

Emmanuel
Faith

Annual Report 2025-26

Living in the way of Jesus with the heart of Jesus



Thank you for a great year!

As we close the books on another fiscal year (April–March), I want to begin by saying thank you. Your faithful generosity continues to fuel the mission God has entrusted to us; holding out the good news of Jesus to Escondido, North County, and beyond. This year, by God’s grace, we not only met but exceeded our annual general fund budget. What a gift, and what a testament to God’s provision and your partnership in the gospel. Thank you!



That makes this year’s story even more meaningful. Not long ago, we faced a challenging season that required difficult decisions, including the painful step of downsizing portions of our staff. Those moments are never easy. And yet, even in the midst of that, God was at work by providing, refining, and preparing us for what’s ahead. Today, we are grateful not only for His sustaining grace through that season, but also for the new leaders He has brought to our team. We are moving forward with a deep sense of hope.

Fresh on my mind is our celebration of Easter a few weekends ago. Across seven services, we gathered with thousands of people from our community, and, most importantly, we saw lives changed. Dozens of people raised their hands to make a first-time commitment or recommitment to Jesus. It was a powerful reminder that the gospel is still at work, and God’s grace is still changing lives.

Beyond our weekend gatherings, we’ve continued to see God move throughout our ministries. Through Love Esco, we hosted our third annual Love Esco Day, and it was our largest yet, serving and blessing our city in tangible ways. Our Care & Counseling ministries have helped hundreds of people find hope and healing this year. And our kids and student ministries remain a vibrant place where the next generation is growing in faith and being equipped to share Jesus with others.

As we step into a new fiscal year, let’s remember who we are and what we’re called to. We are a people following Jesus, in community, and on mission. Each of us has a role to play in bringing the hope of Jesus into our everyday lives. My prayer is that as you lean into that calling, you would experience the deep and lasting joy that comes from living with purpose.

I believe God is not finished with us yet. In fact, the best is still ahead. As we continue to say “yes” to Him, I trust we will see Him move in powerful and beautiful ways, in our church, in our city, and in our lives. Thank you for your generosity and partnership in the gospel.

Grace + Peace, Pastor Ryan

Adult Ministries

The Follow Series Connect Groups were a highlight this year! 40% of those who participated in Connect Groups have attended EFCC for less than five years and were grateful for a safe place to meet new people and join alongside other disciples in their journey of following Jesus. Some Connect Groups are continuing to meet, bringing our current total to 75+ Life Groups. Our next Connect Group session will start in the second week of September 2026.

“

I really enjoyed getting to know others that we would not have regularly met. I have tended to stay in my comfort zone and have not gotten to know many others at EFCC unless they are connected with my kids. I felt very blessed to get to know everyone in my group. They were FANTASTIC!!!

”

**300**

Connect Group participants
and leaders

36

New groups formed from
Connect Groups



Steps of Faith

This year, we joyfully celebrated those who took meaningful steps of faith through baptism or by becoming members of Emmanuel Faith. Each baptism is a powerful picture of new life in Christ, and each new member represents a deeper commitment to walk in community and grow together. We're so excited for what God is doing in and through our church family.



Adult Bible Fellowships

Adult Bible Fellowships (ABF's) are gatherings of adults who come together to study God's Word, connect in community, and encourage and care for one another. This past winter, during the Follow Series, some of the ABF's invited staff and elders to come teach in their classes. This was a great opportunity for our staff, elders, and ABF's to become better acquainted with each other.



Meet-Ups

Our Meet-Up activities provide the perfect places to connect with others, have some fun, and maybe even learn a new skill. From painting to pickleball, fencing, quilting, and family fun nights, there's something for everyone!

101

Baptisms
this year

74

New Members
this year

7

Sunday morning
AFBs with over
200 attending

290

People who attended
Meet-Ups this year

Welcome Ministry



We're filled with gratitude and excitement for the many new people who have found their way to our church this year. It's been a joy to welcome individuals and families who are exploring faith, building relationships, and taking steps to get connected. Our Newcomer Lunches have been a meaningful part of that journey, creating space for people to meet others, hear the heart of our church, and discover how they can belong and grow here. We're truly thankful for each new story God is writing in our community!

200+

Attended
Newcomer
Lunches

2-3

New families
coming to
Children's Ministry
each week



Here's what some of our Newcomers are saying...

Very friendly, kind, and welcoming - a great church.

It's been a great experience. I would like to connect with volunteering and groups.

It has been very good. Everyone here is so friendly!



En Español

This past year has been a meaningful and encouraging season for our En Español congregation. Rather than introducing new initiatives, we have focused on faithfully living out the process God has already placed before us. Our commitment has remained centered on three key areas: growing as a congregation, connecting through groups, and engaging in God's mission.

We have seen steady growth, both numerically and spiritually, as people continue to encounter Christ through Sunday worship and the teaching of the Word. Our average Sunday attendance has been around 250, reflecting a healthy, engaged congregation.

One of the most significant areas of impact has been our Connection Groups. These groups have become a vital space for discipleship, relationships, and care within the church. Approximately 40% of our Sunday congregation has actively participated in Connection Groups. Through these gatherings, we are seeing authentic community form as people take meaningful steps in their faith.

We have also been intentional in developing leaders. A recent training equipped 28 Connection Group leaders to guide others in faith and community, strengthening the foundation for continued growth and discipleship. Throughout the year, we have celebrated key moments of spiritual commitment, including 19 baptisms that reflect lives being transformed by the gospel. Each of these moments is a reminder that God is actively at work in our congregation.

A highlight of this season was our Easter celebration, during which we held two En Español services and welcomed over 450 people. It was a powerful opportunity to gather, worship, and share the hope of the resurrection with our community.

Overall, the ministry continues to grow and thrive. People are connecting, growing in Christ, and finding ways to serve and participate in the life of the church. We are grateful for God's faithfulness and for the continued support, leadership, and prayers that make this ministry possible.

Thank you for your partnership in what God is doing through En Español.

Men's Ministry

Men's Ministries at EFCC are a great way to get to know other men! Guys gather throughout the year for Bible study, fellowship, encouragement, and just to have fun. From men's breakfasts to camping trips to hockey games to small-group studies to multiple ways to serve, there is a place for each man at EFCC.

The men of Families in Faith, along with a few others, continue to step up and serve the men of our church by providing not just meals, but high-quality meals, at our men's events. This includes a number of early Saturday morning breakfasts, where the cooking team typically arrives around 5am to start cooking, as well as two annual campouts, where they are always up early and busy throughout the day prepping and serving meals for over 100 men (depending on location — desert or mountains). Not only do they serve with excellence, but they also continue to help us be good stewards of our finances. Men's Ministry would not be what it is without them.



160

Attending Men's
Breakfasts

30+

On the Men's
Leadership Team

120

Attending
Camping Trips

Women's Ministry



Women at EFCC are offered multiple ways to connect and grow in their faith. Each week, over 50 women meet on Thursday mornings to study the Bible, led by Judy Dunn. We have multiple women's life and connect groups that meet throughout the year. MomCo gathers on Wednesday evenings for connection, growth, and encouragement. And in fall 2025, we held an on-campus Women's Conference. Be on the lookout for another conference/retreat in early 2027!

130

Gathered for the
Fall Women's
Conference

100+

Meet each week
for study and
connection

In summer 2025, Sara Ferreira committed to leading a MomCo group, expecting only 3 or 4 moms to attend, and that she would be the only leader. She just wanted to provide a time for moms to gather for fellowship and encouragement. As of today, over 30 moms attend MomCo weekly, and Sara has been joined by three more leaders. MomCo has become a safe and encouraging haven for moms of all ages and stages. Thank you, Sara, for your faithfulness and tenacity!

Children's Ministry

Our Kids Ministry continues to grow, with two to three new families joining each week as kids invite friends and neighbors into our church community. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, we're able to serve children from Nursery through 6th grade, creating a welcoming and engaging environment for every family. Last summer, over 550 kids attended VBS, supported by 300+ volunteers—a joy-filled week in which children experienced the love of Jesus and families deepened their connection to our church.



2-3

New families attending each week

550

Children attended VBS last summer

24

Costco bags of Goldfish crackers served in the nursery

300+

Volunteers serving Children's Ministry



A mom recently shared that our nursery played a key role in helping her 15-month-old successfully transition into daycare. Because of the consistent care and routines he experienced on Sundays, he was confident, comfortable, and excited in his new environment, something she had been very nervous about.



Junior High

Junior High Ministry is built on student-leader relationships that are committed to studying God's Word and sharing about one's life in relation to it. Over this past school year, 8 students trusted Christ at Summer Camp, 18 students indicated they trusted Christ on the Knott's Berry Farm trip in the fall, and 8 others trusted Christ at Winter Camp.

“

The Junior High group has helped me come closer to God and learn how to avert temptation.

– Logan Zacharias

”

104

Students attended winter camp

34

Decisions made for Christ!

89

Students attended summer camp

75

Average students and leaders each week

Student Poem by Grace Mason

Lost Sheep

The world is filled with hypocrites
 Who make each lie their own
 Make this a battle of spirit
 Rather than flesh and bone
 But you, Lord God, are different
 In a way that we can see
 Because you love us like a humble Shepherd
 And we are but the sheep
 So how to keep from getting lost
 This world is like a maze
 But you keep us from straying far
 You keep us in your gaze
 So where can I go to be lost from you
 To find a place where you are not
 For you know every thought in my mind
 All those that I forgot
 And before a word leaves my lips
 Lord God, you know the sound
 And as a sheep I once was lost
 But in you I am found
 So I'll pick up my cross to follow you
 I'll leave it all behind
 You're the God who never forgot about me
 You left the ninety-nine

High School



This chapter of High School Ministry has seen a beautiful collaboration among staff, leaders, and parents, as they join together to raise up the next generation of students! We have had the privilege of having members of our staff regularly show up and speak at the various high schools in Escondido through our partnerships with Cru High School and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

We've also seen a movement of God occur while up at camp last summer and winter. In particular, we celebrate the 90 students who stood up to make a bold recommitment of their faith in Jesus! Additionally, we expect our future trips to Mexico to continue cementing our partnerships with our brothers and sisters on either side of the border. This summer, we are excited to take a great team of incoming seniors to Romania to reach the next generation of orphans with the

good news of Jesus. We continue to pray that this generation does not look down on itself on account of its youth, but rises up as the leaders of the church for today!

6

First-time decisions

14

Baptisms

“

"The leaders really care about how you're doing and show that they're there for you."

- Tyree Gonzalez

”

197

Recommitments at camp

21

Students sent to Romania

Young Adults

This past year has been a year of transition for the Young Adults Ministry. After 7 years as the Young Adults Pastor, Pastor Ryan Lunde took on the role of our High School Pastor, leaving a significant hole in the ministry. Pastor Josh Rose has been able to fill in as needed, but the majority of the ministry has been managed by our Young Adults Lead, Kassie Lowe. She and a faithful team of volunteers have maintained the relational connection with the students. In the midst of all of this change, this ministry has continued to be a place of personal growth and transformation through the teaching of the Word, great discussions, and powerful worship. We recently took 20 individuals to Camp Maranatha for a retreat focusing on learning healthy rhythms of rest. This retreat thoroughly blessed our community and has sparked renewed interest among our young adults.

One 19-year-old student who attended our Winter(ish) Retreat shared about her ongoing struggles with unhealthy coping mechanisms. She's felt trapped by these choices and by the people she's surrounded herself with. At the retreat, after a time of solitude, she expressed the sincere desire to turn away from these habits and to turn back toward Christ and her identity in him.



70

Young adults
attended the
Black Tie event

19

Young adults served
in High School Ministry
at Hume Lake

33

Young adults served
on mission trips

Preschool

Sharing the love of Jesus continues to be a true blessing and privilege for our Preschool Ministry staff. We are honored each day to care for and pour into His little ones, watching them grow and learn in a Christ-centered environment. By God's wisdom and strength, our program continues to grow and thrive as we strive to be a place of hope and blessing to our community. We remain licensed to serve 120 preschool families and have expanded our Infant and Toddler program to serve up to 32 families. As our ministry grows, we are prayerfully seeking additional staff and trusting God to meet the ongoing need for this important work.



"Our family loves Emmanuel Faith Preschool! After hearing so many rave reviews about this preschool from lots of friends and neighbors a couple years ago, we decided to enroll our kids here, and we're so glad we did! The staff has been so wonderful to work with (communicative, kind, personable) and the teachers are seriously the best! They're all so incredibly sweet and nurturing, and our kids have learned and grown so much because of their program... We wish this school had an elementary program because we don't ever want to leave!"

-Erin Kennedy

Care

God has continued to bless the Emmanuel Faith Church family with generous givers and new volunteers who desire to share the love of Jesus by financially supporting the Care Fund and by coming alongside those who are struggling, recovering, and alone. This year, we helped those experiencing a temporary financial resource gap by providing over \$276,000 to approximately 350 individuals or families. Most of this assistance went toward gas and food cards, utility bills, car payments/insurance, rent/mortgage, and counseling services.

Our Care Team continues to grow! This year, 13 new volunteers completed Care Team training and are now regularly providing hospital visits, making "care calls," and providing care and prayer to our church family. We are abundantly grateful for these compassionate souls.

Dear Emmanuel Faith Church,

I want to thank you for your empathy and solidarity, which have provided financial and emotional support, assuring my grandson and me that we are not alone. I'm thankful to our Father as you help supply our needs, which makes our lives less stressful. I appreciate everything Emmanuel Faith has done. As a member for several years, the help with food and other financial needs has been a huge blessing — during Christmas and Thanksgiving, as well. I could not have done this alone as a single parent. I would like to thank everyone at Emmanuel Faith!

-Blessings, Maria F.



350

Received care through
the Care Fund

\$265K

Given to the
Care Fund

13

New volunteer
team members

43

Memorials serving
over 5,400 people

Counseling & Support Groups

The Emmanuel Faith Counseling Department provides care through counseling and support groups to around 300 people each month. This is due in part to our dedicated support group and lay counselor volunteers. In January 2025, 30 new students committed to attending our 15-month Lay Counseling & Leadership Course. In March 2026, 14 of these students completed the entire course, which included 75 hours of class time and over 200 hours of homework. Each of these individuals has committed to either serving as an Emmanuel Faith Lay Counselor or using their studies and practices to serve elsewhere. We also recently added a new support group titled "Strength for the Journey." This group's goal is to come alongside people facing chronic illness and life-altering diseases, offering them hope and strength through Jesus. We are so grateful for our amazing team of caring and compassionate volunteers!



Early this year, our Living Grace Group lost its leader, Kevin, to a tragic fall. Kevin had led the group with passion and commitment for around five years. He showed up every Monday night and encouraged group participants throughout each week with prayer, phone calls, and text messages. Kevin's tenacity, love for Jesus, and love for people kept this group going through seemingly insurmountable challenges. Because of his model of faith and hope, the group members are continuing to meet in his absence.

309

New counseling clients

20

Lay counselors (doubled this year!)

21

Support groups

Local Outreach

Our ministries continue to grow along five focus areas: families, education, refugees, homelessness, and loving our city. We support fantastic community partners: Olive Crest, Alternatives Medical Clinic, Bridge Builders, We See You, The Anchor, Child Evangelism Fellowship, and Love Esco.

Pick any week and look in the right places — you'll find Emmanuel Faith people quietly making an impact across Escondido. A Care Community volunteer delivers a hot meal to a foster family, then pauses to pray with an overwhelmed parent who just received hard news from court. A team of men in Love Esco shirts brandish chainsaws and clear overgrown trees from the sidewalk of an elderly widow. On Monday nights at the Cafe, high schoolers play Uno with older adults after sharing a home-cooked meal and working through math problems together. Somewhere across town,



a reading mentor sits with a fourth grader who immigrated from the Middle East and is discovering the English language through the magic of books.

Each week, dozens of EFCC volunteers generously give their time and resources — hundreds of individual acts of love, large and small, done in Jesus' name and bringing renewal to our community. There's always more to do — come and be a part of something great.



— ” —

“Are you coming back next week?”

-4th grade student
to their Reading Mentor

72

Community partners and 781
volunteers at Love Esco Day

801

Guests attended
Snowball Bash

792

Cookies and brownies eaten
at homework club

Global Outreach



You'll hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. It's been that kind of year for Global Outreach, with conflict and uncertainty across the Middle East, North Africa, Asia, and among refugees worldwide. And yet, the Good News has never been more needed. By God's grace and your generosity, EFCC missionaries and partners are bringing hope to people in 58 countries.

“

This time feels like painful birth pangs; deep travail that precedes transformation. We are witnessing both suffering and salvation, heartbreak and hope. The enemy's moment is temporary; God's purposes endure.

-EFCC partner inside Iran

God is not distant from Lebanon. He sees. He is present. And He remains our refuge.

-Nadim, ministry partner in Lebanon under bombing)

”

Here are a few of the mission projects we have been able to support in the past twelve months:

- Disciple-making movements among unreached people groups in Burkina Faso, Guinea, Cameroon, Gabon, Mali, Chad, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Kenya, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.
- Discipleship training for underground believers from Iran, Yemen, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.
- Bible-based education for refugee children in Jordan and Lebanon.
- Multiplying sports ministry leaders in Taiwan, the Philippines, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Mauritania, Yemen, Syria, and South Sudan.
- Bible-based trauma care for former "ISIS brides" in Northern Iraq.
- Support for persecuted believers in China and India.
- Training pastors in Mongolia, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Nepal, and Mali.
- Relief, outreach, and discipleship among war refugees in the Middle East.
- Digital evangelism reaching thousands in countries we cannot travel to.
- Bible translation and missionary aviation in Papua New Guinea.
- Our 2025 VBS program raised \$10,000 to build a ministry center in Kenya.



Classic Worship

It's been a year of faithful service from our choir and orchestra, who continue to show up each week and use their musical gifts to serve our 9am congregation. The joy and camaraderie are felt beyond just Sunday mornings: Rehearsing, praying for one another, and connecting through small groups and meals together. One church member says, "The music in the classic worship service draws me into one of the 'thin places' between heaven and earth. It often ignites my imagination and emotions so that I'm left in wonder of what it will be like on That Day in His very presence." (Shellie M.) We are so grateful for what God is doing among us, and it's a privilege to lead His people in worship every week!

“

Thank you for inviting Yvonne to play her viola with the orchestra. For a couple of years, she kept asking whether she could play in church "for God." She now feels like there's a place for her, and she can praise God with her musical gifts. It's also exciting for her because she gets to play with two of her violin/viola teachers, who have been part of the EFCC orchestra for years. This kind of mentorship is very encouraging.

-Faith O. (and Yvonne)

”

3,523

People who came and enjoyed our Christmas concerts

69

Weekly choir and orchestra volunteers

12

New volunteers this year



Modern Worship

This year has been marked by meaningful growth, energy, and a deepening culture of worship across our church. Our team of volunteers faithfully led in Sunday services, Worship Nights, and Prayer Nights, creating consistent opportunities for our church to encounter God. One of the most encouraging developments has been the strengthening of our partnership with High School Ministry, as students have joined the team and are being actively disciplined, building a strong foundation for the next generation of worship leaders. We've also seen powerful engagement at our Worship Nights, as people have gathered throughout the year to seek the Lord together in extended times of worship and prayer. There is a growing sense of unity, ownership, and spiritual depth within the team, as more individuals step into leadership and use their gifts to serve the church.

“

Being on this team has changed the way I see worship. It's not just about music anymore, it's about leading people to Jesus.

I've grown more this year than I expected, and I'm really grateful for that.

-Volunteer team member

”

76

Modern Worship
volunteers

225

Services and Worship
gatherings this year

1,200

Average
attendance at
Worship Nights

Operations

The Operations team supports every ministry by overseeing finance, Human Resources, payroll, facilities, safety, IT, the Holy Grounds Cafe, and the library—stewarding resources so each area can thrive. We've streamlined processes, reduced software costs, and saw a strong impact from solar—saving an estimated \$215,000 in SDG&E costs this past year.

Hospitality continues to grow, with over 200,000 cups of coffee and water served before services. The Holy Grounds Cafe has become a hub for connection, serving thousands of burritos, donuts, and breakfast plates, as well as over 500 cold brews from the coffee cart.

We remain committed to safety, with 876 volunteers background-checked through our partnership with Play as One. We've also increased our on-campus serving opportunities, with 12 volunteers now staffing our front desk during office hours and more than 150 volunteers across our three all-church workdays to keep the campus beautiful. On a weekly basis, more than 190 volunteers help to keep EFCC running smoothly! We're so grateful for our partnerships and all our volunteers. We couldn't do what we do without them.



200k

Cups of coffee and water served at Sunday services

876

Volunteers cleared through background checks

12

Volunteers staffing the reception desk weekly

2,800

Donuts served this year in the Cafe

Financials

April 2025 - March 2026 (Unaudited)

Funds	Actual	Budget	Variance
General Fund			
Contributions	\$ 5,963,479	\$ 5,425,659	\$ 537,820
Other Revenue	\$ 2,496,977	\$ 1,936,400	\$ 560,577
Expenses	\$ 7,018,017	\$ 7,362,059	\$ (344,042)
Net Gain/(Loss) in Fund	\$ 1,442,439	\$ -	\$ 1,442,439

Care			
Revenue	\$ 268,594	\$ 240,000	\$ 28,594
Expenses	\$ 433,479	\$ 240,000	\$ 193,479
Net Gain/(Loss) in Fund	\$ (164,885)	\$ -	\$ (164,885)

Outreach/Estate Gift			
Revenue	\$ 743,217	\$ 788,400	\$ (45,183)
Expenses	\$ 960,738	\$ 810,896	\$ 149,842
Net Gain/(Loss) in Fund	\$ (217,521)	\$ (22,496)	\$ (195,025)

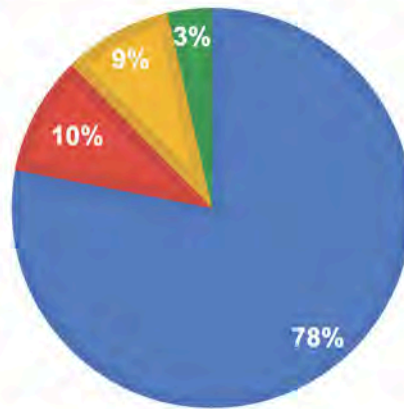
Beyond (Loan Balance as of 3/31/26: \$6,847,870)			
Revenue	\$ 669,391	\$ 624,000	\$ 45,391
Expenses	\$ 620,856	\$ 624,000	\$ (3,144)
Net Gain/(Loss) in Fund	\$ 48,535	\$ -	\$ 48,535

Year-Over-Year Giving

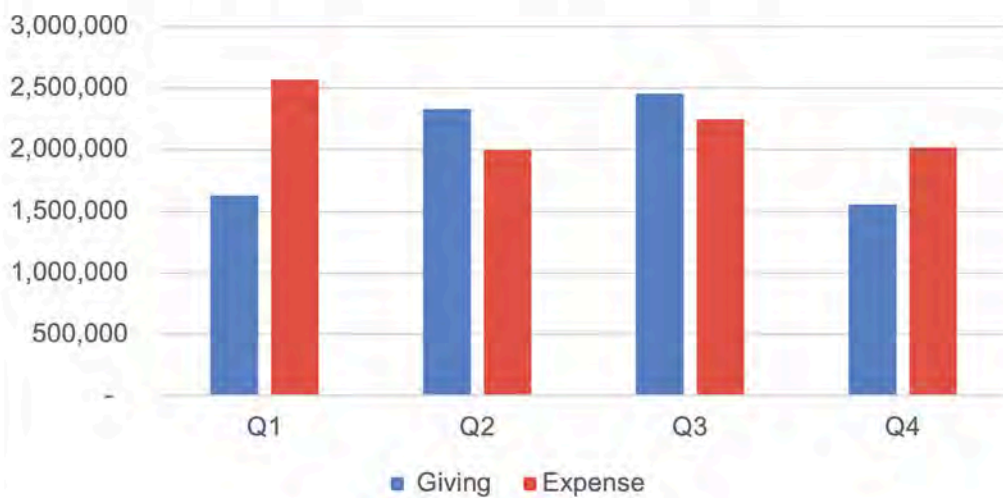
Giving	This Year	Previous Year	Variance
General Fund	5,963,479	5,799,208	164,270
Care	268,594	273,554	(4,960)
Outreach/Estate Gift	743,217	763,800	(20,583)
Beyond	669,391	739,871	(70,480)

EFCC GIVING MIX YTD FY 25/26

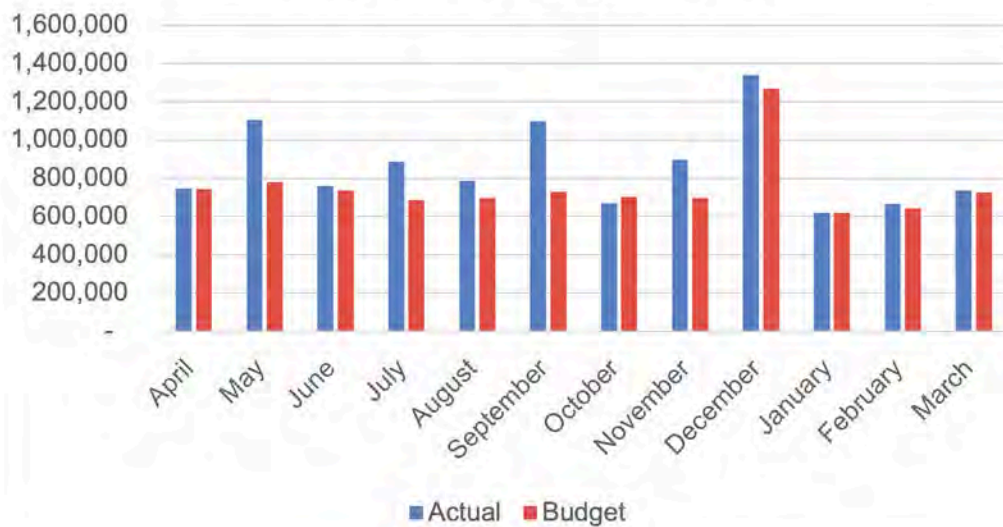
■ General
 ■ Outreach/Estate
 ■ Beyond
 ■ Care (Fellowship)



Giving vs Expense by Quarter FY 25/26



Revenue vs Budget FY 25/26





**Emmanuel
Faith**

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