Our PCO Journey to 2030 Vision

Guided by the Holy Spirit and looking to the future, at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos we…

… open our doors wide in welcome, inviting all to join us in community, worship, service, and fellowship. We will continue to build a congregation where all people can feel accepted, encouraged, and embraced as beloved children of God.

… embark together on a life-long journey of faith formation. We will create opportunities for all ages to worship, study, serve, and make music alongside one another.

… know we can't do it alone. We will partner with other faith groups and local organizations to pool resources, form community, and work together in service of God's love and justice.

Presbyterian Church of Okemos

Stewardship Campaign

2026-2027





We Belong to God

Our PCO Mission Statement

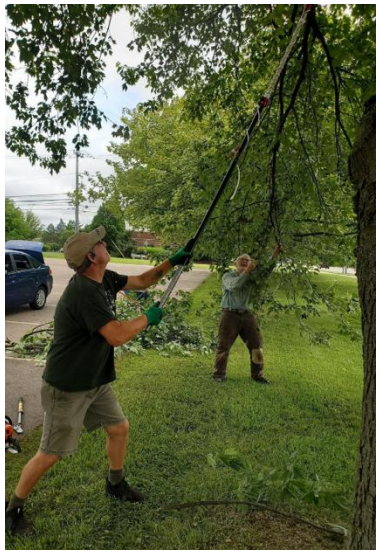
As members of The Presbyterian Church of Okemos,
We believe that in life, in death, and life beyond death,
We belong to God.

The Church exists to invite everyone to join the lifelong journey of faith that is life in Jesus Christ.

Through Worship that glorifies God,
Study that seeks to understand God,
Service to a world that needs God,
We desire to build a network of caring relationships
Between families, friends, and strangers
By offering welcome, healing, justice and peace to all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our building and property are an essential part of our ministry. Owning property requires paying for utilities, insurance, cleaning and maintenance, as well as property improvements such as parking lot, furnaces, lighting, roof, etc. We also contribute per capita support to the Presbytery. We may not think of such expenditures as part of our church's ministry, but they are just as essential to our mission as many other direct program expenditures. This summer we replaced the roof on the church. Our new roof is expected to serve the church for next 40 years. Coupled with completing the conversion to LED lighting throughout the church, our facility will continue to enhance our ministry to the congregation and the community.

Can I participate in the next church work day? Landscape projects? Recognizing that building costs are a heavy budget burden, can I prayerfully consider my stewardship opportunity and commitment?





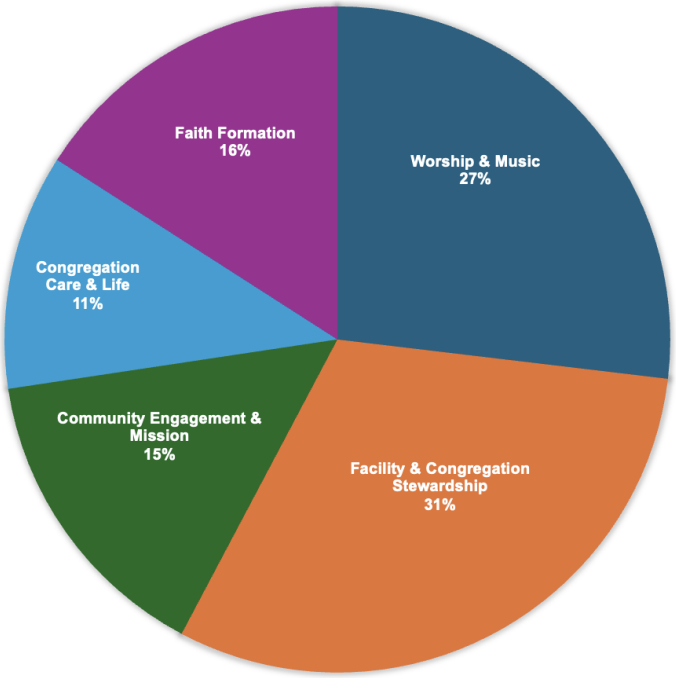
Facility and Congregation Stewardship

In order for our congregation to fulfill its mission, we must have a "place" from which to do our work. Our church building and property serve as this place, and our stewardship of these assets is essential to carry out our work. Our building and property provide identity and connection to our community. Our commitment to caring for creation is reflected in our 100 solar panel installation readily visible on our grounds along with our native plants at the parking lot entrance.

As we look to expand our community partnerships in support of our *Journey to 2030* vision, our facility can play a vital role. Our church building provides for worship, meetings, weddings, rehearsals, choir practice, Sunday school, memorials, study groups, fellowship, and special events. In addition, we share our facilities with several community groups in need of a place to meet and work.



2026 Operating Budget $534,645



Worship & Music - $144,402 (27%)

Facility & Congregation Stewardship - $162,787 (31%)

Community Engagement & Mission - $81,469 (15%)
Does not include designated mission giving and in-kind donations. In 2025 these totaled $30,262.

Congregation Care & Life - $59,463 (11%)

Faith Formation - $86,434 (16%)

Note, Personnel costs are distributed across the budget categories based on the job description.

Worship and Music

Worship and music are at the heart of our life together at PCO! Sunday morning worship leadership is shared by our staff and members of the congregation, from the youngest to the most senior. Musical offerings from the Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, and Youth Instrumental Choir inspire us. We hear the sound of love poured out as we confess our sins and receive the promise of the gospel at the baptismal font. We are fed the bread of life from the Table that welcomes all. Agape Meal, an intergenerational Christmas pageant, Jazz Sunday, glorious Easter music, Creation Care Sunday, Youth Sunday, and World Communion Sunday led by the Mission Committee were some of the special Sunday services this past year.



Our music program blessed not just our congregation, but the whole community. A traditional Lessons and Carols service drew a large audience and raised funds for Advent House. Jazz Sunday was preceded by a Saturday night concert featuring Straight Ahead, a Detroit-based Grammy nominated all-female jazz group. A Kaleidoscope Collage Concert featuring 40 handbell ringers and other musicians raised funds for local refugee services.

Congregational Care and Life

Much of the life of our congregation is about providing care for one another and those in the community. The Deacons and church members provide care; they organize and assist with weddings and memorials, as well as visit and prepare meals and offer communion for those who need comfort and help. This care extends to the community through meals to shelters/kitchens, and support for refugees. Church groups help members get involved both in the church activities and community efforts. The Artists Circle coordinates Liturgical Art; the Crafts Ministry provides prayer shawls giving comfort and hats keeping kids warm in the winter; the Caregivers Support group provides help and comfort; while other groups, Writing Life's Stories, Women's Connection, Women's Dinner Out, Men's Group, and Retirees' Group provide both spiritual and social interaction.

Can I help provide care to members of the congregation or community? Can I make dinner for or visit someone going through a rough time, or can I make a larger dinner for those in a shelter? Can I join a group to get to know others in the congregation a little better, and maybe provide a shawl or a story along the way?



High School students gather on Tuesday afternoons for Homework & Hangout at a local café and on Sunday evenings for fellowship. Opportunities to deepen faith and show our care for others occur through the worship leadership, Montreat Youth Conference, overnight lock-ins and the Super Bowl of Caring. Ask any of our youth about the impact of these programs and you will be moved by the depth of their experiences.



Adult education classes are offered each Sunday, featuring a variety of topics from theology to psychology, bible study to current events. Classes are taught by pastors, guest speakers and often by church members with special insight. There are several additional study group opportunities for members, specifically related to our faith formation; weekday Bible Study classes for adults and Conversation & Contemplation class, as well as more social groups that meet throughout the year. We celebrate our commitment to, and the impact of, a life-long practice of our discipleship.

Can I attend adult Christian education classes or a study group, or share my faith by leading a class? Can I share my faith with children and youth by teaching Sunday school or attending a mission project with the youth?

The Worship and Music ministry at PCO feeds our bodies, minds, and souls each week. And as a people fed and blessed, we are sent out each week to feed others.



Can I spend Sunday morning once or twice a year serving as a liturgist, as a greeter or as an usher? Can I join the chancel choir or the bell choir? Can I share special music during the summer months?

Community Engagement and Mission

The way we show our love for God and gratitude for his presence in our lives is through service to our siblings in the world, especially those in need. As Christians we join as community to fulfill this mission. As part of the PCO family we join together to feed the hungry, heal the sick, clothe the naked, promote justice and peace and bring Christ's love to ALL people.

With leadership from our Mission Committee, we participate throughout the year to serve others through addressing issues of:

Educational Support

- UKirk College Ministry
- Simbolei Academy
- Communities in Schools Michigan
- Edgewood Village
- Haiti Nursing Foundation



Food and housing insecurity

- CROP Walk
- Thanksgiving Baskets
- Advent House
- Loaves and Fishes
- Food Pantry Donations

Support for Refugee Community

- Catholic Charities of Ingham, Eaton & Clinton Counties
- Global Institute of Lansing
- Michigan Refugee Hope
- Refugee Development Center

Community Care

- Alternative Christmas Market
- Cass Community Social Services
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- Mikey 23
- Judson Love Clothing Center

As part of our *Journey to 2030* vision, we identified the need to engage more with other community organizations whose missions are to serve those in need and promote justice and peace. We want to offer our facilities and human resources as we partner with them to serve people in our community.

Can I participate more regularly in mission activities? Can I volunteer to help at Mission Committee sponsored events? Can I actively recruit others to help, including people outside our congregation? Can I identify organizations and entities with whom our church might engage in helping people with needs?

Faith Formation

Guided by the Holy Spirit and looking to the future, at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos, we will embark together on a life-long journey of faith formation. Our *Journey to 2030* vision places an emphasis on learning and growing together, within and across generations. Our Intergenerational Mission Week and study programs, Prayer Path landscape rocks creation, and the All-Ages Christmas Pageant – " A Child Shall Lead Them" were highlights of the year.



Through both age-based and intergenerational opportunities, Sunday mornings provide rich opportunities for growth. Our youth also meet on Sunday evenings for youth group. Middle School and High School youth share a dinner and game time together, along with prayers, Bible study, and other activities.