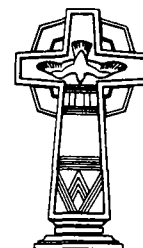




THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

154 FIFTH AVENUE NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219
(615) 254-7584
FAX (615) 254-4741
www.dpchurch.com



Presbyterians have been worshipping God on our corner of downtown Nashville since 1814. The present congregation was formed in 1956 when First Presbyterian moved to the suburbs. Our main building, built in 1851, is the work of architect William Strickland and is in the Egyptian Revival style. Our education wing was built in 1917.

When The Downtown Presbyterian Church was first constituted we numbered about 300 persons, or about 1/3 of the congregation before the split. Sadly, Nashville suffered much the same fate as most other inner-cities in America during the 1970s and suffered a precipitous decline. We are now number 87 members. Nevertheless we are an extremely energetic, vital and active congregation.

Though we only have 87 members we average about 100 persons in worship. We also maintain a budget of over \$400,000.00. About a quarter of this comes from a small endowment. Another quarter comes from gifts and grants. Over half comes from the membership itself.

Today we are known for three separate ministries. First, we provide ministry to the city at large and especially to those who live and work downtown. We provide space for bi-weekly AA meetings. The local association to prevent child-abuse offers parenting classes every week. On Tuesdays we hold a Bible study at 12:00 and a Taizé meditation service at 4:45.

Since our sanctuary is unique it is a popular place for city-wide events. The Nashville Bar Association comes here to remember colleagues who have died each year. A local college of Art and Design holds their graduation services here. At present our fellowship hall is full of art made by clients of the Nashville Mental Health Co-Op. They hold a reception for their clients at the end of the show. We have also hosted events to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the Civil War and Nashville's role in it (the sanctuary was twice used as a Union hospital), ad hoc meetings of our metro council, prayer services for governors elect and even a local radio-style variety show produced by a local university of the Church of Christ. We are not just a church for local Presbyterians. We are gathering place for the city.

Our second main ministry is to the arts community. On the top floors of our education wing we host 8 artists-in-residence. They pay a small fee and in exchange are free to make whatever art they wish in their studio space. We also host film festivals during Lent and frequently host art shows (as mentioned above) for local artists and agencies. Every year during Lent we host a juried show and the prize becomes part of the church's permanent collection. We know that many artists are distrustful or organized religion. By opening ourselves to them we hope to show them that our God is bigger than their anger and suspicions. Because of this

ministry we have become known as a patron of the arts and frequently attract those who want sound theology and formal worship but do not feel that they “fit in” with most churches.

Our third and most well-known ministry is our ministry to Nashville’s homeless and urban poor. This consists of two parts. Every week we provide Wednesday Lunch and Sunday Breakfast to anyone who walks in the door. We do not check IDs, immigration status, employment or police records. This is a free, nutritious meal in a safe and caring place for anyone who is inclined to stand in line for it. A short chapel service is held before lunch on Wednesday but is never mandatory. We do not convert with a knife and fork.

The meals are prepared by our building manager, our only other FT employee, and volunteers. Almost all the food is purchased by the church and is prepared on the day it is served. In 2010 we served over 10,000 Wednesday lunches and over 8,000 Sunday breakfasts. Seconds are available until the food runs out. This year we are on track to exceed our Wednesday lunch by 5% and our Sunday breakfast by 10%.

Because these meals are so popular we have become a regular gathering place for social-service agencies and other caring organizations. The Living Room, a self-help group for the homeless, meets every week. An organization providing AIDs testing comes every two months. Veterans organizations, mental health organizations, homeless outreach workers and others regularly come to the Wednesday lunch. The Contributor, the most successful street (homeless) newspaper in America, has its offices in our building and meets with their vendors after the Wednesday lunch.

As well as meals we have a small Pastor’s Discretionary Fund for such small but important items as State ID cards, birth certificates, Marriage certificates and help with prescription medicine co-pays. We usually write 50-60 checks for close to \$600 each month.

Besides these particular ministries our Outreach Committee supports a variety of economic and social justice ministries. We have drives, collections and other support for 10-13 agencies per year. One of our most popular is providing a yearly event for the local family shelter. In the past we have done such things as take everyone to a minor league baseball game and held a picnic.

This is but a brief overview of our history and ministry. I hope you agree that we are indeed an energetic, vital and active congregation. Our motto is, “Where Passion Meets Action in Downtown Nashville.” If you have any questions about our passion or our action please do not hesitate to contact me.

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

154 Fifth Avenue, North
Nashville, Tennessee 37219-2398



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

KENNETH LOCKE
Pastor

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Why should I Pledge?

The church budget is about \$423,000 per year, or just over a \$1,100 per day. The chart to the left summarizes where this money comes from and where it goes. Keep in mind this does not include all the time and energy of the personnel (pastor, custodian, and secretary) that are spent on outreach such as the Wednesday lunch for the homeless.

The pastor and others can tell you why generous, regular *giving* is an essential part of being a Christian. But *pledging* is also crucial. Each December, the session plans and approves a budget for the following year, and the pledges are used to set the total of the budget. The budget is constrained by the amount of pledges we receive in November. If the pledges are not there, the session must strain to cut church operations and programs.

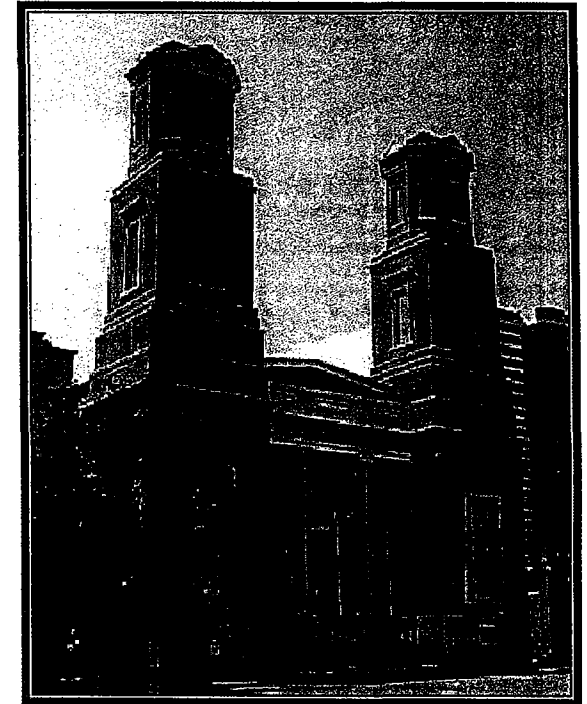
We cannot emphasize enough how important your pledges are to hammer down the budget for the church. Please understand that your continued generous giving and pledging are crucial for making DPC a vibrant, meaningful place for you to worship and do God's work.

Did You Know?

- Did you know Jesus spoke about money and possessions more than anything else?
- Did you know the aim of stewardship is not financing the church's annual budget but changing lives?
- Did you know our church supports 13 local ministries, as well as our own?
- Did you know giving to what you love is easy? Do you love the ministry of God our church is doing?
- Did you know most Protestants give only 2-3% of their income to God rather than the 10% the Bible tells us to give?
- Did you know pledging is not something to be done with a frown and reluctance? It is something to be done with joy and excitement. What could be more exciting than growing spiritually and making sure our ministries continue next year?
- Did you know that in 2011 we had **58** pledges. This year will you help us reach **70** pledges? Even the smallest pledge is important because it means that person is growing in grace and love.

The Downtown Presbyterian Church

Stewardship 2012



**Get excited about
being a part of
something great!!!**

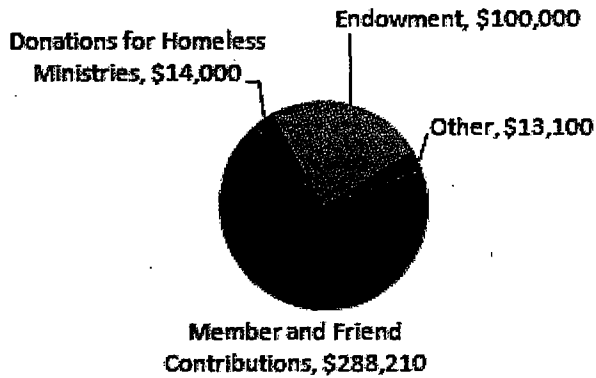
Church Revenue & Expenses

Our Local Benevolences

What Do They Do?

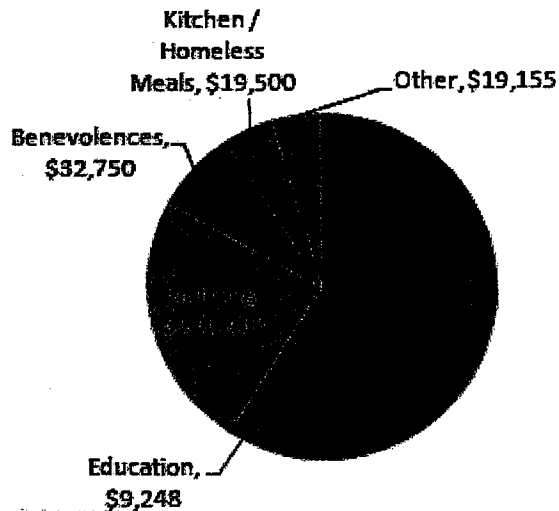
2011 Budgeted Revenue

\$415,310



2011 Budgeted Expenses

\$422,564



✓ Campus for Human Development	\$3000.00
✓ Siloam Clinic	\$2000.00
✓ Safe Haven Family Shelter	\$1000.00
✓ Habitat for Humanity	\$1000.00
✓ The Next Door	\$2000.00
✓ Nashville Opportunities For Industrialization Center	\$1000.00
✓ Magdalene House	\$1000.00
✓ Nashville Peace and Justice Center	\$1000.00
✓ Presbyterian Campus Ministry at Vanderbilt University	\$1000.00

Campus for Human Development - Through the power of spirituality and the practice of love, the Campus for Human Development provides hospitality with a respect that offers hope in a community of non-violence.

Siloam Clinic - To share the love of Christ with those in need through health care.

Safe Haven Family Shelter - To empower homeless families with children to live independently through spiritual, financial and social guidance.

Habitat for Humanity - Community volunteers build houses for families in need.

The Next Door - The mission of the downtown ministry center is to help women in crisis, equipping them for lives of wholeness and hope. The program of the Next Door seeks to address the physical, mental, spiritual and life skills needs, of women coming out of incarceration by providing transitional housing and re-entry services.

Nashville Opportunities Industrialization Center - To provide superior employment training and placement services to individuals who seek a better quality of life.

TNT - Tying Nashville Together - is a broad-based citizens organization that consists of churches, synagogues, businesses and neighborhood associations, where people of faith and power come together to improve our community.

Magdalene House - The mission of Magdalene is to provide sanctuary along with an array of support services and educational opportunities. Developed primarily as a safe house, Magdalene's residential program provides long-term secure housing as a haven from the social, psychological, and economic factors that drives women desperate means of survival.

Nashville Peace and Justice Center - promote equity and the creation of peaceful, just, and sustainable society through programs that address homelessness, health care, racism, and immigrant rights.

The Good News

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Your faithfulness to help this ministry is such an encouragement to me. You have no idea how much it

means to have your thoughts and prayers.

We are adding a new school in January with about 100 more children being fed. Thank you for making that possible.

Thank you for helping us feed the children. Because of your help we are able to care for their needs. May God bless and keep you always.

In His love,
Diane Durham
Backpack Ministries

Dear Hillsboro Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your recent gift and for your longstanding partnership with us.

Your annual gifts enable us to plan and provide the best possible services for Nashville's refugee communities. You are an extremely valued partner!

Blessing to you this Advent season.

Peace,
Chris Lovingood
Executive Director
Nations Ministry Center

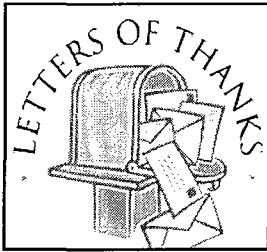
Hillsboro Presbyterian Church,

I have learned so much from Deb Smith. She and a few more, made Christmas at Reconciliation. It was a large one and served more than 400 family members of men and women in prison.

The Reconciliation Christmas program ended with the Separate Prison Support Group. They were to evaluate this year's program, and make recommendations for next year. While they were at it, their children and I shopped among the donations for their parents and loved ones, and made gifts to put under their trees.

Afterwards, the group decided to adopt a family and some angels in their neighborhoods. The rest of the donations got collected, along with wrapping paper and tags, and the women of Separate Prisons followed your example. They became givers.

Sarah, I believe that's what you were talking about when you told us about the hope of your congregation to move the spirit of Advent to our agency. I just wanted you to know that, somehow, it happened,



and it happened because of all of you and the congregants that participated.

There will be a woman dropping off used things for a grandmother to give her daughter to help make the holiday. The extra donations got thoughtfully and lovingly wrapped, distributed, and moved toward folks they knew of who weren't being previously assisted. Also, many thanks to you all and to Julie from TriCor and Cynthia Whitlow for the last minute donations.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you and Merry Christmas.

Ann Charvat
Reconciliation Christmas Program

Dear HPC,

A thank you from THE LIVING ROOM:

Each week 12-15 people gather in the Parlor at "Downtown Presbyterian Church" from 1 - 2 p.m. After giving our first names and where we come from the floor is open for persons to listen...to listen as persons share concerns or struggles, ask questions, offer encouragement, give information, express concerns about issues of the homeless with police or...the lack of housing.

In the 52 weeks of the past year over 600 persons shared in the time together. The purpose is to listen to each other...and to offer insight, information, love and compassion as needed. (Ask Judy to give specifics from one week.) It is wondrous to see homeless persons helping new persons in town know where to find housing or food. A discussion of the meaning of forgiveness occurred among us and the conversation was deep and sound. "Mike" talked about his alcohol addiction..."Sam" spoke of his being clean for eight weeks...We clapped in thanksgiving with him. A middle-aged woman spoke of here difficulties with abuse from a husband. We prayed with her and she came back over several weeks to share her progress. Finally she came with joy to say she had an appointment, and was free of her abuser for the moment.

The retreats each month at Penuel Ridge are also of importance. 10-12 people are picked up at the Mission the Campus or Women's Shelter for the drive out to Penuel Ridge. Coffee and donuts are shared and a community begins to take for. The folks gather in the gathering room at Penuel Ridge to hear the story of Jacob wrestling with God regarding his own struggles with life. His brother might kill him...The story of Jacob wrestling with God resonates with

their struggles to find life and wholeness.

After the morning conversation, a splendid meal is served. Following that, persons walk the land, feeling the safety and beauty of the place and enjoy the quietness, so absent from the streets.

The retreat concludes with gathering at the Well, a holy space, to share what had happened for them during the time together. Amazing things often occur: persons deciding to return to their family, gaining direction on a job, finding strength for the journey of the night...

In addition, the work retreats provide space for persons to put energy into renewing the land or the gardens at the center. They clean up the trails, and fix the tractor on occasion. There is an emphasis on the meaning of work as a holy time...and of work as a way to help one another.

We give thanks to God for the assistance Hillsboro provides for the Living Room and the retreats where contemplation, prayer and thought can take form.

Don Beisswenger

Dear Generous Supporter of Friends Life,

With deepest gratitude we thank you for your contribution.

Your generosity allows our Friends to experience the ordinary miracles of life in an extraordinary way.

As 2010 comes to a close, we are excited about what is to come in the year ahead!

Friends Life plans to move into a new building, expand our program hours and provide

our participants with a community in which they will thrive and grow. Your support is helping to make this happen!

Enclosed is a hand-made and personalized card made with love by Natalie, one of our

treasured employees. Your generous support allows Friends Life to employ Natalie and provide a place that she can utilize her gifts and talents, be productive, and experience everyday life just like you and I. That is extraordinary.

Thank you for being a blessing and helping us create opportunities for our Friends to develop socially, grow personally and enjoy community as they experience life together!

Kind Regards,
Bryan Doleshel
Executive Director
Friends Life