

**Selected Quotes from Theron Cochran - Chairperson Church Council -
October 11, 2026 Report to Charge Conference:**

“Two Thousand and Twenty-Six has continued to be a good year for the ministries of Easley First United Methodist Church (EFUMC).

We are encouraged and excited about that but need to get more people involved and are trying to find ways to do that.

Finances have also continued to be an issue, but when there is a specific need our members and congregation respond well.

Our congregation is an ageing congregation, and we currently have an average of approximately 102 people (total) weekly attending both services. We are trying to increase the participation in our attendance and membership with an emphasis on younger people with families.

Our Children and Youth Ministries continue to be strong under the direction of Children and Youth Minister, Matt, and many dedicated volunteers. In addition to regular Sunday morning Children Sermons, regular activities have taken place and many more are planned for the rest of the year.

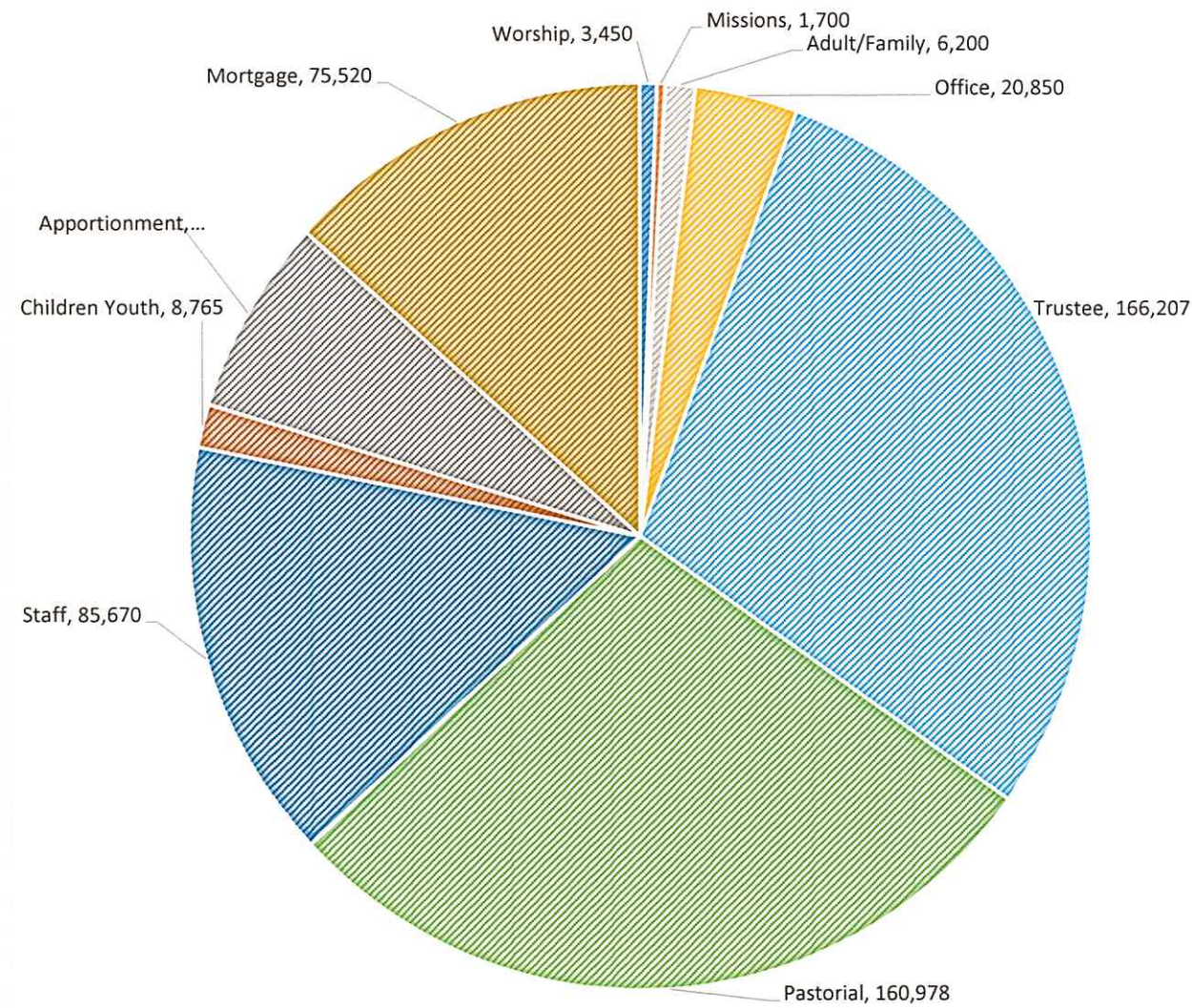
Our adult ministries have continued to be very active.

We continue to be hopeful for the future of EFUMC. However, we still face many challenges as mentioned above. We know that God will be with us and guide us as we move forward in our resolve of the issues before us. The positives at EFUMC far outweigh the negatives. We look forward to serving Christ through the programs and ministries of our Church.”

Stewardship Focus

As members of The United Methodist Church, you are asked to “uphold it by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service”.

As we look forward, reflect on where we are and prayerfully consider 2027.



EFUMC Estimated 2027 Operating Budget - \$569,238

EFUMC Financial Update (as of 10/7/26)

- 2026 Pledges - \$189,500
- 2026 Pledges received as of 10/7/26 - \$184,270 (97.2%)
- Estimated total giving for balance of 2026 - \$50,383
- YTD average weekly spending - \$9,232
- Estimated spending for balance of 2026 - \$110,784
- Estimated 2026 spending deficit - \$60,401
- Edward James brokerage account (as 10/7/26):
 - Money Market - \$77,297
- 2026 Apportionment - \$41,408 budgeted
- YTD paid on apportionment – \$1,000
- 2026 Budget - \$566,169
- YTD – 58% of budget received – 63.6% of budget spent
- Mortgage balance - \$467,011 - Rate- 3.6% - Maturity date – 11/23/2031

10/14/26 Balance: Non-budget designated funds	
Fellowship Hall Renovations	3,872
Boiler	1,678
Memorials	10,496
Missions Fund raising	16,850
Special Offerings	589
Pastor's Discretionary	4,077
Youth Ministries	3,884
Children's Ministries	7,016
Choir	2,931
Reserve Fund	2,240
Salkehatchie	12,730
Vander Linden Mission Fund	1,865
Transportation Fund	14,054
Organ Repair	35,779
McKelvey Scholarship	113,936
Total	229,757