

RECONNECT, BUILD YOUR TEAM & ENGAGE

Wednesday August 10, 2022
7:00 – 8:30 pm

*Presentation with polls and chat
August 11, 2022*

PROJECT  **RESOURCE**

The Stewardship Commission of the Diocese of New Jersey

Prayer

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light:
Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery;
by the effectual working of your providence,
carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation;
let the whole world see and know
that things which were cast down are being raised up,
and things which had grown old are being made new,
and that all things are being brought to their perfection
by him through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Project Resource:

The Stewardship Commission of the Diocese of New Jersey



Fr. Bob Fitzpatrick
Co-Chair
Grace Episcopal Church,
Merchantville



Eva Lesniak
Co-Chair
Church of the Holy Spirit,
Lebanon



Tena Achen
St. David's Church,
Cranbury



Sergio Delgado
Christ Church Cristo Rey,
Trenton



George Funk
Church of the Good
Shepherd, Pitman



Natalie Krauser
All Saints' Church,
Scotch Plains



Fr. Chuck Messer
St. John's Church, Salem



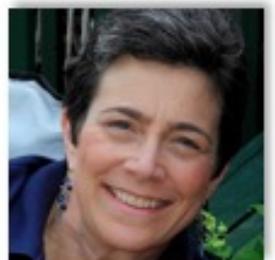
Fr. William Ndishabandi
St. Augustine's Church,
Asbury Park



Mo. Megan Thomas
St. Luke's Church, Ewing



Shirley Thompson
St. Augustine's Church,
Asbury Park



Canon Phyllis Jones
Episcopal Diocese of
New Jersey

ProjectResource@dioceseofnj.org

Three Sessions

Session 1:
Reconnect

Session 2:
Build Your Team

Session 3:
Follow Through

Wednesday, August 3rd
7:00 – 8:30 pm

Wednesday, August 10th
7:00 – 8:30 pm

Wednesday, August 17th
7:00 – 8:30 pm

Session 2 – Build Your Team

Overview

- **Summer so far**
- **Spiritual foundations**
- **Finding joy in stewardship ministry**
- **Your team**
- **For your reference**
- **Taking it home**



Poll

**How is your
summer
going so
far?**

Poll 1 Results

<u>Q#</u>	<u>Question</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
1	Did you attend the Use the Summer Well workshop?	31%	69%
2	We have a team	54%	46%
3	We met with the Rector	42%	58%
4	Met with the Wardens or Vestry	50%	50%
5	We set goals	23%	77%
6	We have a theme or case statement	23%	77%
7	We have a timeline for your stewardship campaign	42%	58%

Why Stewardship?

- Stewardship is admitting that everything we have is from God
- Stewardship is the commitment of one's self and possessions to God's service. We, as the people of God, are to manage the gifts of God
- What we can do:
 - give thanks
 - tend and build what has been entrusted to us
 - mirror God's generosity with our own



Acedia . . . and its remedies



Languor

Carelessness of heart

Lack of hope

Absence of joy

“The Noonday Devil”

Joy and Hope: Remedies for acedia

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer (Romans 12:12)

**“Hope challenges the status quo with creativity and courage. Hope has continuously spurred Christians.” -
Rev. Canon Rob Droste, Growing Healthy
Congregations, Issue 3, July 1, 2016**

God Loves a Cheerful Giver

“God loves a cheerful giver.”

This is not a charming quote from Benjamin Franklin in *Poor Richard's Almanac*. The assertion is from Scripture, from St. Paul. “God loves a cheerful giver.”

Paul writes to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 9), not just about the fundraising he hopes they will do, but the spirit in which he hopes they will do it: “Cheerful.”

Cheerful, not as in obedient, or conveniently compliant to earthly leaders, but rather the asking and giving being themselves as gifts from God.

If this cheerfulness is not part of your stewardship program, you are missing a blessing God has already given. As the Church, we are called to share God's blessings, including cheerfulness in asking and giving money.

Based on Paul's letter, it is easy to picture the Corinthians facing the prospect of fundraising, and finding reasons to be reluctant - fear, embarrassment, acedia, a theology of scarcity. Maybe you or some people in your congregation do too.

Paul called on all to give generously. “Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion.” (2 Corinthians 9:6) Paul called on them to give freely, “cheerfully.”

Paul preached that money follows ministry. Funds follow faith. Through a faith-based approach to asking and giving, the Church is called to replace fear with hope, embarrassment with shared purpose, acedia with thankfulness, a theology of scarcity with a theology of abundance. To act in faith.

Project Resource’s ministry is to walk with you in the space between fear and fearlessness, between scarcity and abundance, to fund the ministry of the Church. We want to walk with you in these in-between places, listening for the Good News. We share spiritual foundations and practical tools. We listen to stories of what you have learned and then help share those stories of successes and struggles with our Diocese community for the benefit of the Church.

Yes, Paul had a purse to fill. Ministry needs funding. The Good News includes the truth that our asking and giving can be done from inside the Good News. When asking and giving come from inside faith, we receive the gift of the asking and the giving being “cheerful.”

And, have you heard? God loves a cheerful giver.

Rev. Bob Fitzpatrick

Breakout Session

Where can you picture finding joy in stewardship ministry – for you, for your team, for your congregation?

Building your team

As we reconnect with our congregations, look for way to get more members involved in planning and implementation.

Asking ourselves the following questions may help us focus on the needs of our congregation, the direction it is taking, and the direction we hope to take in the future.

- *What attracts you to the church?*
- *How is the church viewed locally?*
- *Where are we now, and how are we doing?*
- *How has our time apart from each other changed our view of mission and ministry?*

Recruiting new members

Invite them to share their story

Explain why you think they are perfect for the role

Suggest they help just with this Fall if time is a concern

Convey how important this year's campaign is given the current environment

Invite them to attend the next meeting and decide afterward

Be upfront about the time commitment and expectations

Who makes a good Stewardship Committee Member?

SPIRITUALLY MOTIVATED

- Person of prayer
- Concerned about parishioners' relationship with God
- Grateful for their relationship with Jesus
- Faithfull attendee

STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

- Committed to stewardship as a way of life
- Volunteers time to parish and community activities
- Pledging and paying on pledge

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

- Understanding of stewardship which deepens after they join team
- Has vision of congregation in 5, 10, or 15 years from now

QUALITIES FOR SUCCESS

- Accountable
- Persistent
- Optimistic
- Organized
- Patient
- Creative
- Excited to share their faith

Let's chat (part 1): What opportunities have you used to get team members involved?

Testimonials during worship

Reflections in newsletter

Written invitation

Fellowship groups

Bible or book study groups

Other (discuss in chat)



Poll #2

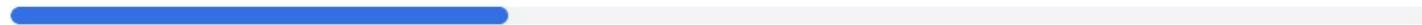
1. What opportunities have you used to get team members involved? (check all that apply) (multiple_choice)

answered

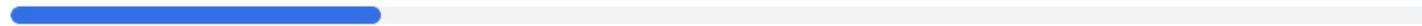
Testimonials during worship Reflections in newsletter 70%



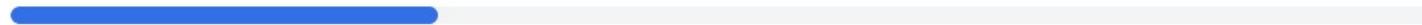
Written invitation 35%



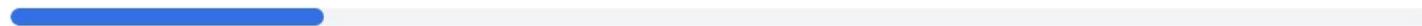
Fellowship groups 26%



Bible or book study groups 30%



Other (discuss in chat) 22%



Poll Responses “Other” placed in chat:

What opportunities have you used to get team members involved?

- 20:04:23 From Megan Thomas to Everyone: Face to face conversation invitation to find new members
- 20:04:54 From Mary-Elise Haug to Everyone: That is what I've done as well
- 20:05:51 From Megan Thomas to Everyone: the open-ended ask during announcements or in the bulletin doesn't work very well. people are shy about raising a hand
- 20:06:15 From Kimberly Klitzke-DeSarno to Everyone: Testimonials in person are later shared in the newsletter
- 20:06:34 From Mary-Elise Haug to Everyone: I asked during announcements after a sermon on stewardship but didn't get any takers so now I'll have to ask people
- 20:06:50 From Mary-Elise Haug to Everyone: Two weeks ago

Let's chat (part 2): What struggles are you facing as you make your plans or build your team?



Chat: What struggles are you facing as you make your plans or build your team?

- 20:09:39 From Rob & Lin Williams to Everyone: What is the overall general plan
- 20:09:44 From Megan Thomas to Everyone: We need some younger folks. The older generation has done this for so long
- 20:09:51 From Mary-Elise Haug to Everyone: I need help getting an outside leader for new consecration Sunday.
- 20:10:00 From Christy McGuire to Everyone: Same people do everything, hard to ask to add to their plate
- 20:10:20 From Tammy Young to Everyone: Congregation is tired from being without a priest for an extended amount of time. Many are suffering from burn out.
- 20:10:38 From Brian Bussey to Everyone: Busy people reluctant to add one more commitment
- 20:10:40 From Brijette Aris to Everyone: I'm struggling with wanting to approach potential members in person, however, it difficult catching people at church in person.
- 20:10:53 From MARY LOU SHOCKLEY to Everyone: My top struggle is this being my first time. Secondly, most of the people that are back in church are already involved in ministries.
- 20:10:55 From Elizabeth White to Everyone: Finding members to commit time to work on the committee.
- 20:11:01 From Barbara Nichols to Everyone: Members of team being somewhat overwhelmed with other duties, in church or work or home, at this time and therefore not able to give full enough attention and energy to this project.
- 20:11:22 From Susan Briant to Everyone: Reaching people who have left since COVID and transitions between rectors. Lots of people do not want to ask for money. The same people tend to be on stewardship.
- 20:11:22 From Christy McGuire to Everyone: Parish is not growing much - few new people to recruit and pledge

*Chat: What struggles are you facing as you make your plans or build your team?
(continued)*

- 20:11:44 From The Rev. Dr. William Ndishabandi to Everyone: There are not many members willing to serve on the Stewardship team but even those who say “Yes often never honor their pledges in time.” Many of the volunteers tend to forget their responsibility especially when it comes to action plan.
- 20:11:45 From Debbie Vineyard to Everyone: putting together a team of multigenerational ages and not asking the usual few
- 20:11:57 From Debbie C to Everyone: we have a team and a meeting with the Rector this Mon. will see what comes of this
- 20:13:02 From Jack Hobson to Everyone: Struggling with overcoming the 80-20 rule. Leads to burn out.
- 20:13:47 From Ken Maskell to Everyone: We have 34 families who are active in the church and that equates to about 40 individuals who make up the parish. About 28 attend Sundays. We're aging.
- 20:14:10 From Tena Achen to Everyone: From #5 breakout - in the past the priest took care of Stewardship. We have a supply priest now so are depending on our own resources.
- 20:14:48 From Ken Maskell to Everyone: I missed last week. Did you share TENS login for this year?

For your reference: Practical tools

Explore online resources for ideas to build your stewardship team and engage your congregation

- **Project Resource past presentations (DioNJ website)**
- **Episcopal Church Foundation Vital Practices**
- **Sample materials from other dioceses and churches**
- **Online giving platforms (e.g., Vanco) webinars, case studies**



Latest Stewardship News



Recording Available Now for Reconnect, Build Your Team, and Follow Through: Summer Stewardship Workshop 2022

August 4, 2022

[Read More »](#)



Summer Stewardship Series: How to Build Your Case & Make the Pitch

August 1, 2022

[Read More »](#)

[« Previous](#) [Next »](#)



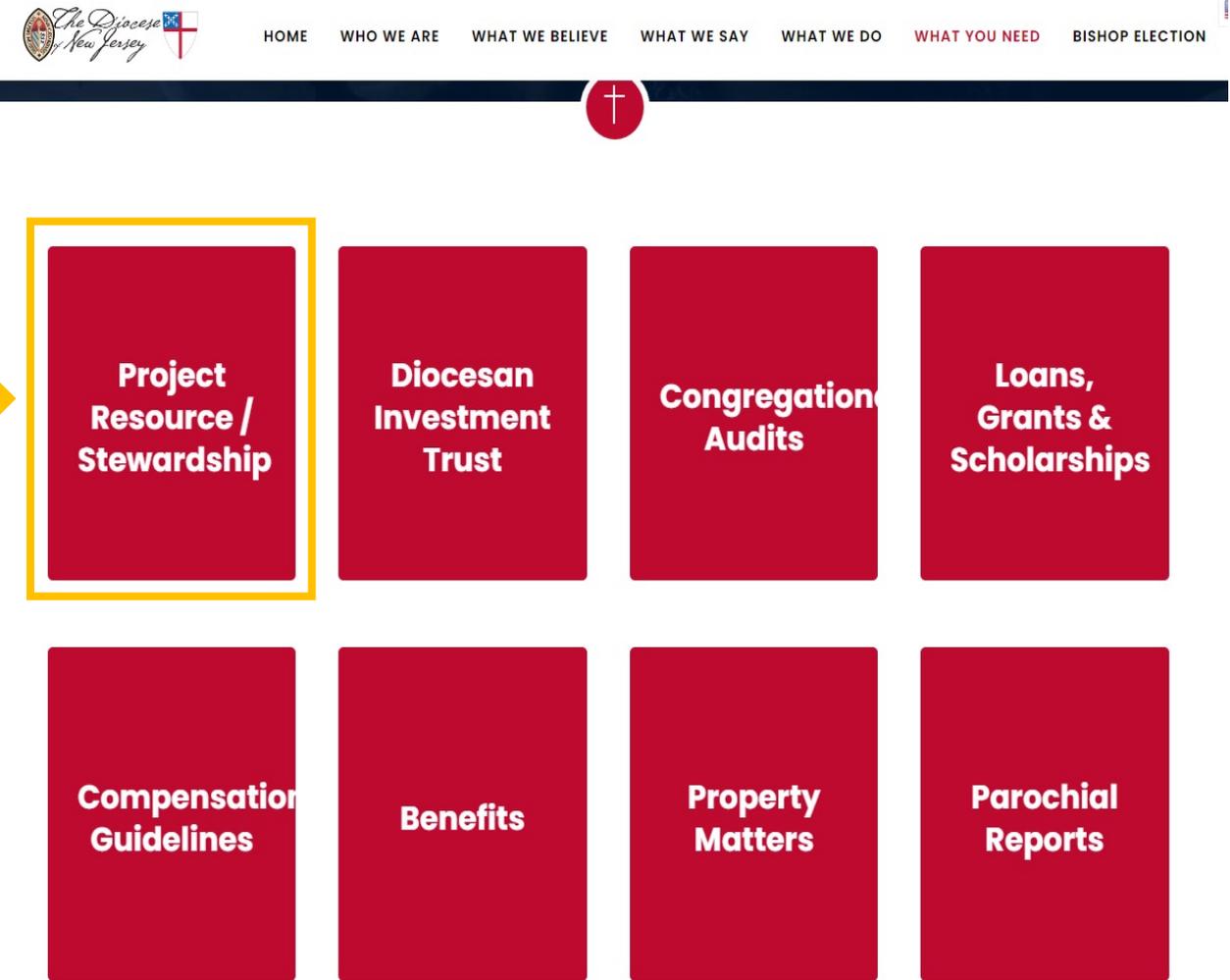
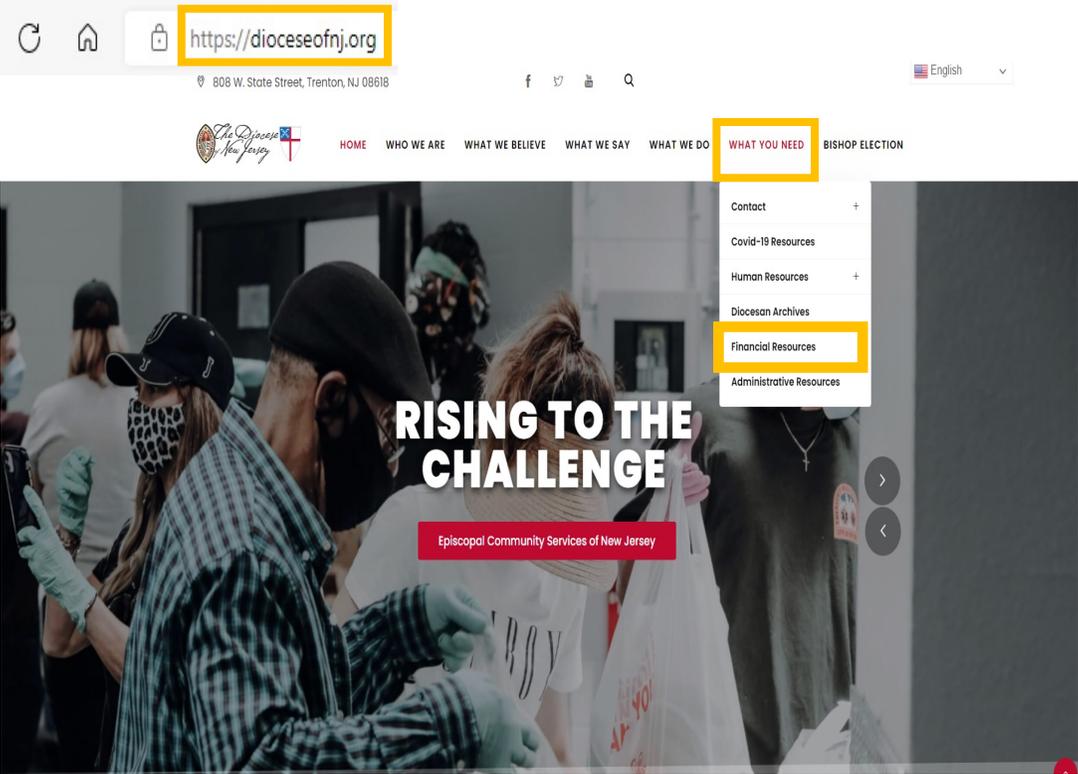
— New Resources!

- ☆ [Keeping In Touch With Parishioners During Covid And Beyond Workshops](#)
- ☆ [Stewardship, Stability And Sustainability Training Course](#)
- ☆ [Recorded Presentations & Slides](#)
- ☆ [Reimagined Consecration Sunday Plan](#)
- ☆ [EGiving Resources](#)

— Stewardship Resources

- ☆ [Presentation 1: Where We Begin](#)

Project Resource webpage on Diocese site



Other congregations

UNDERSTANDING PLEDGING AND GIVING

Pledging and giving go hand-in-hand and both help our Vestry guide the Parish. They work together as we grow and make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Early in the church's history, church leaders made week-to-week decisions using the offerings to support the church. **Today the scope, size and complexity of our Parish life requires our Vestry to budget skillfully and carefully for the year ahead. This is why, we ask you, if possible, to make an annual commitment to St. Martin's in the form of a pledge.** Throughout the year, your gifts count toward fulfilling that pledge. This helps us predict the resources that will be available over the course of a year.



You can also link directly to the online pledge card at stmartinsepiscopal.org/stewardship-form

YOUR 2022 PLEDGE

PRAY. As you pray, please consider expressing your gratitude for all your many blessings through a pledge (if possible, a proportional percentage pledge) to St. Martin's.

PLEDGE. Make your pledge to the Parish by filling out the pledge card and returning it to the address listed on the back of the envelope provided or by filling out the online pledge form at stmartinsepiscopal.org/stewardship-form. The more pledges we receive in the days ahead, the better we can prepare your church budget for the coming year.

PRAY. Once you have turned in your pledge, pray yet again. Pray that you can fulfill that pledge as the coming year unfolds and pray that the leaders of St. Martin's are, as you have been, faithful stewards of the gifts entrusted to their leadership.



ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



FAITHFUL MINISTRIES

Through our gifts of time, talent and treasure, St. Martin's members have built robust ministries that reach those in our Parish and beyond. As we welcome new members and families into the Church and our work for Christ, your generous expressions of faithfulness help build God's kingdom and make a difference for eternity.

Our worship options continue to grow with our new **RIVERWAY** service. Our **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY** is open again in its beautiful Children's Life Center where youngsters enjoy Sunday School, choir and interactive activities. Communion Instruction Classes begin in October and we continue to baptize and minister to more than 1,900 children age 12 and under in our Parish. Our **STUDENT MINISTRIES'** leaders are creating strong bonds with our middle school and high school youth and their families, with new Family Dinners, mission trips, retreats and activities that are designed for gathering and growing in Christ – whether in person or virtually. Our **YOUNG ADULTS** and **ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES** have nearly exploded with six Sunday School offerings along with social opportunities and new date-night options including **ST. MARTIN'S COOKING CLASSES**.

Our **MUSIC MINISTRIES** fill The Church, Christ Chapel and The Parish Life Center with traditional and contemporary song. While most of the Parish is back in person, our **PASTORAL CARE** and **PRAYER MINISTRIES** offer in-person and online options, keeping the Parish connected while offering prayers and serving all who are in need. **MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY** continues to welcome and nurture new members.

Our **WOMENS, MENS** and **OUTREACH MINISTRIES** continue to make a positive difference reflecting both God's faithfulness to His people and our faithfulness to making and growing His disciples. This year **STERLING'S MARKET** will bring a new opportunity for us to reach our neighbors and to bring the St. Martin's family together.

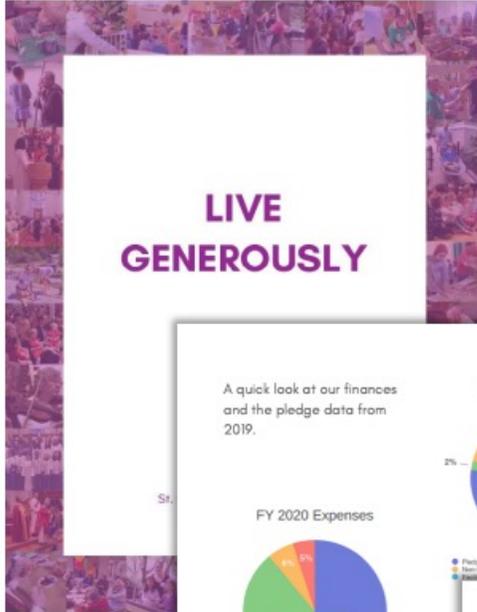
The **ST. MARTIN'S PRESCHOOL** continues to serve families and children with superb programs under great leadership.

In addition, our **HOPE AND HEALING CENTER & INSTITUTE** continues to expand clinical services while training clergy, staff and volunteers across Greater Houston and beyond. Your faithful pledges and gifts make these opportunities in and through St. Martin's possible.

ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

[SMEC-2022-Stewardship-web.pdf \(stmartinsepiscopal.org\)](https://stmartinsepiscopal.org/SMEC-2022-Stewardship-web.pdf)

Sample Brochures



A quick look at our finances and the pledge data from 2019.

FY 2020 Revenues

FY 2020 Expenses

PROPORTIONAL GIVING WORKSHEET

The vestry and the rector affirm the importance of proportional giving. What does this mean? It means that before we make our pledge, we:

- Calculate what percentage of our current income we are now giving to God (this may be our gifts just to the church, or to the church and other charities; you may decide).
- Set a personal financial goal for our own giving, mindful that the Biblical standard is the tithes - 10%.
- Strive each year to increase our giving and move toward our goal.

If you haven't given before - or you haven't practiced proportional giving - try beginning at 2% and grow the percentage each year. Proportional giving is helpful because it allows each of us - rich and poor alike - to give in a way that is meaningful and sacrificial for us personally.

When you make your pledge, we invite you to consider proportional giving.

SET YOUR OWN GOAL FOR GIVING

Enter your total annual income here: _____

Move the decimal point one place to the left. This is 10% - your tithes. _____

Total what you contribute to your church and to other causes outside your family. _____

Choose a personal goal; the percent you want to give this year. _____

Annual Income	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	12%
\$30,000	\$600	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,400	\$3,000	\$3,600
\$40,000	\$800	\$1,600	\$2,400	\$3,200	\$4,000	\$4,800
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
\$60,000	\$1,200	\$2,400	\$3,600	\$4,800	\$6,000	\$7,200
\$80,000	\$1,600	\$3,200	\$4,800	\$6,400	\$8,000	\$9,600
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000
\$150,000	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$9,000	\$12,000	\$15,000	\$18,000
\$200,000	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$16,000	\$20,000	\$24,000
\$250,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$30,000
\$300,000	\$6,000	\$12,000	\$18,000	\$24,000	\$30,000	\$36,000

Grace Episcopal Church
2019 Stewardship Brochure
Stewards of Grace

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."
- 1 Peter 4:10

Christian Stewardship is the grateful and responsible use of God's gifts in the light of God's purpose for our lives, as revealed in Jesus Christ. The Stewardship Committee was challenged to develop a narrative budget that demonstrates how pledges and other income are filtered through Grace to touch the lives of our neighbors in need in our village, our state and around the globe. We looked at our various ministries, took generous volunteer hours into account, and assigned all anticipated expenses to those ministries.

This is the story of Grace worshipping together, reaching out to the local and wider community, educating our children, youth and adults, connecting us with one another through fellowship and communication, caring for each other and practicing wise stewardship of our resources. We are using all that we have received from God for the work that God wants us to do.

In order to continue God's work in 2019, including expand our mission and serve more of those in need, Grace's budget will need to increase; please prayerfully reflect on the gifts you have received from God, as you consider what amount to pledge and return to God.

Grace will celebrate the Ingathering of Pledges on Sunday, November 18th, 2018. Please bring your pledge cards to service that day to be placed in the offertory plate and blessed at the altar. There will also be an opportunity to offer a Prayer or Thanksgiving to be placed in the offertory plate and blessed at the altar along with the pledge cards. If you choose to turn your pledge card in early, we will make sure it goes in the plate as well, and the ushers will have extra pledge cards should anyone need them!

The 2018 annual budget for Grace Church is \$279,328. The largest source of income is parishioner giving which funds approximately 60% of Grace's operating budget. There is a gap of 19% ("Other") which is made up of special donations above pledges. If needed, we can also take up to 4% of the annual gains on Grace's endowment.

The following 2 pie charts illustrate Grace's income and expenses:

Income (2018 budgeted):

Expenses (2017 figures):



Your pledge matters

The Hands that Grow

Children and youth are not the future of the church. They are the church. At Vacation Bible School, an army of volunteers, staff, and clergy strive to teach our youngest parishioners what God's love means for them. The children, in turn, grow the church through their faith and curiosity. Your pledge is what supports this vital spirit of love at St. Paul's.

The children gather during Vacation Bible School.

Frequently Asked Questions

Each fall, St. Paul's asks every parishioner to make a financial commitment to support the ongoing ministries of the church during the coming year. If you are new to the church or about to make your first ever pledge, we hope these questions and answers will be helpful.

WHAT IS A PLEDGE? Your pledge is your heartfelt, documented financial commitment to support St. Paul's ministries and programs in the year ahead.

WHY NOT SIMPLY GIVE AS I CAN THROUGH THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION PLATE? Campaign pledges provide the Vestry with an estimate of expected income essential to the preparation of the church's annual budget. St. Paul's simply cannot operate and thrive without a reasonable estimate of its financial resources. Your pledge maintains the importance of God and St. Paul's in your life.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I PLEDGE? Your pledge is a personal decision between God, you and your family. It should be grounded in your faith, love and commitment to God's work through St. Paul's. It requires reflection, prayer and prayer.

IS MY PLEDGE CONFIDENTIAL? Yes. Pledges are kept confidential.

HOW CAN I PAY MY PLEDGE? There are several convenient ways to honor your pledge, including monthly credit card payments, monthly bank draft payments, personal checks using pledge envelopes or payments of appreciated stocks and IRA payments.

DO YOU ACCEPT PRE-PAYMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR'S PLEDGE? Yes. We are glad to accept pre-payments. Please let us know on your pledge card that you plan to pay your 2019 pledge in advance.

WHAT IF I NEED TO UPDATE AND CHANGE MY PLEDGE AMOUNT? We understand that life circumstances change, often unexpectedly. Contact the church to have your pledge amount adjusted at any time during the year.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? Contact Margaret Tarter, Director of Stewardship at (208) 723-4341, ext. 1218, or mgarter@stpauls.org

2019 Budgeted Revenues:

- Program Revenues: 12%
- Additional Donations and Gifts (ADG): 12%
- Pledges: 76%
- Non-Pledge Income: 8%
- Endowment: 2%

2019 Budgeted Expenses:

- Worship and Ministry: 16%
- Building Maintenance, Utilities, SFP: 9%
- Ministry and Pastoral Care: 16%
- Outreach: 14%
- Administration: 18%
- Other: 15%

Mark Your Calendars: October 23, 2022 is Stewardship Sunday!

Sirach 35:12-17

Give to the Most High as he has given to you
and as generously as you can afford.

For the Lord is the one who repays,
and he will repay you sevenfold.

Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it,
and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice,

for the Lord is the judge,
and with him there is no partiality.

He will not show partiality to the poor,
but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.

He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan
or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

Taking it home

“Name one person (first name) in your congregation whom you will talk with about your one next step?”

“Why did that person come to your mind?”



Next time: Engage

**It's all about
relationships and
communication**



Resources

Project Resource email – ProjectResource@dioceseofnj.org

DONJ Project Resource library - <https://dioceseofnj.org/project-resource/>

Our contact info - ProjectResource@DioceseofNJ.org

Vanco online giving - [Online Giving Donation Software for Churches | Vanco \(vancopayments.com\)](https://www.vancopayments.com)

Episcopal Church Foundation - [Episcopal Church Foundation Vital Practices \(ecfvp.org\)](https://www.ecfvp.org)

TENS - <https://www.tens.org/> (password available [here](#))

More resources

- [Summer Stewardship Email Series](#)
- [Summer Email Series Resources](#)
- [“Use Summer Well for your Fall Pledges and More” Recording & Slides](#)
- [“Keeping In Touch With Parishioners During Covid & Beyond” Recording & Slides](#)
- [Online Project Resource Library](#)
- [Reimagined Consecration Sunday](#)

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