



MCC

Memorial Congregational Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



2018 PROPOSED NARRATIVE BUDGET

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

“In the love of truth and the spirit of Jesus...”

Our Proposed Narrative Budget for 2017-2018 tells the story of MCC as a vibrant and growth-seeking faith community. Through words, charts, and pictures we invite you to experience how MCC hopes to use its money faithfully to live out our Covenant and move toward achieving our dreams. Behind the Proposed Narrative Budget there is a detailed Line Item Proposed Budget put together by the Stewardship Committee. It took us many hours of information gathering and discussion with the Staff and Committees and much prayer and thought. We then considered how the money in each line item contributed to the parts of our overall ministry. Our belief is that through using a Narrative Budget you will be able to see how all of our contributions allow us to live out our Covenant with each other and God, even when they go toward something as seemingly mundane as plowing or supplies.

As you look through the Proposed Narrative Budget, you will see the many ways we, “as the Lord’s free people” seek to live out our Covenant through walking together, worshiping, serving each other, and serving humanity. We hope you will notice how our financial decisions seek to continue growing and sustaining the ministries and experiences which last year’s Appreciative Inquiry demonstrated were most valued here at MCC: Children/Family/Intergenerational, Individual and community connections, Opportunities for involvement, Music, Worship, and our Senior Pastor.

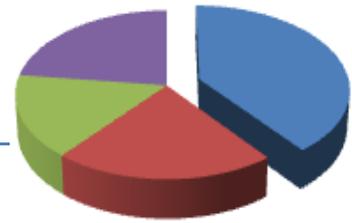
Last year this faith community made a big commitment to those ministries and experiences by expanding our ministry to children, youth, and families through calling a Pastor of Youth and Families and by broadening our children’s music program. Our pledges and contributions made that possible. As you read the story told by our Narrative Budget, please notice the programs and activities listed in **bold**. They are activities and programs that are either new or expanded this year.

In the love of truth and in the Spirit of Jesus, we, the Stewardship Committee, present the Proposed Narrative Budget of Memorial Congregational Church.

Chris Houlihan (Chair), Karen Ross, Todd Richman, Rick Hilperts, Gail Wright, and George Connor (Treasurer).

God is still speaking . . .

Worshiping



\$130,591

“...we unite for the worship of God...”

Worship anchors our congregation as a community of faith, bound together through God’s love and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We gather to celebrate and be inspired, to listen and learn, to sing and seek guidance, to ask for help and feel love, to seek peace and forgiveness. We gather for big and small public worship and for intimate moments of prayer. Through scripture, meditation, music, prayer, and the sacraments; during both regular and special services; our ministers and lay leaders connect us to God and to each other. Our sanctuary glows with sunshine streaming through stained glass windows, flowers and plants, candles to light our way and the wiggles and giggles of our children. All are warmly welcomed to worship in our safe, comfortable, and accessible space, and we are lifted up through the musical talents of our choirs and musicians.

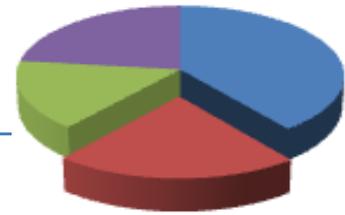
“My faith comes alive when the choirs sing, the preachers speak, the children laugh, and young and old alike share their talents and time to bring us together for fellowship, food and fun.”

Worship

- *Sermons and Scriptures*
- *Prayer*
- *Sacraments*
- *Joys and Concerns*
- *Children’s Moment*
- *Choirs and Hymns*
- *Musicians and Bellringers*
- **Covenant Band**
- *Lay Leaders*
- *Ushers and Greeters*
- *Weekly Bulletin*
- *Discovery Kingdom*
- *Children’s Sunday*
- *The Well Service*
- *Lifecycle Services*
- *Nursery Care*
- **Ashes to Go**



Reaching Out



\$73,689

“...and the service of humanity...”

We do the Lord’s work by reaching beyond our church family. We reach out to serve the greater community by ministering to the homeless, the sick or the incarcerated or raising funds to support the hungry. We extend our love and compassion beyond our walls through many acts of kindness, support, and advocacy for a wide range of social causes. Our strong sense of mission and deep compassion take us in many directions, locally and around the world and we respond quickly when we notice need.

“I appreciate the many opportunities to grow and practice my Christian faith by serving others, both within MCC and in the larger community.”

We also reach out by offering a safe, accessible and welcoming environment where all are welcomed with open arms into our intergenerational, diverse in background and interest, Open and Affirming faith community. We work to let the world know that our doors and our hearts are open.

Community Service

- Crop Walk
- Family Promise
- Kids Care Food Packaging
- Open Table
- City Mission Society
- Habitat for Humanity
- Concord Prison Outreach
- Project Bread Walk
- Special Purpose Advocacies
- Outreach Grants
- Worcester Pride Parade
- Rallying to Support Immigrants
- Youth Group Mission Trip

Community Building

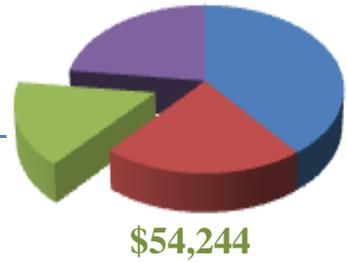
- Newcomer Welcome
- MCC Website
- UCC Support
- Weekly/Monthly Newsletters
- Newspaper Articles
- Sudbury Clergy Association
- Sharing our Space with the Community

Community Events

- Messiah Sing
- Fall and Spring Music Concerts
- Christmas Caroling
- Twelve Shoppes/Fall Faire
- Trivia Night
- Rummage Sales
- Recycling Events
- Spring Auction
- Silent Movie Night



Serving Our Church Community



“...and as the Lord’s free people, we agree to walk together...”

We are a church with a caring Staff and caring people who abundantly share time, talents and treasures with each other. At MCC there is a place for everyone to make a difference – Staff members and lay people, longtime members and first-time visitors, rambunctious three year-olds and reluctant teens, young families and retired seniors, those with deep religious roots and those in search of a foundation or a new direction.

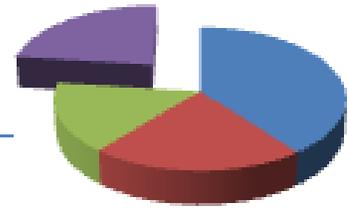
Our ministry to each other is as simple as a smile or cup of coffee after Sunday services and as personal as pastoral visits, notes of appreciation and support, and homemade meals delivered during times of joy or need. We feed, and are truly fed by, each other. We are blessed by staff members who create programs and activities that bring us together and also who notice and respond to our individual needs. We are blessed by the children, families, adults and seniors who serve through teaching Sunday school or singing in one of the choirs, participating in spring and fall work days, or taking on an ongoing role to support the operation of the church and its ministries. Individually, staff members, church members, and friends contribute in so many ways providing behind the scenes, invisible support that is difficult to quantify, often goes unnoticed, but is vitally loving and meaningful.

“MCC is a community that loves and accepts me for who I am. It is a place where commonalities and differences are respected and celebrated.”

- *Coffee Hour*
- *After Church Luncheons*
- *Deacons Fund*
- *Weekly Messenger*
- *July 4th Parade & BBQ*
- *Guess Who's Coming To Dinner*
- *Chili Fest and Open Mic Night*
- **Youth Group Lock-In**
- *Cherub Choir*
- *Women's Night Out*
- *Game Nights*
- *MCC Committees*
- *Pastoral Care*
- *Visit/Support Shut Ins*
- *Student Ministers*
- *Staff Office Hours*



Developing Spiritually



\$82,194

“...in all God’s ways, made known or to be made known to us.”

Each in our own ways, and during our own moments, we are all disciples of Christ and disciple means: follower and student.

Whatever our age or stage in life, MCC provides opportunities to explore our faith and our lives through classroom learning, pastoral counseling, music and art, discussion, reading and prayer, and service to others. Some of us are individual learners and some seek a group. Some of us develop best through hands on service and activities: baking, creating, working on projects, or even repairing leaky pipes. Some of us need quiet, internal, or individual experiences to grow our relationship with God. Some of us need noise, colors, discussion, laughter, games, or music to know Jesus and ourselves better. The Lord does indeed work in mysterious ways! Our diverse lives, backgrounds, and religious experiences challenge us to find and create a variety of ever changing opportunities to be challenged, to explore our faith, to ask questions, to seek comfort, and to grow in love.

“Faith, Family and Friendship are what make MCC a wonderful fit for all three generations in my family to grow spiritually.”

- *Maundy Thursday Supper*
- *Confirmation*
- *Prayer Groups*
- *Lending library*
- *Christian Education – Children*
- *Christian Education – Adults*
- ***High School Sunday Class***
- *Summer Program*
- *Adult Bible Study*
- *The Well Service*
- *Youth Group*
- ***Intergenerational Movie Nights***
- ***Intergenerational Book Group***
- *1:1 Pastoral Counseling*
- *Junior Choir*
- ***Islamic Center of Wayland Visit***



Budget Overview

FY' 2018 Proposed Budget - \$340,718

