

the  
**GENEROUS  
HEART**



2024 Pledge Campaign

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Dear Friends of LOPC,

In the pages of this brochure you're going to be invited to display your generous heart. Generosity is in our basic nature because we have been created in the image of God. We give even when it's challenging because there is delight for us and others in both giving and receiving. Your church is a constantly evolving, energetic, and enthusiastic hub for mission and service in our world. We provide love and support to anyone in our community who has need. In a time of contraction, we are seeking to expand. It is your gifts which make that possible!

So, please take a good look at your church through the lens of this enclosed information, and then consider what God might be calling you and your family to offer up by means of a pledge for the coming year. As we gather these precious commitments, the potential of our ministry impact in the coming year will come into focus. Your leadership team is constantly searching for ways to maximize your gifts, recognizing that we live in a time where dramatic local and global needs are calling forth from us a response. We are counting on everyone to offer what they can so that through LOPC we can commit everything we have in witness to God's redeeming love.

Thank you, so very much, for the gifts you have already shared to support our work, and I look forward to hearing from you as we gather generous hearts together in giving to fulfill our mission of service and love.



**We're blessed to be a blessing,**



**Peter Whitelock**





## The Generous Heart is **DIVINE**

**James 1:17 - The generous heart is divine, as it mirrors God's own.**

If I didn't love God, I wouldn't do this. I have invested my time in the youth ministry because of God's heart and to share God's heart to the youth. My desire is very simple - to remind youth that when things don't go as planned, you can run to God.

**- Alex Aruliah, Teaching Elder and Youth Ministry Advisor**



## The Generous Heart is **DARING**

**1 Timothy 6:17-19 - The generous heart is daring, as it takes risks and finds value and reward where others often do not.**

Pledging is a faith-driven exercise - we're betting on God, we're betting with God, we're betting on ourselves and the church. It's all wrapped into one, and it's an exercise that should be done each year. Giving should always be there.

**- Mark Weaver, Generosity Elder and 2024 Clerk of Session**



## The Generous Heart is **DELIGHTFUL**

**2 Corinthians 8:7 - The generous heart is genuinely delightful in that it brings delight to others, which authentic giving most often does.**

Visiting Guatemala and our mission partner Fotokids was a highly impactful experience for me. It was a blessing to watch my teenage son, Dylan, form an immediate bond with one of the students, Fernando. Fotokids is not just about teaching technical skills, but about cultivating hope, community, and love. After this experience, I want to do more. I want kids like Fernando to succeed. I've seen the good that Fotokids can do, and I want to help.

**- Michelle Browning, Youth Advisor on the 2023 Service-Learning Trip to Guatemala**



# LOPC's Generosity Reaches Those Near & Far!

In 2023, LOPC committed **\$323,000** to support local and international mission partners.

## Local Partners

Food Bank of Contra Costa  
Monument Crisis Center  
Hope Solutions  
STAND!

## International Partners

Atfaluna Society of Deaf Children, Palestine  
Children of Faith, India  
Fotokids, Guatemala  
JF Kapnek, Zimbabwe  
Build Congo Schools/Healing Hearts, Congo

## Additional Special Gifts in 2023

**\$27,000** Maui Fire Support  
**\$23,497** Local Hunger Support  
**\$9,470** World Central Kitchen  
**\$8,452** Syria-Turkey Disaster Support  
**\$4,500** Educational Support in The Congo  
**\$3,600** Vijana, Africa

# Looking Ahead

With your generosity, LOPC can do great things in 2024!

## Special Needs Ministry

**Our waitlist is growing!** This programming is at **100%** capacity and gives essential support to our youth and families with special needs. Additional resources will help more people in our community.

## Care and Fellowship Ministry

Did you know that mental health support is a top Google search in our area? More than **500 people** routinely attend LOPC's mental health lectures and special events. We have plans to **grow our mental health and spiritual growth programming by 50% in 2024!**

## Senior Support

The need for **dementia support resources, grief groups, and multi-generational family programs** are on the rise. With your support, we can offer more frequent programs, like Thursday Fellowship, that provide a space for seniors to connect with one another in a safe, caring, and fun environment.

## Worship

**Worship and LOPC's Music Ministry is growing!** Your gifts provide the opportunity for worship and music expansion. The choir has grown by 30%, and there are exciting plans ahead for more special musical events during the year, like the special fall Concert of Remembrance and Christmas concerts during Advent!

## LOPC Staff Support

LOPC staff feel encouraged and cared for by your support! Adapting to staff transitions and reorganization, building up important ministry, and caring for the community are all possible because of your gifts! There is more need now than ever before to **keep up with inflation and retain the quality staff with which we are blessed.**



# On Pledging

Pledging is an integral part of our spiritual life. Our commitment to share our time, talent, and treasure is vital to support our mission to be a welcoming and loving community of faith that learns, grows, and serves together.

## Why should I pledge?

Pledging is a way to plan strategically and estimate giving for the coming year. It allows us to set a goal with God for giving. It also helps the LOPC staff and ministry teams plan meaningful ministry throughout the year with a thoughtful budget.

## How do I pledge?

You can submit a pledge card to indicate how much you plan to contribute for the year. Payments can be made monthly, quarterly, or annually. You can pay by check, cash, credit card, ACH debits, and even stock transfers.

## Can I change my pledge?

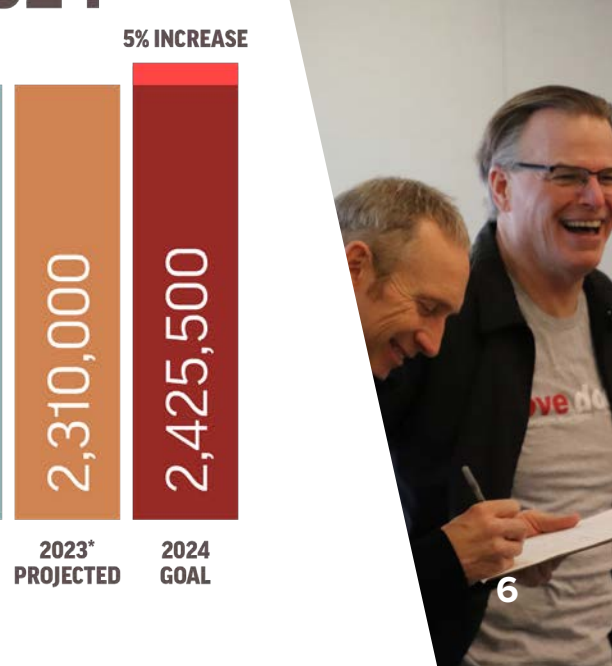
Absolutely! You can change your pledge amount at any time during the year. Please contact the LOPC accountant at [farah@lopc.org](mailto:farah@lopc.org) or call the church office at 925-283-8722 ext 229.

For 2023, **425 households** pledged **\$2,204,140**

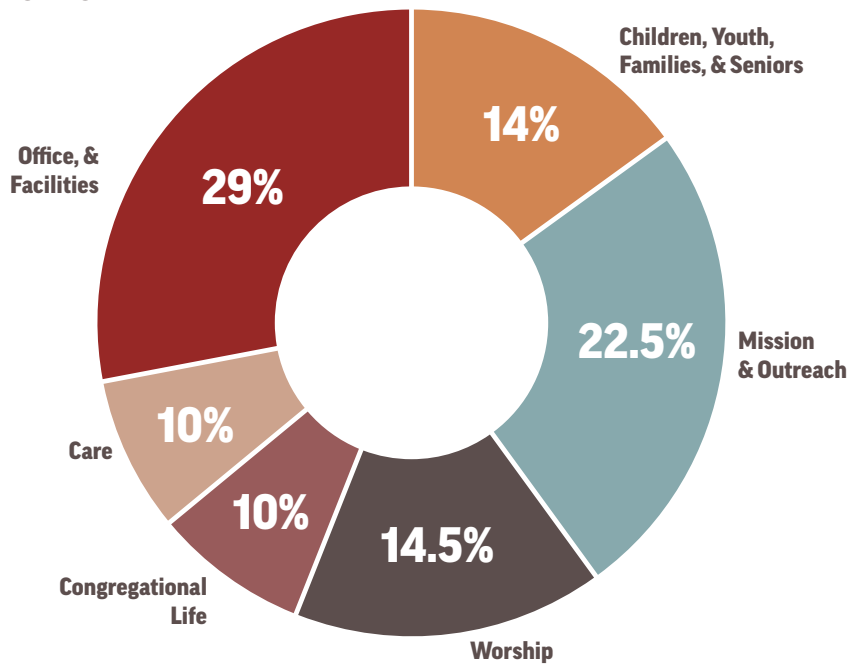
	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS PLEDGING	PERCENT PLEDGING	DOLLARS PLEDGED	PERCENT OF PLEDGED DOLLARS
\$1 - 500	21	5%	\$7,559	0.3%
\$501 - 1,500	111	26%	\$112,206	5.1%
\$1,501 - 3,000	103	24%	\$234,669	10.6%
\$3,001 - 6,000	103	24%	\$458,198	20.8%
\$6,001 - 10,000	38	9%	\$309,320	14%
\$10,001 - 25,000	41	10%	\$694,788	31.5%
\$25,001 - 120,000	8	2%	\$387,400	17.6%



# What does giving look like at LOPC?



## Allocated Ministry Spending For 2022



## Pledge Giving 2016-2024



\*Pledge giving trends higher than pledged levels.



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# Giving Sunday is November 5.

## How to **PLEDGE:**



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



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

**Visit [lopc.org/pledge](https://lopc.org/pledge) to learn more.**

Questions? Please contact Farah Mohammadzai, LOPC Accountant:  
**(925) 283-8722 x229 • [farah@lopc.org](mailto:farah@lopc.org)**