

limitless thanks

Welcome to the UVC 2022 Narrative Budget!

Here at UVC, we're passionate about telling stories. That's why each year we present our financial information in the form of a narrative budget that tells the story of how we've been investing our financial resources into our community and beyond.

We've divided the budget into five categories: **worship, outreach, community, discipleship,** and **administration.**

Each category represents an area of ministry made possible by the generosity of supporters like you.

We encourage you to look over this resource prayerfully as you consider how you can partner with us in the new year to pursue our mission of building Jesus-loving, inclusive communities that ignite the city and beyond. (Woo!)

worship



On a perfectly crisp fall day, we held a Blessing of the Animals service outside at West. Congregants brought animals of all kinds (mostly dogs) for a special individual blessing!



A vibrant worship service from this past year at our Wicker Park site, held at Vittum Theater. We welcome participants and volunteers of all ages!



Our Labor Day service was held at Montrose Beach this year with Rev. Dr. Lightsey preaching. After service we had a wonderful BBQ potluck!



What's the first thing that you recall about our worship in 2022? While we continued online worship, which has offered accessibility for those who aren't able to join worship in person, each site has been filled with beautiful music by the worship team, life-giving testimony and spirit-filled messages, sharing God's love and grace through communion, and fellowship with delicious coffee and community. Also, worship has been the time and space where we use our gifts of creativity and imagination, like the Blessing of the Animals service, Wild Worship/ worship walks, Mardi Gras service, Friday Night Worship, and an All Saints Sunday service of remembering our loved ones through the five senses. In many transitions, worship has been a solid foundation where we reaffirm our identity and recommit ourselves to our mission. Thank you for being a part of worship and joining this shoutout with joy, "let's give 'em heaven!"

\$334,747.53



(Left) UVC staff and community members joined around 200 other activists to protest on behalf of the planet in the Global Climate Strike with Chicago Area Peace Action.

(Top) We continued our annual tradition of marching in the Pride Parade. A special part of this year was painting watercolor rainbows on folks attending the parade and telling them "God loves you!"



(Bottom) Members of UVC West participated in the spring CROP Walk to "end hunger one step at a time." Part of the proceeds we raised went to the Proviso Pantry.

outreach

At UVC, we are always looking for opportunities to take our faith to the streets. Our pastors take the pulse of their local communities and determine what issues, causes, or events our sites can get involved in. We spent a good part of the summer popping up at various festivals across the city, spreading the good news about God's love. As a larger church body, we participated in the Global Climate Strike and Pride Parade this year as public demonstrations of our faith in action. Additionally, some of our leadership and individual members were featured in local news sources for their impact on local causes and communities.



\$94,416.04



(Top) Our post-worship fellowship gatherings continue to be a source of community for many. Each of our sites have resumed fellowship gatherings, with HP-W held before service.

(Bottom) Pastor D'Angelo captures the joy of a fellowship gathering of members of our Wicker Park site. By visiting local restaurants and cafes, we not only support local business but have an opportunity to share God's love.

(Right) Our community comes together to celebrate major life events. Here, a group of UVCers joyfully gathered to celebrate a baby shower for two of our community members.

community



\$140,765.74

Community is the beating heart of what we're about at UVC. While COVID has presented us with unique challenges in gathering together, we've soldiered on to create safe yet exciting and enriching community-building opportunities for our community members. It's been inspiring to see some of our community members step up to help co-create opportunities for fellowship. Small groups, post-fellowship Sunday lunches, backyard gatherings, and potlucks are just a few of the many ways we gather together.

discipleship



We gathered drag performers and faith leaders from around the globe for a stunning and sacred three-day summit on Drag & Spirituality.



Volunteering is one of the ways we foster discipleship at UVC. Here, an eager cadre of volunteers prepares for service at our Edgewater site.



Discipleship is about maturing in your faith, which happens best in the context of community. Here, UVCers gather to build their faith at a backyard fire hang.



At UVC we have a passion for discipleship that we have continued to grow this year. Whether through small groups, retreats, or faith building events, we love to see the spiritual lives of our community members flourish. Our leadership in discipleship has changed hands as we enter 2023 and we look forward to creating new opportunities for growing and deepening our relationships with each other and with God.

\$133,899.12

administration


We've worked hard to involve our online community members in the life of our church, including making our Charge Conference a live Zoom event.



Our stream team has expanded to a three-person strong team and makes our Sunday service as well as other programming available online each week.

We've updated our website as well as some of our online processes, including online worship guides and scannable QR codes with all the links the church needs.





"Change has a bad reputation in our society. But it isn't all bad—not by any means. In fact, change is necessary in life—to keep us moving, to keep us growing, to keep us interested. Imagine life without change. It would be static, boring, dull." —

Dr. Dennis O'Grady

\$154,498.98

2022 has most certainly been a year of change for UVC.

Executive Pastor Emily McGinley, Teaching Pastor Hannah Kardon and Site Pastor D'Angelo Smith have answered ministerial calls that have led them away from Urban Village. We've blessed former Communications Manager Blake Collins on his new journey, as well as well-wished Children's Ministry Leader Alisa Johnson and Worship Leader Roland Hatcher on their next phases in life. However, In the wake of these changes, we have had some amazing staff structure and title changes! We've hired Wing Yun Schreiber as our new Interim Director of Discipleship and Communications, Melissa Kirk has moved up to a newly created role of Executive Administrator (taking on many of Pastor Emily's administrative responsibilities) and Darren Calhoun has stepped seamlessly into the Digital Ministries Pastor Role. We've welcomed a new Director of Family Ministries, Briona Jones, as well as Children's Ministry Leaders Clara Crocker (WP), Louise Taylor (EW) and Lanetra Dees (HPW).

In past narrative budgets, we often use this section to define strategies and post declarative statements about where we'd like to go and what we'd like to do.

But with so much change in our past year and with uncertainty for many churches in the near future, we may be better served to ask questions than make bold statements. (In his book, "Jesus is the Question," Martin Copenhaver notes that Jesus asked 307 questions in his ministry and only answered three of them so we're in good company!)

What are our driving questions for 2023? Some possibilities: What will our staff structure look like? What makes a ministry site vital? How can we expand our digital ministry? How can we support the launch of UVC-Ñ and the relaunch of Wicker Park in its old/new location at Chopin Theatre? How can we sustain our slow but steady momentum at Edgewater, West and Hyde Park-Woodlawn?

Within these questions, we believe, are seeds of hope, growth, and possibility. What questions would you add? What dreams do you have for the next phrase of Urban Village Church? We pray that your continued support will help us not only ask important and exciting questions, but as the first Christians did at Pentecost, also dream dreams and see visions.

looking ahead



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