000.00	*$ (19,911.15)*	$ 391,500.00	$ 416,500.00	*$ (25,000.00)*	$ 436,500.00	
Rental Incomes								
015307 - Property Rental Income	$ 13,960.00	$ 14,000.00	*$ (40.00)*	$ 9,610.00	$ 14,000.00	*$ (4,390.00)*	$ -	[2]
015308 - Parking Rental Income	$ 64,630.00	$ 70,000.00	*$ (5,370.00)*	$ 65,000.00	$ 65,000.00	*$ -*	$ 65,000.00	[3]
Total Rental Incomes	$ 78,590.00	$ 84,000.00	*$ (5,410.00)*	$ 74,610.00	$ 79,000.00	*$ (4,390.00)*	$ 65,000.00	
Miscellaneous Income								
015301 - Interest/Dividends	$ 6,286.83	$ -	*$ 6,286.83*	$ 3,750.00	$ -	*$ 3,750.00*	$ -	
015305 - Jeffcoat-Proctor Offset	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00	*$ -*	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00	*$ -*	$ 6,000.00	
015302 - Miscellaneous Donations	$ 1,300.00	$ -	*$ 1,300.00*	$ 1,850.00	$ -	*$ 1,850.00*	$ -	
Total Miscellaneous Income	$ 13,586.83	$ 6,000.00	*$ 7,586.83*	$ 11,600.00	$ 6,000.00	*$ 5,600.00*	$ 6,000.00	
Total Revenues	**$ 467,265.68**	**$ 485,000.00**	*$ (17,734.32)*	**$ 477,710.00**	**$ 501,500.00**	*$ (23,790.00)*	$ 507,500.00	
Expenses								
LEARNING Ministry								
Youth & Family	$ 3,293.10	$ 4,000.00	*$ (706.90)*	$ 5,107.94	$ 4,000.00	*$ 1,107.94*	$ 4,000.00	
Christian Education	$ 4,045.90	$ 2,000.00	*$ 2,045.90*	$ 2,097.15	$ 3,500.00	*$ (1,402.85)*	$ 2,750.00	
Intern	$ 12,946.03	$ 25,900.00	*$ (12,953.97)*	$ 6,205.57	$ 25,900.00	*$ (19,694.43)*	$ -	[4]
Stewardship	$ -	$ 500.00	*$ (500.00)*	$ -	$ 500.00	*$ (500.00)*	$ 500.00	
Total LEARNING	$ 20,285.03	$ 32,400.00	*$ (12,114.97)*	$ 13,410.66	$ 33,900.00	*$ (20,489.34)*	$ 7,250.00	
SERVING Ministry								
Care Ministry	$ -	$ 400.00	*$ (400.00)*	$ -	$ 400.00	*$ (400.00)*	$ 400.00	
Community Benevolences	$ -	$ -	*$ -*	$ 50.00	$ -	*$ 50.00*	$ -	
North Carolina Benevolences	$ 8,600.00	$ 12,000.00	*$ (3,400.00)*	$ 15,000.00	$ 15,000.00	*$ -*	$ 17,000.00	[5]
Total SERVING	$ 8,600.00	$ 12,400.00	*$ (3,800.00)*	$ 15,050.00	$ 15,400.00	*$ (350.00)*	$ 17,400.00	
WORSHIPING Ministry								
Worship & Music	$ 5,925.13	$ 9,400.00	*$ (3,474.87)*	$ 5,790.00	$ 10,200.00	*$ (4,410.00)*	$ 6,250.00	[6]
Total WORSHIPING	$ 5,925.13	$ 9,400.00	*$ (3,474.87)*	$ 5,790.00	$ 10,200.00	*$ (4,410.00)*	$ 6,250.00	
WELCOMING Ministry								
Campus Ministry	$ 3,891.70	$ 3,500.00	*$ 391.70*	$ 4,260.22	$ 4,000.00	*$ 260.22*	$ 4,500.00	
Evangelism (Hospitality)	$ 325.00	$ 950.00	*$ (625.00)*	$ 990.94	$ 1,125.00	*$ (134.06)*	$ 1,125.00	
Fellowship	$ 654.08	$ 1,500.00	*$ (845.92)*	$ 606.43	$ 1,500.00	*$ (893.57)*	$ 1,000.00	
Total WELCOMING	$ 4,870.78	$ 5,950.00	*$ (1,079.22)*	$ 5,857.59	$ 6,625.00	*$ (767.41)*	$ 6,625.00	
SUPPORTING Ministry - Property/Office								
Property General	$ 5,166.61	$ 5,500.00	*$ (333.39)*	$ 4,875.00	$ 5,500.00	*$ (625.00)*	$ 5,500.00	
Church	$ 27,958.44	$ 27,250.00	*$ 708.44*	$ 31,053.14	$ 28,500.00	*$ 2,553.14*	$ 29,300.00	
Office Expense	$ 36,610.69	$ 37,250.00	*$ (639.31)*	$ 35,171.51	$ 39,200.00	*$ (4,028.49)*	$ 37,300.00	
Grace Place	$ 4,997.86	$ 4,800.00	*$ 197.86*	$ 4,019.00	$ 6,500.00	*$ (2,481.00)*	$ 6,025.00	
Councill House	$ 6,676.08	$ 7,350.00	*$ (673.92)*	$ 8,333.20	$ 9,000.00	*$ (666.80)*	$ 8,000.00	
Wilkes County Property	$ 497.00	$ 5,000.00	*$ (4,503.00)*	$ 201.00	$ -	*$ 201.00*	$ -	
Total SUPPORTING - Property/Office	$ 81,906.68	$ 87,150.00	*$ (5,243.32)*	$ 83,652.85	$ 88,700.00	*$ (5,047.15)*	$ 86,125.00	
SUPPORTING Ministry - Personnel								[7]
Senior Pastor	$ 84,000.00	$ 84,000.00	$ -	$ 85,900.00	$ 85,900.00	$ -	$ 87,618.00	
Senior Pastor Pension/Insurance	$ 26,850.00	$ 27,000.00	$ (150.00)	$ 26,862.50	$ 28,700.00	$ 1,837.50	$ 29,274.00	
Campus Minister	$ 30,000.00	$ 30,000.00	$ -	$ 30,750.00	$ 30,750.00	$ -	$ 31,365.00	
Campus Minister Pension/Insurance	$ 14,910.00	$ 14,550.00	$ 360.00	$ 15,938.75	$ 15,938.75	$ -	$ 16,257.53	
Director of Congregational Life	$ 12,000.00	$ 12,000.00	*$ -*	$ 12,300.00	$ 12,300.00	*$ -*	$ 35,000.00	[8]
Director of Congregational Life Penion/Insurance							$ 14,000.00	
Worship and Music Staff	$ 45,555.92	$ 45,750.00	*$ (194.08)*	$ 47,006.25	$ 47,256.25	*$ (250.00)*	$ 49,181.38	
Office Staff	$ 104,440.11	$ 113,200.00	*$ (8,759.89)*	$ 115,657.50	$ 116,847.50	*$ (1,190.00)*	$ 119,164.45	
Other Personnel	$ 3,125.00	$ 5,500.00	*$ (2,375.00)*	$ 7,750.00	$ 6,500.00	*$ 1,250.00*	$ 7,700.00	
Other Personnel Expenses (e.g. - FICA, etc.)	$ 22,327.16	$ 26,300.00	*$ (3,972.84)*	$ 21,188.00	$ 26,500.00	*$ (5,312.00)*	$ 30,750.00	
Total SUPPORTING - Personnel	$ 343,208.19	$ 358,300.00	*$ (15,091.81)*	$ 363,353.00	$ 370,692.50	*$ (7,339.50)*	$ 420,310.35	
Total Expenses	**$ 464,795.81**	**$ 505,600.00**	*$ (40,804.19)*	**$ 487,114.10**	**$ 525,517.50**	*$ (38,403.40)*	$ 543,960.35	
Net Total	**$ 2,469.87**	**$ (20,600.00)**	*$ 23,069.87*	**$ (9,404.10)**	**$ (24,017.50)**	*$ 14,613.40*	$ (36,460.35)	[9]

2025-2026 Grace Lutheran Budget Narrative

CONTINUED STRONG GIVING PATTERNS

- We continue to see strong General Fund giving patterns. We **project a 5% increase in our General Fund Giving** over last year! Over the last 4 years, giving has increased an average 7.2% per year!
- Therefore, even though we are projecting giving to be about $25,000 behind our budget for the current year, we feel confident that the congregation has the momentum and ability to step up to answer the call for next year as we continue to expand our ministry.
- We are challenging the congregation to commit to giving **$420,000 next year,** an increase in budgeted giving of 5%.

EXPANDING MINISTRY

- **New Staff Member– New Energy!** While we have had some transition on the staff, the Council feels confident that we have a renewed energy with the addition of the new Director of Congregational Life. This full-time position is a big step forward in faith for our congregation! We expect to see continued growth in our Youth and Family Ministries along with greater engagement across all ages in the congregation.
- **Cost of Living Adjustment for Staff of 2% is included in this budget.** We believe that we have an amazing Grace staff who serve our congregation faithfully!

A BIG BOOST!

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- $400,000 of this was set up as the **Moretz endowment** which should begin providing grants in 2027!
- $250,000 was earmarked as a matching gift to spark the **Grace for Generations** Capital Campaign. We have already given almost $300,000 toward our $500,000 campaign goal. With these gifts, we have already funded a new roof and gutters, the congregational portion of expanding the back parking lot, and new HVAC for the Councill House. Remaining projects include, updating the playground, fully renovating the Grace Place, finishing the Councill House updates, and building a prudent operational cash reserve.

THE MOMENTUM CONTINUES

The Council is excited about the ministries that are returning, being reimagined, and for all the ways that God is using our congregation to spread the good news of God's unconditional love! As we look toward 2027, we feel like the congregation is positioning itself for even more amazing ministry in the future

Your Council is excited to continue to expand our mission to

Share God's love so that all are served and supported.

Budget Notes:

[1] This budget includes a significant increase in General Fund giving. This will be a challenge to the congregation.
[2] With renovations to the Grace Place scheduled for this year, we will not receive any rental offset.
[3] The increased income from the parking lot expansions will be utilized for the first three years to offset a portion of the cost.
[4] This budget does not include money for a Seminary Intern.
[5] The NC Synod requests that congregations tithe 10% of their general fund offerings to Mission Support. This budget reflects a steady increase as we work to achieve this percentage.
[6] This decline is reflective of funding the 2 Choral Scholars from restricted funds.
[7] This budget includes a 2% raise across the board for all staff.
[8] These are new line items associated with the new Director of Congregational Life.
[9] This budget will present a bigger challenge than we have taken on in many years – it will rely on continued generosity of the congregation throughout the year, but also represents the congregation stepping forward in faith to answer the call to share God's love so that all are served and supported.