

# Going Deeper

— at First Pres —

## Dear Friends,

The change in seasons is upon us. School is back in session. Worship is finally in person. The church is in a period of rebuilding, renewing, and re-imagining where God is calling us to go deeper. Whether it is in outreach and missions, programs and classes, or worship and welcome, First Pres is in the midst of an exciting and hopeful time of leaning into what it means to be the church for such a time as this.

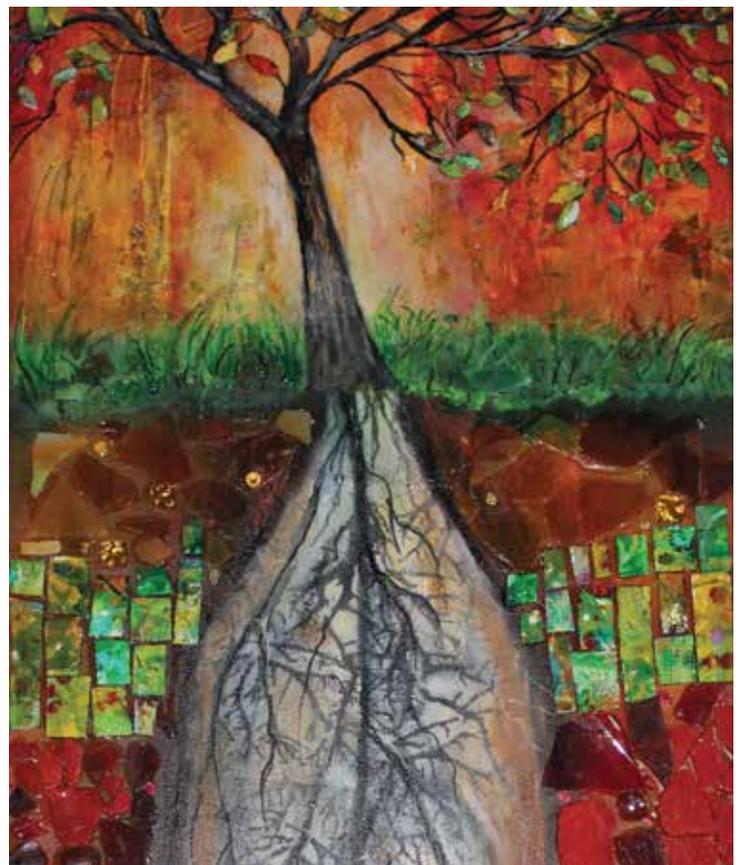
*Where is God calling you to go deeper?*

This fall, we invite you to ponder that holy question as we launch our 2022 Stewardship Campaign Going Deeper and discern how we can be even more faithful, more impactful, and more committed as a church.

Last year, 42% of our giving households pledged more than \$2.5 million which supported 75% of our 2021 General Fund giving target. Your pledges not only enabled us to continue our vital ministries throughout the pandemic, but they have also put us in a stronger financial position than we have been in over a decade.

### LET'S KEEP GOING!

Next year, your pledges will make it possible for us to go deeper in ways that we never have before. We hope you will pray about going deeper in joy and generosity in 2022 and investing in the lifegiving ministries of this church.



"Deep Roots" by artist Terri Chaney.

With gratitude,  
Caroline Sallee, Campaign Co-chair  
Jamie McClave, Campaign Co-chair  
and the First Pres Stewardship Committee

# Where Your Giving Goes

**250** people participated in 25 Community Groups during Lent to go deeper in conversation and connection.

**650+** across the country worship with us on an average Sunday in person and online in 2021.

Technology equipment and computer purchases support staff work and livestream for worship and other events.

**420** people attended #2021GCC, our annual Global Church Conference, on Zoom.

**960+** bags of groceries bundled & handed out through the Mobile Food Pantry program with partners CityTeam & Alameda County Food Bank to our neighbors in need.

**140** volunteer hours per month given to five different First Pres ministries by University students living in the 242 house.

**40** youth engaged in our middle school and high school Youth Ministry since we restarted in person in August.

**50,000+** First Pres YouTube channel views in the past year—from worship services, to classes and conferences, to musical performances, and more.

**11** neighborhood parishes gathered across the Bay Area to build and deepen connections, increase awareness of needs, and provide care throughout our congregation and our communities.

Creative ways to celebrate those who have passed via memorials and to create and share choral music during the pandemic.

**70+** first time attendees were greeted and welcomed by our brand new Sunday Morning Welcome team in the last three months.

**4000+** “to-go” meals provided through Street Meal to those who are food insecure, served by a steady crew of First Pres volunteers.

**120+** virtual resources are available—videos produced specifically for children learning about God’s love and the Christian Faith.

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**THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, YOUR FAITHFUL GENEROSITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO OUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY—HERE ARE JUST A FEW EXAMPLES!**

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# The General Fund Budget

## 47% OPERATIONS & FACILITIES

Funds are used to support the church including Berkeley Christian Counselors and Cornerstone Children's Center, essential building maintenance, utilities, mortgage payments, insurance, tax assessments, and other administrative costs.\*

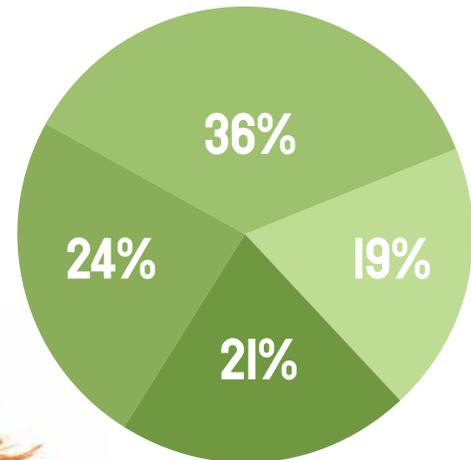
## THE REMAINING BUDGET IS ALLOCATED\* AS FOLLOWS:

**21%** Christian Formation (Adults, Youth, Children)

**24%** Worship and Communications

**36%** Mission Outreach & University/Young Adults

**19%** Community Care



\*including personnel expenses

**FOR MORE INFORMATION &  
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FIRST PRES,  
VISIT [FPCBERKELEY.ORG](http://FPCBERKELEY.ORG)**

## 2022 General Fund Priorities

### MINISTRY BUDGETS

Increasing outreach in ministries and in the community as we relaunch in-person programs.

### STAFFING

Living in to our staffing plan with commensurate compensation and benefits, with the potential to welcome a new Associate Pastor for Mission.

### DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

Continuing to care for our aging buildings and equipment on campus to use for our ministries and community facilities renters.

### SPECIAL CAMPAIGN IN 2022

The anonymous \$5 million gift to First Pres in 2019 significantly reduced our mortgage debt and annual mortgage payments. Along with your generosity, this gift brought us closer to the dream of our church becoming debt free. Let's make this dream come true in 2022! More information will be shared in the coming months. We hope everyone will contribute, so we can address our debt as a whole church family—all together—shifting the funds used for our debt payments to making investments in our ministries.

# Commitment Sunday is November 21, 2021

Join us at 10 am during our in person worship service, as we will have a pledging procession and will also receive pledges online.

Take your generosity and turn it in to a promise. Pray about your 2022 financial pledge & giving. Are you being called to increase your support for First Pres by 10%?

## IN PERSON

Bring your pledge card on Sunday morning.

## ONLINE

Pledge online by visiting [fpcberkeley.org/give-stewardship](https://fpcberkeley.org/give-stewardship) or by scanning the QR code.

## BY MAIL

Mail a pledge card to: 2407 Dana St. Berkeley, CA 94704.

## BY PHONE

Call Kristen Engle in the Business Office at 510-280-6138.



*Belonging in Christ. Engaging the World*

**WE ARE CALLED BY GOD  
TRANSFORMED BY GRACE  
STRENGTHENED IN COMMUNITY  
CONFIDENT THAT CHRIST IS MAKING ALL THINGS NEW**

**NOW GO:  
LOVE CONCRETELY, EVEN WHEN IT'S RISKY  
SERVE GENEROUSLY, WHOEVER HAS NEED  
AND PURSUE GOD'S RESTORING JUSTICE.**



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