



CHRIST THE KING PCA

Church Profile

Developed by the Pastoral Search Committee

**AUSTIN
TEXAS**



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WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION



Christ the King Presbyterian Church is a spiritual family sharing God's word and God's love. We gather to Christ, grow in Him and go forth in His love to serve South Austin and beyond.

CHRIST THE KING

The values and aspirations of Christ the King Presbyterian Church (CTK), call for a prayerful, courageous community committed to the principles of worship, discipleship, and service.

We exist to glorify God by being and making disciples of Jesus. We seek to mature in our love for, trust in, and obedience to Jesus, and to be a community committed to our values and aspirations. By embracing these values and focusing on a Gospel-centered approach, the church can cultivate a vibrant spiritual life that resonates internally and profoundly impacts the surrounding culture, ultimately reflecting Christ's love and grace to the world.

In this document we have endeavored to provide insight into our history, our values, and our congregation. CTK began worship in late 2000 as a church plant from Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Austin. In the Spring of 2022, we moved into our first building. From this humble beginning we have grown to a congregation of approximately 125 members, regular attendees and visitors.

We share and preach the good news of God's grace through the death and resurrection of Jesus in all of Scripture. We place significance on expository sermons that draw their purpose and structure from the biblical text itself and which are applied to our lives in line with that text. God matures us through hearing and applying his word. We prioritize Sunday worship and community groups as the two main ways that we grow in Christ.

Our congregation is demographically diverse, consisting of young singles and couples, young families, empty nesters, and grandparents representing differing ethnic, racial and socioeconomic strata. We support various missions, both locally and internationally, and have a high rate of volunteerism and participation in various ministries within our congregation.

Our prayer is for God to call a man with our shared values to shepherd Christ's flock as we work to advance His kingdom in South Austin and beyond.

OUR HISTORY

Plant and Founding Pastor

Christ the King Presbyterian Church began as a church plant of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Austin. In the summer of 1999 the Reverend John Ratliff, then a ruling elder at Redeemer, sensed a call toward pastoral work. Paul Hahn, Senior Pastor at Redeemer, encouraged John to lead a church plant in Southwest Austin. After much prayer and preparation, John resigned from his position at Probe Ministries. In January of 2000 John was called as Assistant Pastor to plant what was to become Christ the King. A core group began meeting at the Ratliffs' home for prayer and study. On Sunday morning, October 29, 2000, Christ the King Presbyterian Church met at Small Middle School for its first corporate worship service.

Pastoral Transition

In 2015, Founding Pastor John Ratliff announced his retirement to the congregation, and CTK began its first search for a new pastor. After months of prayer, research and deliberation, God revealed His choice, and the Pastor Search Team presented Tim Fox to the congregation as its recommendation to be the second pastor in the history of CTK.

By their nature, pastoral transitions bring about change to a church. Congregants leave, but new congregants come. However, what hasn't changed is the core culture of our church that focuses on the word and life of Christ as our foundation. We are forever grateful for Tim and his family's faithful service to CTK but look forward to the next transitional period God has in store.



OUR HISTORY

From Church in a Box to a Building

In February 2020, CTK moved from an Austin public school, to a private Christian school, as a possible first step toward a long-term partnership. While that partnership never materialized, the move from a public school building to a private school afforded us the option to meet and worship in the early periods of the Covid 19 pandemic. Our commitment to in-person gathering, while respecting people’s concerns about health, demonstrated not only our desire to go through difficult times together as a family of God, but grew CTK in that dark period.

In the late summer of 2021, we began exploring the purchase of our current building. In the Spring of 2022, we held our first worship service at 7006 Sir Gawain, which is uniquely situated in a neighborhood. Our activities in the neighborhood have been Christmas caroling and clearing trees after an ice storm. Part of our vision is that the Spirit would form us into His letter (2 Cor 3:3) to our neighbors. We pray that the Lord would shine “the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ” (2 Cor 4:4) through us in this part of South Austin and make our congregation increasingly a “neighborhood church.” Today we are now engaged in a building campaign to raise funds for an annex and to expand our sanctuary. We anticipate construction to begin in the first quarter of 2025.



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Terry L. Newton 1/18/2024

Christ the King Church Remodel and Annex - Presentation

08/31/2024

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Our Values

Gathering to Christ Growing in Christ Going with Christ



We recognize the importance of a church that encompasses a comprehensive understanding of its role in the life of believers and society at large, firmly rooted in the tenets of the Westminster Confession of Faith and guided by principles of Calvinism and the Reformed Faith.



We follow a Biblically covenantal framework that highlights the importance of community and the seamless continuity of faith throughout every stage of life, from cradle to grave. We aim to be Christ-centered, allowing the Gospel to shape all aspects of our life and mission.



Prayer is a foundational pillar of CTK, underpinning our collective actions and decisions. Through prayerful discernment, the church creates pathways to maturity for believers, facilitating a holistic approach to Christian education that addresses its members' spiritual, intellectual, and emotional needs.



We strive to exhibit courage in a cultural landscape of skepticism toward religious institutions. This courage is not merely about resistance; it embodies a loving and proactive stance in confronting cultural pressures and engaging with them meaningfully.



We place a high value on weekly communion in that it should be integrated thoughtfully, connecting the sermon's themes to participating in the Lord's Supper. This emphasizes the ongoing grace and nourishment believers receive as they engage with the living Christ.

Our Strengths

Worship	Love	Proclamation	Servant Leadership
<p>At the heart of CTK is the worship of the triune God and the person and work of Jesus Christ as witnessed by the Old and New Testaments. We worship with courage and boldness as an expression of our faith that not only ignites spiritual fervor within individuals but also serves as a powerful witness to the surrounding community, resonating with the invitation to encounter the divine.</p>	<p>Pacing life together means supporting one another in triumphs and trials and fostering genuine community. It creates a relational context where depth and authenticity flourish. This commitment to shared experiences allows individuals to live out the "one another" commands in Scripture: to love, encourage, and bear one another's burdens.</p>	<p>This is not merely about imparting theological knowledge, but cultivating a deep, joyful relationship with Christ and understanding His life and teachings. Christ-focused teaching helps reinforce the core tenets of Christianity, equipping believers with the necessary tools to navigate life's complexities through a biblical lens.</p>	<p>Leaders are tasked with cultivating an environment where community is prioritized. This involves fostering open communication, accountability, and a safe place for redemptive vulnerability. Leaders who embody these qualities empower others and encourage them to utilize their unique gifts for the collective good. This creates a dynamic of mutual edification, where the community grows stronger together, reflecting the unity and diversity in Christ's body.</p>

Areas for Growth

As with all organizations, we fall short of the glory of God in several areas and look to the Lord to continue to lead and refine His church. As a congregation we have identified several issues that hinder effective outreach, growth, and sustainability. These areas encompass the need for a larger base of volunteers and staff for ministry and administrative support, the need for intentional discipleship, size and financial constraints linked to physical building limitations, and an overarching need for inter-generational ministry and mentorship. In addition, we struggle with evangelism, and thus limited outreach further complicates efforts to foster community engagement. Under the right pastoral leadership, we can identify strategic approaches that promote a more robust community ministry framework.



WHAT WE DO

Sunday mornings

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” 1 Peter 2:9

We are a worshiping community, and Sunday morning worship is the heart and strength from which our service and mission ministries flow. Christ the King is committed to a liturgical worship style where the Word of God is preeminent and made known through preaching, liturgy, music and sacrament. We believe worship engages our minds and hearts through truth and mystery. Preaching, liturgy, music, prayer, lectionary readings, fellowship and the weekly celebration of the Lord’s Supper all play a vital role in our worship service. We welcome and love people as they are. At the same time, we work to equip them with the Word of God, that we may all live holier lives, encouraging each other, especially in times of need.



Music

We play an eclectic mix of modern and traditional tunes, all with theologically rich lyrics. There is not a particular style we try to capture, but we do have a few principles when selecting songs for worship:

- They should be theologically deep and true.
- They should be melodic and easy for the congregation to sing.
- When possible, at least a couple of the songs should match the theme of the sermon.



Children’s Church and Nursery

Bible Class for children ages 4-6 years and Bible Story Time in the nursery are offered each Sunday during the sermon, and Sunday School classes are offered periodically. We currently have fifteen 4-6 years old who attend the Bible Class.

Communion

The Lord’s Supper is observed every Sunday at the end of our worship service. Members of CTK and visitors who have accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior are invited to participate. While CTK does “fence the table,” we trust that each person electing to participate in communion does so with an understanding of its significance. We encourage those that are not sure of their relationship with Christ to refrain from taking the elements and use the time to pray and contemplate their relationship.





• Benevolence

The Benevolence Fund is administered by the Deacons of the church and is used primarily as an emergency mercy fund for Christ the King members, visitors or others that demonstrate financial need.

• Community Groups

Christ the King is committed to encouraging our members to join or host a home fellowship group. We currently have five such groups that meet at various times and days twice a month. They usually involve some social time, an occasional meal, but always a study of the Word, either through assigned Bible study topics, sermon discussions or book studies. We currently have 35 families or individuals signed up for various groups.

• Children

The purpose of Children's Ministry at CTK is to love God and to love our neighbors. We do this by coming alongside parents in raising their children to grow in the knowledge of, love for, and trust in our Savior Jesus Christ. As a congregation we join with parents in nurturing, teaching, and praying for our covenant children that they might learn to place their hope for salvation and all of life in Jesus Christ. Children's curriculum is chosen with these three questions in mind: What does it teach about God's character and his promises? What does it teach about Jesus and what he has done and continues to do for us? What privileges and responsibilities are ours because of the covenant of grace? We are currently using the Great Commission Publications, Show Me Jesus curriculum.

• Youth

The CTK youth group is open to 7th-12th graders and meets once a month at a family's house. The theme of our youth group is "Theology and Board Games". We have dinner together, catch up on life, pray, discuss a theological topic, and play a board game. Occasionally, we will meet for a round of mini-golf or bowling. The theology discussions cover a range of issues, including the weekly sermon, church history, or even seasonally look at the theology of Christmas carols.

• Women

Women play a vital role in church ministry, offering encouragement through prayer chains, one-on-one mentoring opportunities, women's fellowship, Bible studies, organizing meals, and mercy visitations. Women share their gifts on the music team, on committees, and in virtually all aspects of church life.

• Men

Christ the King conducts a weekly morning Men's Prayer session. This time is set aside for the men to pray for congregational needs and the needs of the missions we support. Theology on Tap is a way for the men of our church to connect outside of Sunday worship or prayer time in a relaxed environment. This ministry meets twice a month to discuss contemporary issues through a Reformed Christian lens where a meal and an occasional beer is shared.

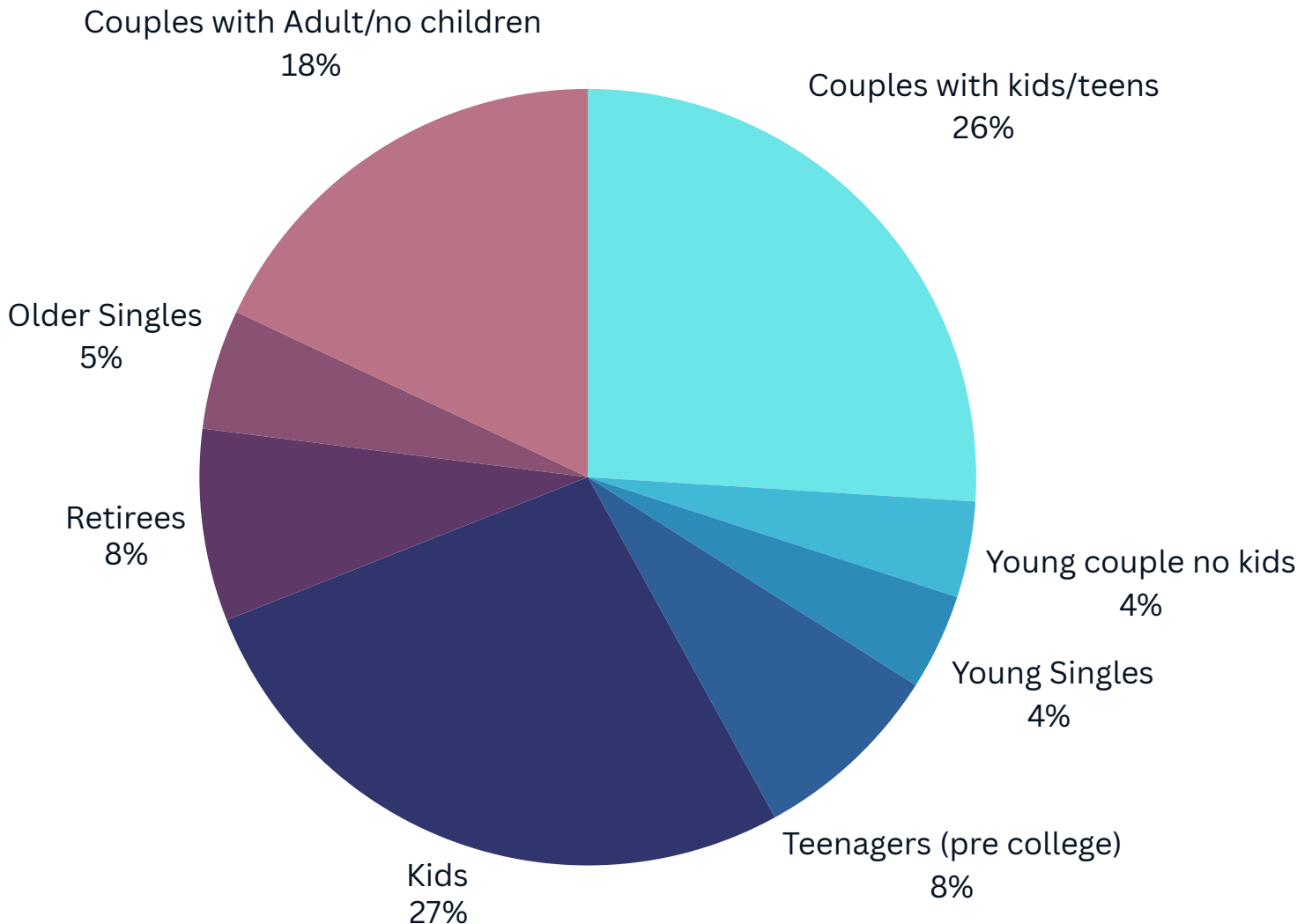
Who we are

CTK has experienced a “baby boom” in recent years with approximately sixty percent of our congregation consisting of married couples and their children. The next largest grouping of congregants are couples with adult children or no children, retirees, and older singles. Less than ten percent of our congregation are married young couples or young singles.

A number of adult regular attenders speak a language other than English as their first language. We are thankful that the Lord has brought brothers and sisters from Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, and South America to our congregation and given us a foretaste of the day on which “all tribes and peoples and languages” will be “standing before the throne and before the Lamb.” (Revelation 7:9). In recognition of this, on Pentecost Sunday we read Acts 2:1-42 in the various languages spoken in our congregation.



Demographics by Age



MISSIONS

Christ the King encourages its members to seek out and become involved in ways to share the gospel in their individual spheres of life. Ministry opportunities grow from the ground up as the Lord leads us. The leadership of Christ the King encourages its members to look both locally and beyond our corner of the world and involve themselves in ministries external to the congregation.



TRUCARE

TruCare exists to save and change lives in Jesus' name by sharing life-affirming solutions to issues surrounding unplanned pregnancy, with the intention of seeing babies born and people reborn.

THE BELIZE PROJECT

The Belize Projects empowers people through restoration and wholeness for the Glory of God .



REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

INTERNATIONAL

Through the ministry of RUF, students discover the love of Christ, find their significance in God's redemptive story, and engage in the life of His church.

ISAIAH 55

Christ the King partners with Isaiah 55, a ministry to the deaf in Reynosa, Mexico. Our congregation has participated in mission trips with Isaiah 55 since 2007.



MISSION TO THE WORLD

Ray & Michele Call - Belize
John & Kathy Clow - Honduras
Jonathan & Tracy Eides - Ukraine
Oscar & Nancy Olivares - Japan

Leadership



Janet Finley
Ministry Assistant



Brandon Shufflebarger
Worship Director
Youth Coordinator



Debbie Liu
Children's Ministry
Director



Tresa Hardister
Diaconal Assistant,
Bookkeeper



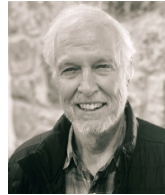
Byron West
Interim Pastor



Todd Finch
Ruling Elder



Bob Hardister
Ruling Elder,
Community Group
Coordinator



Larry Laine
Ruling Elder



Adam Sweat
Ruling Elder



James Allen
Deacon



Paul Benoit
Deacon



Mark Bohm
Deacon



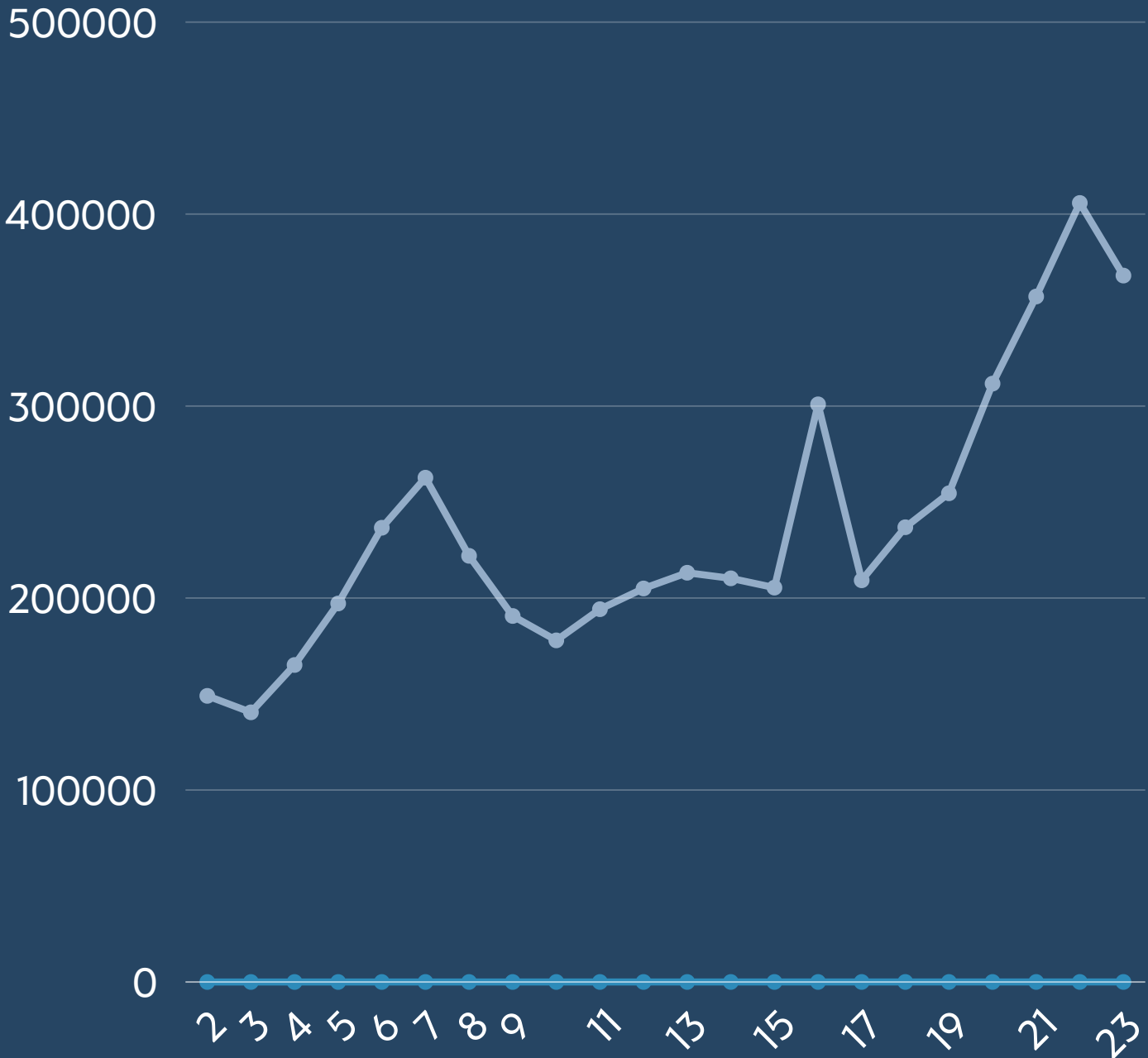
Trace Finley
Deacon



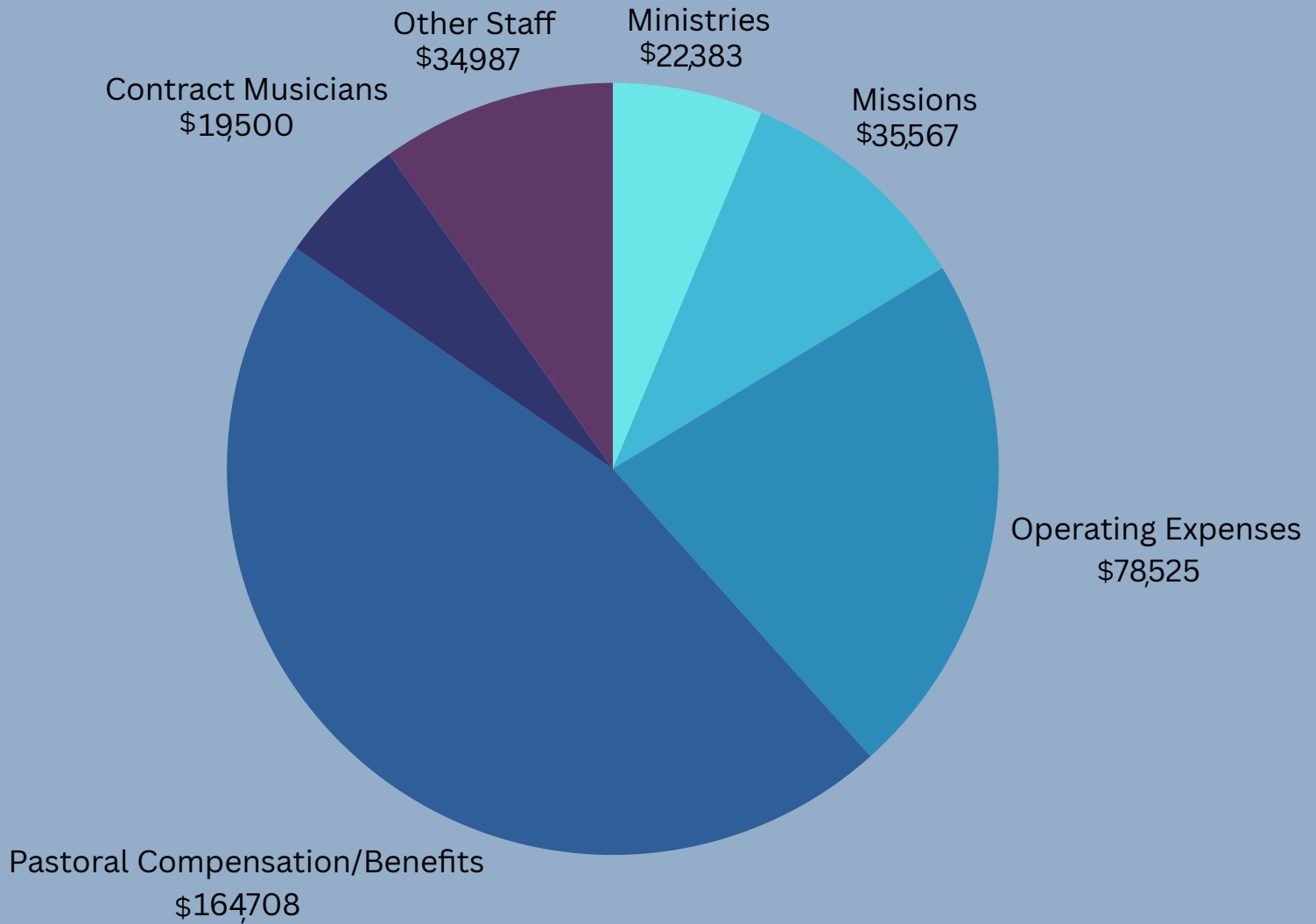
Eric Liu
Deacon



GIVING BY YEAR



Annual Budget 2024



Total Operating Expenses

\$355,670

Pastor Profile

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An Aspirational View of the Pastor in a Reformed Congregation

Christ the King Presbyterian Church (PCA) is searching for a pastor who fits the mold of Prophet/King. This pastor should have the ability to proclaim God's word through preaching and teaching in a way that edifies believers and convinces nonbelievers of the truth of God's word. Additionally, we seek a leader who can instill vision, set goals, develop staff and lay leaders, and guide our ministries in fulfilling their purpose for the honor of Christ.

Core Values and Capacity

We seek a pastor whose core values embody the Westminster Standards and who fully embraces covenant theology. This pastor's greatest strengths should be his capacity for preaching and leadership.

Preaching and Leading Worship

All preaching, at its core, must lead listeners to Christ. We seek a pastor who embraces expository preaching and has the ability to apply the message to our lives and the world around us. We believe that such preaching fosters a deeper understanding of Scripture and transforms lives for Christ. We seek a pastor who:

- Possesses the ability to integrate theological fidelity with practical application, personal integrity with communal engagement, and truth-telling with love.
- Understands and appreciates the current liturgical style of Christ the King's worship service, which we believe is God-focused, participatory, accessible, thoughtful, warm, and rooted in historical time-honored expressions of faith.
- Provides opportunities for individuals of all ages to be involved in the worship service according to their gifts and qualifications.
- Delivers concise messages, typically keeping within the allotted time of approximately 30 minutes during worship.

Leadership

We desire a pastor who will lead us in both spiritual and numerical growth, equipping staff, lay leaders, and the congregation for greater influence in the Austin area and beyond. Thus, our ideal pastor is not merely a teacher of doctrine but a dynamic leader, who is equipped to navigate personal and communal challenges in a way that honors God and enriches the lives of those he serves.

Over the past five years, our church has grown to include more families with children than ever before in its history. A pastoral candidate should embody the principles of biblical discipline outlined in Ephesians 6:4 as the head of his household. A godly pastor not only teaches the Word but also exemplifies faithfulness and responsibility within his family. He should cultivate an environment in which his children are raised to reflect the character of God, nurtured in love and truth. This personal commitment to family reflects a broader theology of covenant, where the pastor serves as a steward of both his household and the church, teaching and leading with a focus on generational faithfulness. Additional characteristics include:

- Being an example of personal holiness, demonstrated through devotion to Christ, integrity, transparency, authenticity, approachability, and humility. The sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit in him is evident as he continues to listen and learn.
- Having a wife who encourages her husband in his ministry and actively engages with the church community.
- Possessing enthusiasm and the ability to share his faith in Jesus Christ by seeking and seizing opportunities for conversations with the lost.

Gifting

We are looking for a pastor with conviction, emotional maturity, and a deep love for Christ that extends to his family, the church, and unbelievers. He must have a thorough knowledge of the Bible, a deep understanding of covenant theology, church history, and contemporary theological developments and issues.

The candidate's ministry approach should reflect truth-telling in love and include effective practical application. In this aspirational view of the pastor, the key gifts we seek are focused on building relationships and fostering a biblical worldview.

The candidate should have the desire and ability to relate to both the congregation and visitors, enabling him to connect authentically with people. This relational aspect is essential, as the pastor is called to shepherd a diverse flock, understanding their needs, struggles, and aspirations with compassion. Building genuine relationships fosters trust and creates opportunities for ministry that address the congregation's spiritual and practical concerns. In this relational dynamic, the pastor serves as a conduit for spiritual growth and communal support, fostering a vibrant church life.

In an increasingly complex cultural landscape, we aspire to have a pastor who boldly addresses contemporary issues through a biblical and theological lens. By engaging with cultural issues authentically and thoughtfully, a pastor can guide his congregation through the challenges of modern life while remaining rooted in Scripture.

Scope and Expectations

We want our pastor to flourish in all aspects of his life: to have a healthy, balanced, and joyful life where he and his family can truly love the Lord with all their heart, and all their soul, and all their might. For this reason, and many others, we do not want our pastor to do everything. We are seeking a leader who can equip and delegate to others. This leader should also participate when needed and trust church staff and lay leaders to lead and carry out the work of ministry. Additionally, they should occasionally invite a guest preacher for Sunday worship (excluding time off).

While we always look to our pastor for spiritual authority and guidance, our aspirational view is that much of the work of ministry should be delegated to others. This includes areas such as Christian education, church administration, worship music, shepherding, visitation, community groups, and men's and women's events. We want our pastor to focus on proclaiming God's Word and providing leadership, while empowering church staff and congregants to contribute meaningfully to the life of the church.

"I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me." (1 Cor. 15:10b) We are seeking a pastor who works hard and manages his time well. Hard work, devotion, rest, family, and friends must combine with grace and wisdom for the individual, family, and community to flourish. Our expectations are as follows, a pastor:

- Whose whole, full-time vocation is to pastor the church, with no other employer.
- Whose schedule is shaped by his calling and ministry, while also enabling him to nurture and love his wife, family, and friends.
- Whose hours in ministry reflect this priority order: first, preaching; second, leadership; and then, according to circumstances and wisdom, everything else.
- Who, in his first year, takes time to know, serve, and love his new community.
- That then, working with church leadership, goes on to discern our church's particular gifts, direction, and the work God is calling us to, and begins leading us to the next level as a church, responding in faith to God's call.

Experience and Education

- Master of Divinity (MDiv) required.
- Three to five or more years of being lead staff, associate, or lead pastor.
- Significant preaching experience.
- Proven ability to gather and grow a community.
- Experience exercising congregational or large group oversight.
- Experience supervising others.
- Member of the PCA in good standing; a candidate who is not currently a member of the PCA but feels called to be so and is ordainable is encouraged to apply.



We pray that God, in His grace and wisdom, would lead a faithful pastor to shepherd this flock—someone who loves the Word, treasures Christ, and will joyfully lead us in worship, discipleship, and service as we seek to glorify God in South Austin and beyond.

Soli Deo Gloria