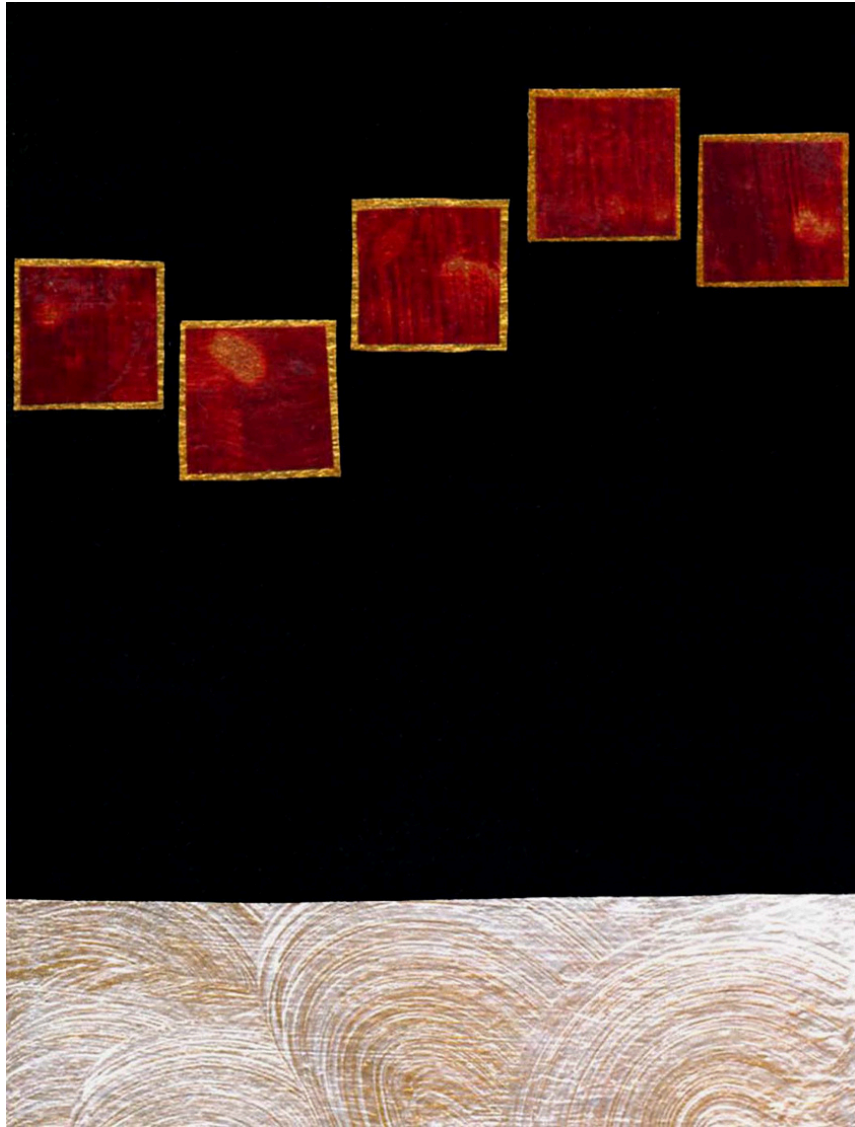


Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



Resurrection, Jan Richardson

May 25, 2025

Order of Worship

Sunday, May 25, 2025

† Indicates those places where those who are able are invited to stand.

Text in **bold** indicates places where the congregation is invited to join in response.

Gathering

COMMUNITY TIME (9:55)

Dan Loven-Crum

PRELUDE

Maiden Voyage

Herbie Hancock

†WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

One: God calls—sometimes in dreams, sometimes through strangers.

Many: We show up, not always knowing the plan, but ready.

One: Like Lydia by the river, we lean in and listen.

Many: Let's worship the God who opens hearts and doors.

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The Peace of God be With You

Many: And also with you.

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

All Are Welcome (vs. 2)

CHILDREN'S TIME

House of Bah Graduation

Children are invited to join Heather for a lesson at the chancel and then head to Discovery Kids classes. Nursery is available for children 0-4 years

SUNG RESPONSE

Go Now in Peace x 2

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
may the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere
you may go.

Hearing the Word

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 67

Reader: Mark Ware

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us, Selah
that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth. Selah
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.
May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

A Psalm of Benediction
Countryside Community Church Choir

Patricia Mock / Faye Lopez

SECOND LESSON: Acts 16:9-15

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

MESSAGE

Meeting God Outside the Gate

Responding to the Word

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Impovisation

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Dan Loven-Crum

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Monarch Joint Venture for the May Box donations.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, as You open hearts like Lydia's, open our hands too, that these gifts may carry Your love wherever it's needed most. Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Invitation to the Table

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the God of love.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Remembrance

Please prepare to partake of the Eucharist in your seats. The communion kits include whole wheat bread and non-alcoholic grape juice. Gluten-free bread is available. Raise your hand if you need assistance with your communion elements and an usher will assist you. Communion cups may be discarded in the baskets as you leave the sanctuary.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

†SENDING HYMN

Hymn #475 *The Church of Christ in Every Age* (vs. 1, 3, 5)

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

POSTLUDE

Take the "A" Train

Duke Ellington / Billy Strayhorn

Countryside Community Church Choir - Adam Witte, director

Alex Ritter, organ and piano - Matt Wallace, saxophone

Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

2025 Graduates

Mat Hornacek, Jack Jones, Eric Karpf, Alex Kuhr, Carlie

Lundblad, Chase Mattson, Elsa Podoll, Ayden Villarreal

Joys & Concerns

Join us as we pray for our congregation members and their loved ones who are on our Joys and Concerns list every week on Thursdays at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary. If you have someone who would benefit from prayer, want to share a joy or be included on the bulletin list, and /or be included on Countryside's Prayer Chain, contact the church office at 402.391.0350 or email office@countrysideucc.org.

Prayers of Gratitude for the following Joys:

We celebrate the 26 children who graduated from their Wednesday Night cooking class with The House of Bah. A big thank you to The House of Bah Foundation for partnering with us to offer this culinary experience as part of our Wednesday Night Programming.

Please join in praying for the following new and ongoing concerns:

Jodie Nichols continues to recover following eye surgery to restore full vision to her left eye. Continued prayers for her full healing.

Continued prayers for our office volunteer, **Judy Tlustos**, whose sister passed away last week. She's also had two additional funerals to attend. Please keep her in your prayers.

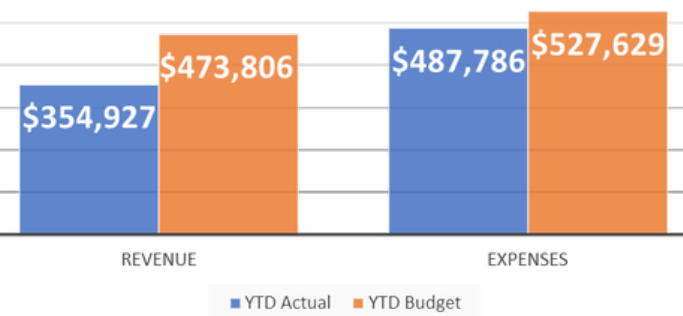
Peggy Boot's ex-husband, Chris Dunn, passed away recently. Please keep the Boot and Dunn families in prayer at this time of loss.

Jennifer (Tom) Pansing passed away Tuesday night. Please keep Tom and his family in your prayers at this time of grief.

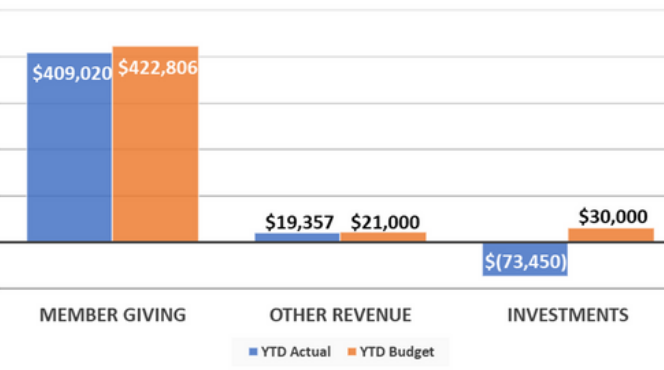
Our Church by the Numbers

At the Annual Meeting on February 9, the congregation approved a 2025 operating budget of \$1,605,582. Each month, after the Finance and Operations Board reviews the Treasurer's report, we'll share an update on our financial progress. For April, member giving was slightly below budget, but overall revenue is behind projections mainly because of the stock market and net losses in Countryside's general investments. The overall expenses continue to come in lower than budgeted.

April Financials Year to Date

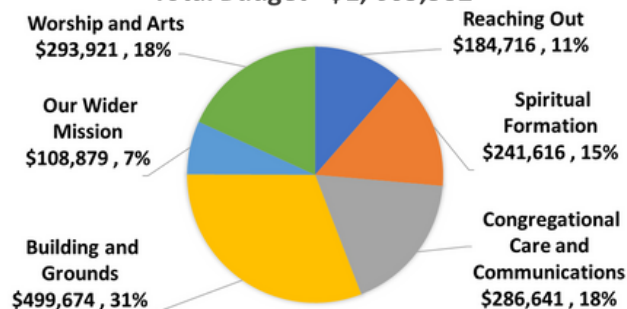


Year to Date Revenue



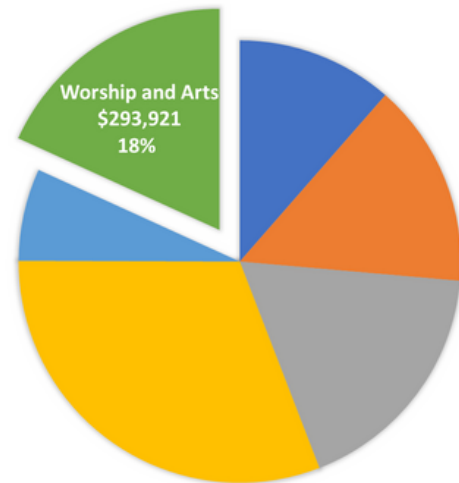
2025 Expense Budget

Total Budget - \$1, 605,582



Worship and Arts

Each month we highlight how the budget is funded and where the money goes. This month, we're focusing on **Worship and Arts**, which together account for 18 percent (\$293,921) of total expenses.



Connecting with God and Each Other

Worship at Countryside is the foundation of our community, where we gather to find strength, hope and connection. Your support makes this sacred time possible.

From communion bread to blooming flowers, from bright sanctuary lighting to the warmth of fellowship, each part of our worship is a shared gift. Whether it's the stirring sound of our organ, the joy of intergenerational choirs, or the simple beauty of candlelight on Christmas Eve, these moments bring us closer to God and to one another.

Through your generosity, our pastors offer messages of inspiration, our tech teams ensure everyone can hear and see, and each service—from Sunday mornings to quiet evening prayers—is thoughtfully crafted to uplift and connect. Thank you for helping make these shared experiences possible.

- Baptisms
- Communion
- Preaching
- Easter
- Taize
- Christmas
- Choirs
- Organist-in-Residence
- Confirmation
- Lent
- Tri-Faith Vigils
- Band
- Handbells
- Sanctuary Arts
- Senior Pastor
- Pulpit Supply
- Director of Worship & Arts