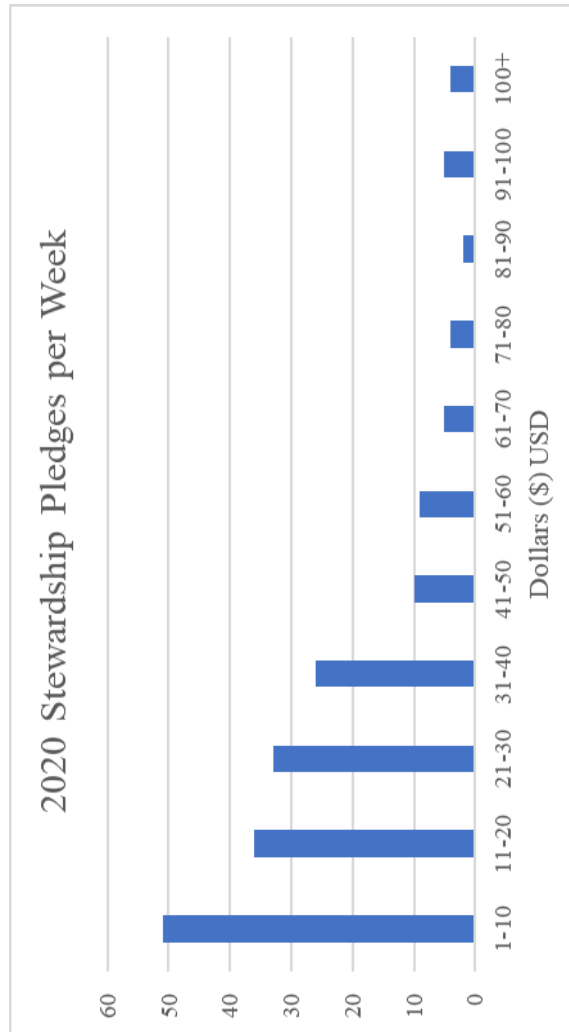


**Our church building is utilized by many different groups, including:**

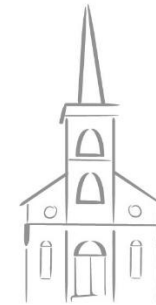
*American Red Cross*  
*AOL Den*  
*Blue Spruce Grange*  
*Boy Scouts Troop 624*  
*Brown Bag*  
*Brown Bag (AA)*  
*Burlington Amateur Radio Club*  
*Cub Scouts Pack 630*  
*Eagle Scouts*  
*Easterseals*  
*Essex Art League*  
*Essex Eats Out*  
*Essex Historical Society*  
*Group Victory*  
*Joe's Big Band*  
*Life Line Screening*  
*Nepali Worshipping Community*  
*Noontime Book Group*  
*St. Andrews Pipe Band*  
*Summit School*  
*Venture Crew 6689*

The *United Church of Christ* stresses giving a deliberately chosen percentage of income to support God's mission among people everywhere. The Bible calls on us to set at least 10% of income as our giving goal. Please consider moving toward that goal by giving an additional 1% of your income each year.



**Average Pledge = \$31/week**  
**Median Pledge = \$23/week**

1 Church Street  
Essex Junction, VT 05452  
P: 1(802)878-5745  
W: <http://www.fccej.org>



**FIRST  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH** *of Essex Junction*

*Love. Serve. Grow.*

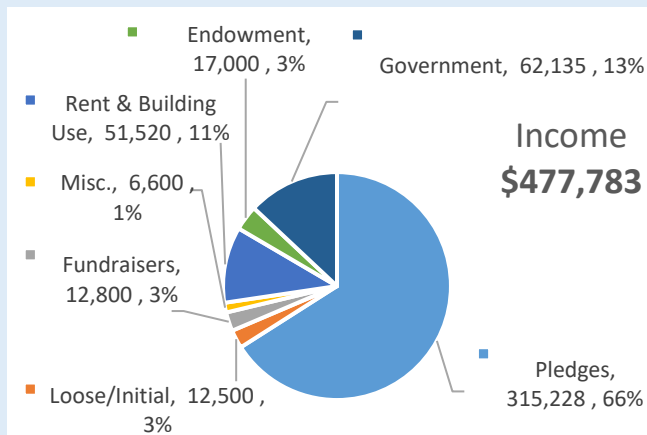
## 2021 Stewardship Campaign



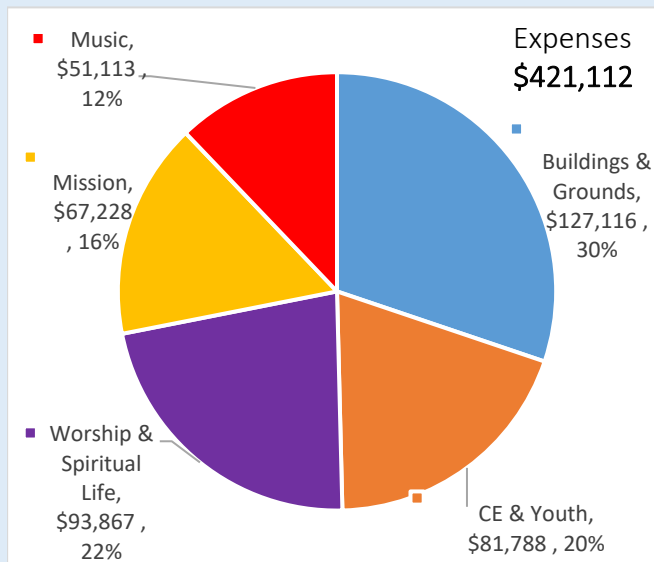
*“A Welcoming Community,  
Accepting and Serving All  
In the Spirit of Christ.”*



**We rely on and appreciate the fact that a majority of First Church's income [+80%] comes from her members.**



**Staff who administer different budget areas have proportioned their salaries into those areas.**



### **Worship & Spiritual Life** **22% of budget (\$93,867)**

Worship is at the heart of everything we do at First Church. Our mission statement describes us as “a welcoming community, accepting and serving all in the spirit of Christ.” Your support of our pastor, Mark Mendes, Associate Pastor Joshua Simon, and church staff allows them to bring the spirit of Christ to each of us. They, along with many volunteers, conduct weekly worship services, adult education gatherings and spiritual discussions. They also visit members and friends who are in the hospital, nursing homes or homebound.

### **Music**

#### **12% of budget (\$51,113)**

We have an incredible Music ministry in this church comprised of our seven choirs: Cherubs, Currie Bell Choir, Finally at First, Heavenly Harmony, Joyful Noise, Men at First and the Sanctuary Choir. Carol Spradling is our Music Director, and your generous support funds this staff position, allows the choirs to purchase supplies, and maintains and improves our instruments.

### **Christian Education & Youth** **20% of budget (\$81,788)**

We love and invest in our children and youth within this church! A strong Christian Education program is essential for everyone looking for a church to call home. Your gifts support our Christian Education Director, Laurie Chipman, the weekly Faith Formation classes, the incredible Youth Groups, and many adult education programs.

### **Building and Grounds** **30% of budget (\$127,116)**

Maintaining our church properties is a significant investment in time and resources. We take pride in providing a safe and welcoming space for meetings, fellowship, worship, and others in our “home.”

### **Mission**

#### **16% of budget (\$67,228)**

Your monetary gifts help our church and the United Church of Christ finance its missions in our community, Vermont, the United States and throughout the world. Some of the local organizations we support include: J.U.M.P. (Joint Urban Ministry Program), Nepali Church, Essex CHIPS Healthy Snack program, Dismas House, Essex Meals on Wheels. With your generous support, we can making a difference in the lives of the people we serve.

