




MONTREAT[®]

CONFERENCE CENTER

2022 Annual Report

A young man with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a brown hoodie and jeans, is pouring water from a large, shiny metal pitcher into a glass bowl. The background is blurred with green and blue light. The text is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

*Now faith is the assurance
of things hoped for, the
conviction of things not seen.*

Hebrews 11:1 NRSV



What makes up a year at Montreat Conference Center?

There are countless ways to mark the passing of the days, often dependent on the perspectives of the people who come each year to this cherished place. We've witnessed these past months woven together by days filled with laughter and music; prayer and study. Moments were filled with voices lifted in praise, and hands clasped in community. Everywhere we looked, the threads of an abiding faith were evident, and throughout the year, you were part of these moments, in small and significant ways. For those of us at the conference center, reflecting on 2022 meant the return to a full calendar of programs, and projects coming to fruition - busy, exhausting, invigorating, inspiring, and life-giving days. Donors, conference leadership, participants, volunteers, visitors, and staff, all woven into the fabric of this year, remind us of "the conviction of things not seen" as we look ahead to what is to come, while also giving thanks for what has come to pass.

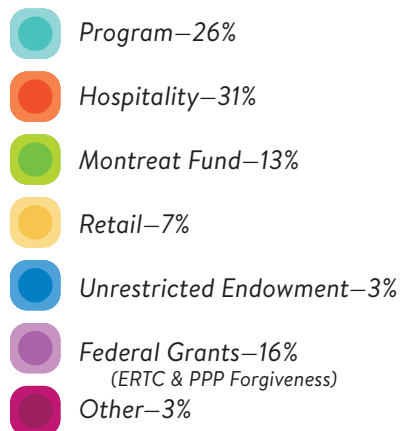
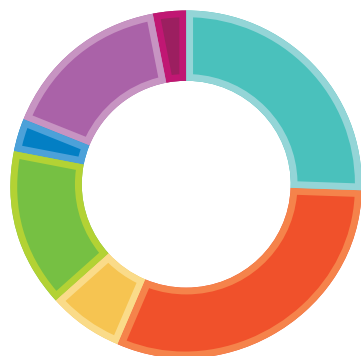
As 2022 comes to a close and you reflect on the past twelve months, we hope you carry a piece of Montreat with you, weaving it into the new year. Thank you for being a part of our mission and ministry. We look forward to seeing you soon.

2021-2022 Fiscal Year Operating Fund Report

	FY 2021-2022 (actual)	FY 2021-2022 (budgeted)	FY 2020-2021 (actual)
Program			
Conference Revenues	\$1,563,562	\$1,367,062	\$409,631
Conference Direct Expenses	(\$679,128)	(\$630,911)	(\$57,900)
Program Building Revenues	\$89,343	\$89,950	\$75,597
Program Building Expenses	(\$240,791)	(\$255,469)	(\$132,826)
Clubs & Child Care Revenues	\$328,815	\$332,230	\$7,200
Clubs & Child Care Direct Expenses	(\$212,447)	(\$226,319)	(\$5,863)
Recreation Revenues	\$45,641	\$40,432	\$5,325
Recreation Direct Expenses	(\$70,218)	(\$66,914)	(\$30,060)
Program Department Expenses	(\$797,869)	(\$802,202)	(\$633,900)
NET	\$26,909	(\$152,141)	(\$362,797)
Hospitality (Lodging and Food)			
Revenues	\$2,368,688	\$2,391,685	\$441,462
Expenses	(\$1,686,497)	(\$1,663,957)	(\$1,001,021)
NET	\$682,191	\$727,728	(\$559,559)
Retail			
Revenues	\$505,316	\$362,485	\$229,261
Expenses	(\$438,366)	(\$372,408)	(\$278,314)
NET	\$66,950	(\$9,923)	(\$49,054)
Development			
Montreat Fund	\$1,037,507	\$1,050,000	\$1,033,084
Unrestricted Bequests	---	---	\$252,144
Development and Volunteer Expenses	(\$367,528)	(\$347,815)	(\$396,125)
NET	\$669,979	\$702,185	\$889,104

	FY 2021–2022 (actual)	FY 2021–2022 (budgeted)	FY 2020–2021 (actual)
Communications			
NET	(\$661,960)	(\$750,214)	(\$654,610)
Other Revenues			
● Unrestricted Endowment Distributions	\$266,542	\$266,542	\$259,487
● Other Revenues ⁵	\$233,681	\$150,468	\$244,324
● Forgiven Paycheck Protection Program Loans	\$634,100	---	\$750,300
● Employee Retention Tax Credit	\$632,702	---	\$301,637
NET	\$1,767,025	\$417,010	\$1,555,747
Other Expenses			
President's Office and Board of Trustees	(\$343,096)	(\$341,917)	(\$307,801)
Business Office	(\$370,064)	(\$380,272)	(\$348,334)
Maintenance Department	(\$337,226)	(\$418,616)	(\$359,004)
Shared Services	(\$352,225)	(\$376,980)	(\$177,358)
Non-operating Expenditures and Reserves	(\$490,148)	(\$91,860)	(\$92,798)
NET	(\$1,892,759)	(\$1,609,645)	(\$1,285,295)
Revenue	\$7,705,896	6,050,854	\$4,009,452
Expenses	(\$7,047,562)	(\$6,725,854)	(\$4,475,914)
Surplus (Deficit)	\$658,334	(\$675,000)	(\$466,462)

Sources of Revenue



**Actual FY Operating
Revenue: \$7,705,896**

**\$1,037,507 donated to
the Montreat Fund**

**\$17,835,416 in
Endowment net assets¹**

¹ As of 4/30/2022

The Huckleberry Receives a Brand New Look

Since its completion in 1965, the Moore Center has been Montreat's social hub. The snack bar on the top floor, which is today known as The Huckleberry, has always been a place for "refreshments and informal gatherings," as former MRA President Calvin Grier Davis described it.

After years of operation by Montreat College's food service, The Huckleberry was turned back over to Montreat Conference Center in 2020. With the original purpose, refreshments and gathering, as the guiding principle, Montreat began visioning for the space overlooking the dam and Lake Susan.

Once those plans were completed, fundraising efforts identified a group of lead donors who wished to honor the legacy of their family in this valley. "Our family has countless happy memories at The Huck that span generations," said one of the donors. "The renewed vision provides an essential gathering space for all of Montreat – visitors, conferees, Clubs participants, staff, residents, college students – now and for years to come."

After many months of design and construction, and through the generosity of several other donors, The Huckleberry officially opened in August 2022. Leading the operations of the café are Mallory Smith, General





With options for breakfast and lunch, customers at The Huck are always able to find something to enjoy!



Construction to renovate the space began in spring of 2022 and features a complete refresh of the space.

Upon completion, The Huckleberry now features HVAC and an easily accessible restroom.



**Learn more about The Huckleberry
by visiting our website!**
montreat.org/huck

A night scene of a lake with a bridge and a building. The sky is dark blue with some clouds. The lake is calm, reflecting the lights from the bridge and the building. The bridge is a stone arch bridge with a railing. A large crowd of people is gathered on the bridge. In the background, there are trees and a hill. A building with a white roof and large windows is visible on the right side of the bridge. The building is lit up, and its reflection is visible in the water. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

***“Here in this place the new light is
streaming; now is the darkness
vanished away”***

Here in This Place (Gather Us In)

Hymn 401, Glory to God

Program and Event Highlights

As mentioned earlier, 2022 saw the full return of many of our favorite programs, conferences, and events. We were excited to finally host Discovering Renewal, a new conference focused on renewal through experiences, which was originally planned for spring of 2020. We also welcomed John Philip Newell and participants of the NC School of Earth and Soul for their first in-person session! Meanwhile, the summer was filled with activity as Big Circle Mountain Dances were back in full swing, The Nature Center hosted numerous guided hikes and skill demonstrations, and the Clubs and Childcare programs were fully attended week after week. As we move into 2023, the success of the past year can't help but make us excited for everything the coming year holds.









Helping Congregations Learn to Thrive

Montreat's Lilly Foundation Grant Makes a Community Impact

Thanks to a five-year grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., Montreat Conference Center is forming cohorts of church teams for identifying how community and congregational thriving can be linked. Together, church teams learn how vital community organizing can be to a congregation, both internally and in the community, and work to hone those skills. Black Mountain School of Theology and Community works in partnership with Montreat to teach these skills. The in-person curriculum is interactive and designed to let church teams support one another as they each dive deeply into the particularities of their own communities.

This model – of congregations supporting one another in a process carried out over time – is different from the conference model and intended to allow new patterns and practices to take root in a congregation over a period of 18 to 24 months. The vision is for churches to become students within their own neighborhoods, learning where community needs and desires intersect with the congregation's enthusiasm and energy. The desired result is congregations that become more vital members of their communities – better equipped to listen and respond alongside neighbors – while also becoming attuned to their own gifts and callings as followers of Christ.

Lynn Turnage, Director of Programs at Montreat, explains, “Thriving Congregations moves a church, along with its community, to listen deeply to where the Spirit is calling with respect to what has been and open to possibilities of leading in new ways as God’s people. The cohort model adds the dimension of listening to and learning from colleagues across the country. There is great hope in sharing stories and seeing the church exploring, listening, and thinking outside the proverbial box.”

The seven congregations who participated in our first cohort will complete their work before the end of the year. In October, we welcomed 14 new churches from Alabama to Wisconsin and California to West Virginia.

Presbyterians are about being reformed and reforming. That’s what this process is about! Examining who we are, who our churches are in the community, and all the time listening to each other and God; listening for who God wants us to be, and where or to what God is calling us.

Learn more about becoming a
Thriving Congregation!
montreat.org/thriving-congregations

“Thriving congregations has helped our church focus on our calling to serve **alongside our neighbors.**

The collegiality of our leaders and fellow cohort members is an encouragement and a guide as we seek to be the church God calls us to be today in downtown Mobile, AL.”

+ Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
Government Street
Presbyterian Church



Participants converse during a cohort gathering.



**Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.**

Matthew 11:28 NRSV

Montreat by the Numbers



***The Montreat Fund
raised over a million
dollars for the third
consecutive year!***

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, \$1,037,507
in donations were made to the Montreat Fund.



Giving

Montreat was supported
by 112 Church Patrons
from 18 states in 2022.



Summer Staff

During the summer,
112 Summer Staff made
Montreat their home.
Staff traveled from 14
different states, with one
staffer from Germany.

***1,075 individuals from
38 states, the District of
Columbia, and Puerto
Rico made a gift
to Montreat in 2022.***



**+45 programs
hosted
in Montreat**

*includes partnered and
co-sponsored events*

Volunteering

+4,500 hours of volunteered time by individuals on leadership board and people working in on-site opportunities

174 volunteers

Youth Programming

+175 total support staff for the Middle and Youth Conferences in 2022

+24 states were represented by Small Group Leaders

+19,000 collective hours worked by Small Group Leaders

Guests and Retreats

+225 total guest groups who visited Montreat in 2022. This includes church groups, bible studies, retreats, and more!

13 states and the District of Columbia were represented

**+8,500 participated in
Montreat programming**



Montreat's Clubs and Childcare programs hosted 1,173 participants from 35 different states.



It Wouldn't Be Montreat Without You



There are a lot of things that help make Montreat special, but the most important one is your presence here! We give thanks for the thousands of volunteers, donors, staff, and participants that make Montreat Conference Center's mission possible.



A photograph of a large crowd of people, likely at a church service or concert, with many hands raised in the air. The image is slightly blurred, focusing on the gesture of praise. The lighting is warm and ambient. The text is overlaid on the top right of the image.

*I will be glad and exult in
you; I will sing praise to
your name, O Most High.*

Psalm 9:2 NRSV



MONTREAT
CONFERENCE CENTER

Learn more at montreat.org



*We gather people to experience
God's transforming power and
inspire love for the world.*