



We Gather
TOGETHER

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2023 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

“ But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

-Ephesians 4:15-16

Dear Friends of LOPC,

A fresh spirit is blowing through the church these days. Can you feel it? Look at all the new faces coming to LOPC to worship, grow, and serve. Can you see them? Familiar faces are a comforting and a beloved sight to see too! The past two years have restricted our ability to come together. Now that is changing, and I am touched by those who greet me on campus each week with a big smile and declaration of how good it is to be back together again. If you have not been able to worship in person, I know that you will be blessed when that time comes. Until then, we can continue to gather both in person and online!

Lest we should think that gathering together is just for our spiritual health and well-being, the Scriptures remind us that we gather as church to do good in the world, give generously of our time, use our talent and treasure to serve those in need, and glorify God through our lives and actions. We thank God for our blessings, but always with the mindset that we are blessed to be a blessing to others. When we gather like that, anything is possible!



This year especially, I’d like you to consider your pledge (estimate of giving) to LOPC for the coming year as an expression of love. As Paul reminds us in the passage above, the best way to grow in Christ is to grow together so that we can bear love most effectively. You are important in that ministry, and whatever you give will make a difference, build up the body, and change your world for the better.

Thank you for your pledge of support,

Peter Whitelock



We gather together for
GOOD

We feel blessed that we have been able to serve in a myriad of volunteer projects and programs offered through LOPC. There is a fundamental change when you work with a team that neither speaks your language, nor shares your culture - you leave feeling blessed when the common denominator is God and the catalyst is a Christian community. As we volunteer, we continue to look for equitable pathways of access. We are so grateful for our pastors, past and present. They answered the call to share God's love and compassion with our congregation. Their discerning leadership continues to encourage us to pursue new avenues of service.

- Mary Kay Atherton



We gather together for
GIVING

Supporting the ministry at LOPC has been very important to me and my family over the years. This church has provided a place for the Coe family to gather together to worship, to learn, to praise, and to give thanks to God and to this ministry. The care and support the church provides, especially during difficult times, has been a blessing. LOPC's ministry has been there for me as my life has evolved following the passing of my wife of 46 years. During Jan's illness we were supported and loved by LOPC with prayer, online services, and pastoral visits. I now find myself with a newfound faith and desire to Gather Together to serve the Lord and LOPC's ministry.

- Alan Coe



We gather together for
GOD'S GLORY

For me, attending worship services at LOPC is a meditative opportunity to think about how my faith connects to my actions during the week. The perspective offered at LOPC comes from a place of honesty and is connected to real life experiences of the pastors. I hope that worship services at LOPC will continue to help the congregation grow in their thinking about issues relevant to today from a faith perspective, and from the perspective that we are all growing and learning together.

- Julie Atkinson



YOUR GIVING HELPS US DO GREAT THINGS!



Mission

LOPC committed over \$350,000 to our mission partners in 2022. Your giving allowed us to do even more – like raise \$100,000 to support Ukrainian refugees and purchase a much-needed handicap accessible van for Trinity Center.



Connection & Spiritual Growth

Now more than ever people need healthy connections to grow faithfully and find support. Over the past year, LOPC's small group ministry has increased dramatically, with more people signing up each month.



Seniors

Engaging educational programs, fellowship opportunities, elder care, and dementia support all provide encouragement and resources for older adults in our community. We provide these services to any who have need.



Racial Equity & Engagement

LOPC is committed to working towards justice and equity for all people. We partner with local experts to develop programming and dialogue to better our world. Our leadership is working now on new advocacy and inclusion initiatives this fall.



Children, Youth, & Families

LOPC is a place that welcomes every family, no matter what challenges they might be facing. Mental health support is a priority these days, leading us to provide expert resources to our community, like Soul Shop - a program addressing suicide prevention.



Worship

Life can be hard, but God is good! Worship is our place to come together - in person or online - to glorify God, find our center of grace, and prepare for the week ahead. Thanks to you, we can reach even more people.



Special Needs Ministry

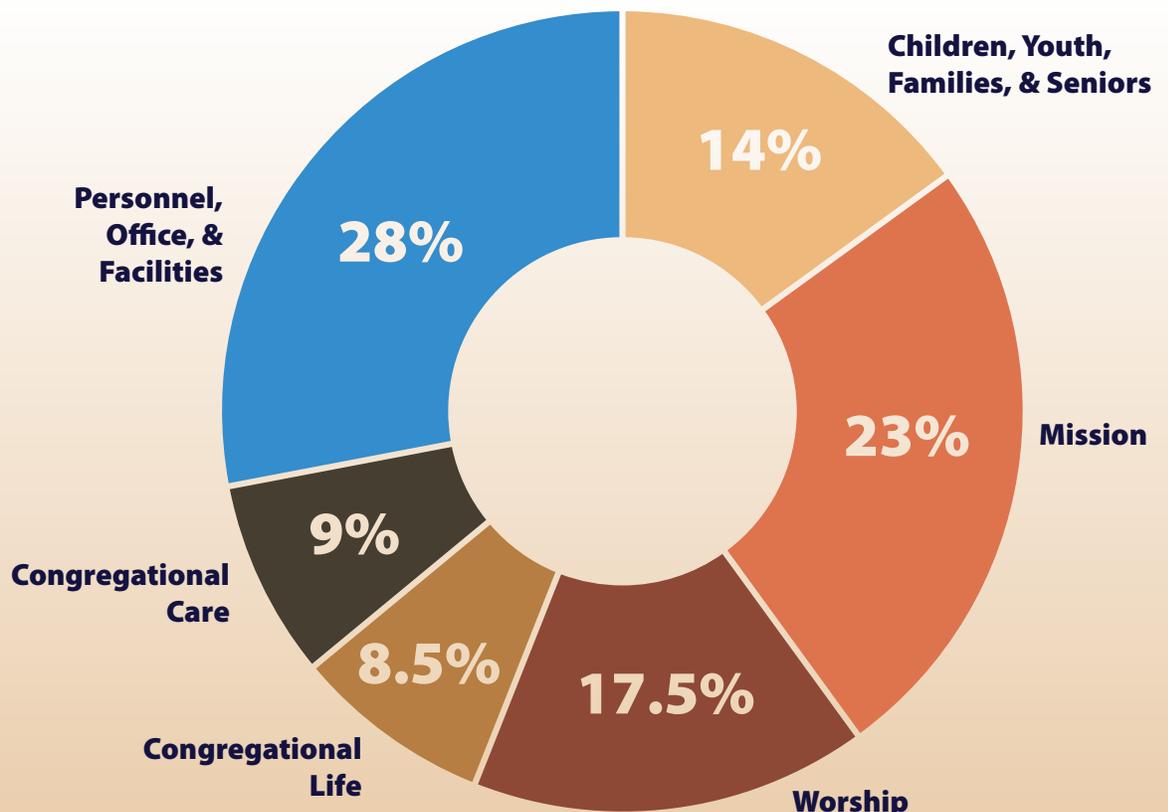
Did you know that LOPC actively supports families with special needs? This fall, we launched Friendship Circles - a program that provides loving relationships for special needs youth and their families.

WHAT DOES GIVING LOOK LIKE AT LOPC?

For 2022, 461 households pledged \$2,248,857

	Number of Households Pledging	Percent Pledging	Dollars Pledged	Percent of Pledged Dollars
\$1 - \$500	31	6.72 %	\$8,756	0.39 %
\$501 - \$1,500	134	29.07 %	\$139,130	6.19 %
\$1,501 - \$3,000	110	23.86 %	\$256,552	11.41 %
\$3,001-\$6,000	95	20.61 %	\$434,268	19.31 %
\$6,001 - \$10,000	44	9.54 %	\$36,7965	16.36 %
\$10,001-\$25,000	39	8.46 %	\$675,101	30.02 %
\$25,001-\$120,000	8	1.74 %	\$367,085	16.32 %

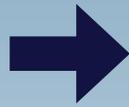
2021 Allocated Ministry Spending



THREE WORDS TO CONSIDER WHEN DISCERNING YOUR PLEDGE

REFLECT

on how we can meet the ongoing challenges brought on by the pandemic.



Rising rates of depression and anxiety among youth, general malaise from ongoing stresses for adults, and increased needs that our mission partners are facing.

RESPOND

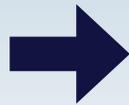
to the recent rise in **INFLATION**.



When it comes to the church, we don't have a "cost of living" escalator which automatically adjusts your pledge to reduce the impact of inflation. It's something we all need to factor in, or the church loses financial strength. **Since 2015, LOPC pledging has grown by over 6%, which is wonderful, but inflation during that time has increased over 17%. Please factor inflation in your giving this year.**

RECAST

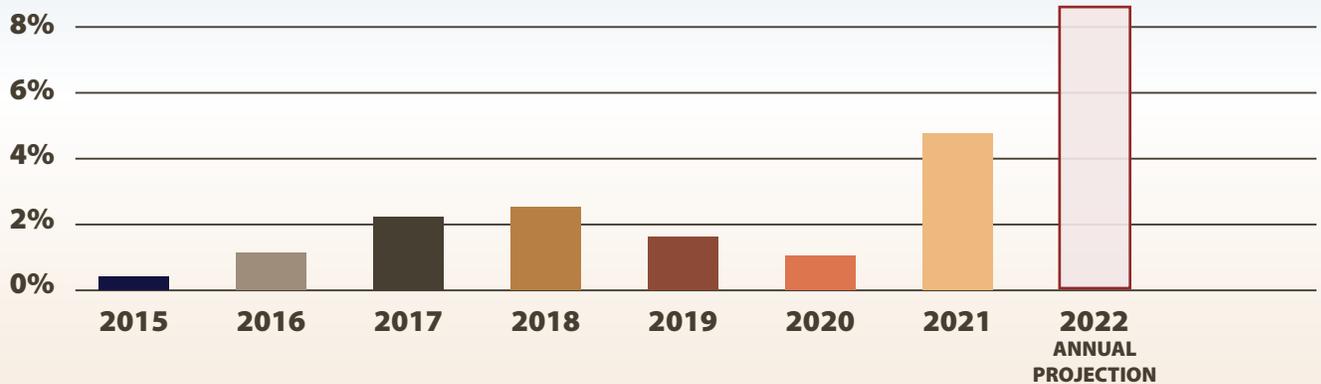
our vision to meet the new challenges and needs of our community.



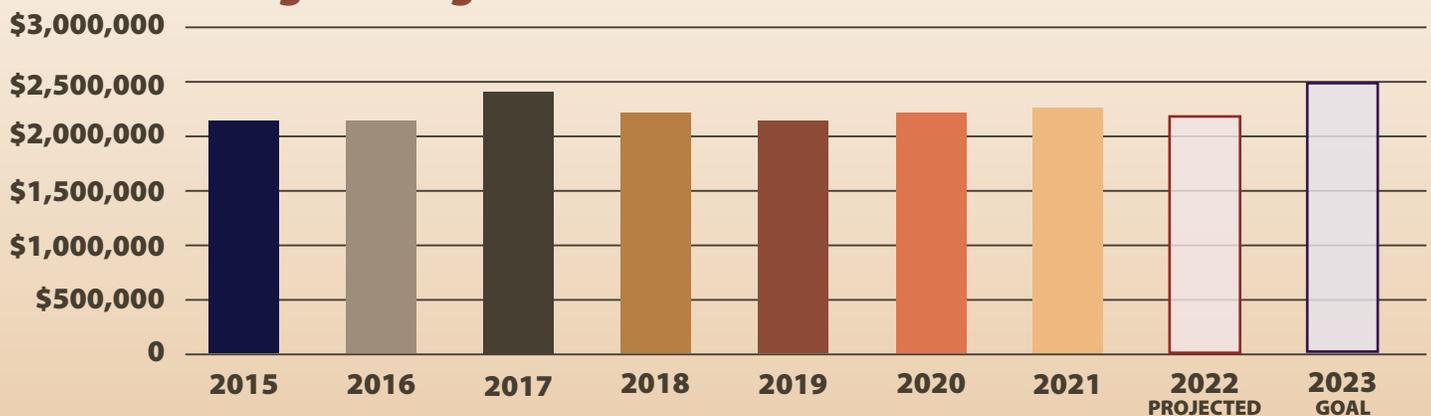
Generous giving to the church allows us to be creative in finding new ways to serve our congregation and community. Our ministry is evolving and is now more engaged in serving the community and building new relationships and programs.

2015 - 2022 Annualized Inflation Rate

CPI - U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Pledge Giving 2015 - 2023





**LAFAYETTE-ORINDA
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
49 Knox Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAFAYETTE, CA
PERMIT NO. 12

Giving Sunday is November 6.

HOW TO *Pledge*



**Scan to make your
pledge online today.**



2023 pledge commitments can be submitted by filling out the enclosed envelope. Pledge commitment envelopes can also be found in the Sanctuary pews and in the Ministry Center office.

Visit lopc.org/pledge to learn more.

For questions about how to pledge, please contact Farah, LOPC Accountant:
(925) 283-8722 x229 • farah@lopc.org