



The Church of Our Saviour

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# 2018

## Every Member Canvass

### Narrative Budget

# Our Baptismal Covenant

In the Rite of Baptism, we profess our faith and reply affirmatively to the following statements:

- + Will you continue in the apostles teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
- + Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
- + Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
- + Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
- + Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?



*Holy Baptism, BCP, 304-305.*

The commitment we make at Baptism is not merely a statement of belief but is also a call to action. The practice of stewardship manifests itself in our daily lives through the Baptismal Covenant.

## “A Whole Lot More than Money”

“Until the late twentieth century, through all that mid-20th century church boom-time, ‘stewardship’ was equated with something called the Every Member Canvass [sic]. The Every Member Canvass was often also called ‘the Stewardship Campaign.’ Stewardship meant giving to the church, giving money. And tithe was the word used to describe what someone gave to the church, whatever the amount. Stewardship, tithe, Every Member Canvass, all pointed to the same thing: money to the local church.

“But sometime in the 1980s, a corrective movement hit the wider church, helping us to see that ‘stewardship’ was about a whole lot more than money. Simply put, stewardship came to be understood as ‘all that we have, and all we do, all the time.’ It is rooted in the belief that who we are and what we have and the life we live, and the world in which we live is all a gift from God, or even that it all belongs to God: ‘The earth is the Lord’s and the fulness thereof,’ says the Psalmist (24:1). And we are stewards of it.



“A steward is a manager, a person who has charge of the household or possessions of another. In our case, we are the stewards of God’s household, God’s possessions, whether nature, children, buildings, time, talent, or money. If we realize that all the stuff of our world belongs to God, and we see ourselves as stewards of it, then we hear a call to use it mindfully as God would have us use it. All of it. This makes a lot more consistent theological sense than ‘giving 10% back to God.’”<sup>1</sup>

“We have also been entrusted with the things of our faith; the Good News that God’s love abounds, that grace is freely offered to all people, that the kingdom Jesus preached is truly among us and within us, that the gates of hell cannot prevail against that kingdom, and that in Christ death no longer has dominion over us. Such news is intended for all to hear and know and we are not entitled to keep it to ourselves! Like all else in life which has been entrusted to us, we are stewards of the faith, not owners of it,” says the Right Rev’d Cate Waynick Bishop of Indianapolis.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Fischbeck, Rev. Lisa. “Stewardship, Tithing, Giving, Annual Pledge: Defined.” Episcopal Cafe, 18 Oct. 2013, [www.episcopalcafe.com/stewardship\\_tithing\\_giving\\_annual\\_pledge\\_defined/](http://www.episcopalcafe.com/stewardship_tithing_giving_annual_pledge_defined/).

<sup>2</sup>Babb, Jeannie. “Stewardship: Not Just a Pledge,” *From the Mountain*. Sewanee, Tennessee. Fall 2015. 10.

“Stewardship is ... Everything I do after I say I believe,” according to a definition from the Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS).<sup>3</sup> This definition takes a step back from a financial pledge to encourage us to think more broadly about our gifts and how we use them.

“Stewardship is not just about money, it is about mission. Stewardship is Christian formation. Stewardship is participation in the Eucharist by the offering of ourselves. Stewardship is honoring our baptismal covenant. Stewardship is ‘Everything I do after I say I believe.’”<sup>4</sup>

Although the line item budget keeps track of church income and expenses very efficiently, it reveals little about the breadth of resources and energy that are devoted to carrying out our mission and ministry. The narrative budget in these pages presents a different way of looking at our resources—our time, talent, and treasure—and how we gather and use those at the Church of Our Saviour. The Stewardship Committee offers this booklet as a translation of numbers into the story of our common life.

## Offering to the Community

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.*

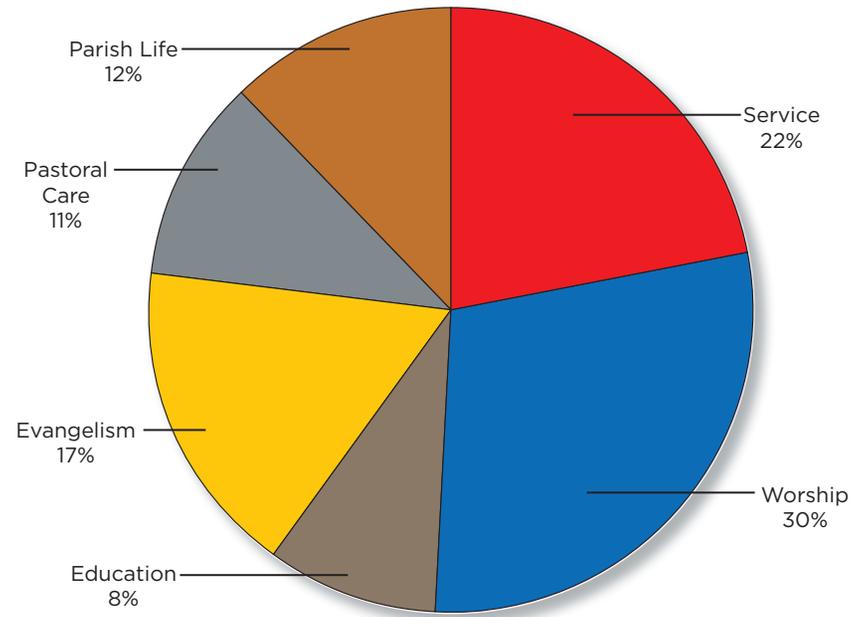
*Matthew 28:19-20*

Budgeted expense for 2017 is illustrated in the following pie chart.

We have considered expenses made as being allocated among six categories: service, worship, education, evangelism, pastoral care, and parish life (SWEEPP). There are expenses that can be considered in various ways — for example, as Bishop Alexander has said, “When we are on our game, our worship and liturgy is beautiful,

<sup>3</sup>“Stewardship is ...” Retrieved from tens.org. September 2016.

<sup>4</sup>Babb. 13.



and probably our best tool for evangelism.” As allocation among these specific categories has required a degree of judgment, we have made our best effort to do so faithfully.

### **SERVICE (COMMUNITY OUTREACH)**

*Our duty to our neighbors is to love them as ourselves, and to do to other people as we wish them to do to us.*

*Catechism, BCP, 848.*

As Christians, we look beyond our parish walls, seeking to serve others in Christ’s name. The Church of Our Saviour provides a safe place for meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and Al-Anon—our building is used for this purpose six days a week and hosts an average of 300 members of the community in a given week. The parish also provides a Thursday Ministry, offering direct support to people in our community who are in need and connecting them with assistance for mental, housing, legal, and employment needs. The parish also supports the work of Intown



Collaborative Ministries with donations of food and clothing and provides weekly sandwich delivery to the Church of the Common Ground. In the past year, we have also provided dinner and service to the Church of the Holy Comforter, a majority congregation who live with mental illness. Each year, we sponsor parishioners who participate in the Hunger and AIDS walks, organize a coat drive in the late fall, and

collect toys for the Pride for Parents Toy Drive. In addition to the ways we give our time, our financial gifts support our buildings which serve the community, allowing us to offer our buildings for use by various groups throughout the week.

- + Service accounts for about 14% of the rector's time. It also accounts for just under 700 volunteer hours (about 13% of the time reported in our survey), spent serving Holy Comforter, Intown Collaborative Ministries, Common Ground, and the other outreach efforts that occur through the year.
- + Service represents about \$64,000 or 22%, of our current budgeted expense. These expenses include our diocesan assessment of about \$25,600, which serves the church in the diocese and the world, along with allocated expenses for the rector's compensation, building expenses, and administrative costs.

## WORSHIP

*In corporate worship, we unite ourselves with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, to hear God's Word, to offer prayer, and to celebrate the sacraments.*

*Catechism, BCP, 857.*

The Church of Our Saviour is an Anglo-Catholic parish. "The term 'Anglo-Catholicism' describes a range of theological views and traditions within Anglicanism which emphasise the continuity of the Church of England—and those churches born out of it—with

the teaching and practice of Christianity throughout the ages, rooted in scripture and the teachings of the early church. 'Anglo-Catholics' have always valued the sacramental life of the church, adhering strongly to doctrine such as the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the continuity of the apostolic orders of Bishop, Priest and Deacon. A significant stress on liturgy and worship—performed in order to maintain the beauty of holiness—makes worship in an Anglo-Catholic church an experience which is intended to appeal to one's whole person—to heart as well as head, to senses as well as to intellect."<sup>5</sup>

Average attendance on Sunday mornings at the Church of Our Saviour ranges from 70 to 100 between two masses. In addition, mass is regularly celebrated several other days of the week.

When we gather for mass or other sacramental rites, we are reminded of our covenant relationship with God and the saving work of Jesus Christ. Worship is central to our identity as a community of faith in Virginia-Highland. It is from this place that we "go forth in the name of Christ." (BCP, 339.)



- + Worship involves tremendous gifts of time and talent. It accounts for about 28% of the rector's time, spent celebrating, preaching, planning, presiding at funerals and weddings, etc. It also accounts for a little over 1,800 volunteer hours (about 33% of the time reported in our survey), spent serving as greeters, lectors, ushers, acolytes and servers, oblation bearers, and choristers, as well as working with the altar guild and flower guild.
- + Worship represents about \$84,000, or 30%, of our current budgeted expense. These expenses include a portion of the rector's compensation and allocated building expenses and administrative costs, along with line items for music, altar, and flower supplies.

<sup>5</sup>St Mary Magdalen Church. [www.stmarymagdalenoxford.org.uk/what-is-anglo-catholicism/](http://www.stmarymagdalenoxford.org.uk/what-is-anglo-catholicism/).

## EDUCATION (CHRISTIAN FORMATION)

*Sponsors ... signify their endorsement of the candidates and their intention to support them by prayer and example in their Christian life. ... Parents and godparents are to be instructed in the meaning of Baptism, in their duties to help the new Christians grow in the knowledge and love of God, and in their responsibilities as members of his Church.*

*Rubrics of Holy Baptism, BCP, 298.*

Our nursery and Sunday school programs demonstrate the value we place on the youngest members of our parish community. We seek to build an abiding knowledge and love of God in our parishioners' earliest years, trusting God that they will grow in that knowledge and love of him.

- + Nursery care is provided each Sunday during the 8:30 and 11:00 am services. Currently, the parish employs two professionals to work in the nursery.
- + For toddlers and older children, the parish offers Godly Play from fall through spring. Godly Play engages what is most exciting about religious education: God inviting us into—and pursuing us in the midst of—Scripture and spiritual experience. Godly Play practice teaches us to listen for God and to make authentic and creative responses to God's call in our lives.<sup>6</sup>



- + St. Anselm of Canterbury's motto is "faith seeking understanding" (*fides quaerens intellectum*), which means "something like 'an active love of God seeking a deeper knowledge of God.'"<sup>7</sup> Our adult education program offers sound

Christian teaching and participant engagement from the fall through the spring.



Through these efforts, we seek to build in ourselves a knowledge and love of God that will allow us to fulfill the responsibilities of our tradition.

We seek to build these aspects in our children's earliest years, trusting Him that they will grow knowing and loving God and also eventually fulfilling the responsibilities of our Episcopal tradition.

- + Education involves tremendous gifts of time and talent. It accounts for about 9% of the rector's time. In addition, it accounts for a little over 1,300 volunteer hours (about 24% of the time reported in our survey), including time spent on Godly Play, articles in *The Angelus*, and other ways. The parish is fortunate to have a single volunteer, Amy Wells, who gives 15 hours a week, on average through the school year, working to ensure the success of Godly Play.
- + Education represents about \$23,000 or 8%, of our current budgeted expense. These expenses include allocated expenses for the rector's compensation, building expenses, and administrative costs, along with line items for Godly Play curriculum, tracts, and nursery care.

<sup>6</sup>"What Is Godly Play?" Retrieved from [www.godlyplayfoundation.org](http://www.godlyplayfoundation.org). September 2016.

<sup>7</sup>Williams, Thomas. "Saint Anselm," *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Spring 2016.

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## EVANGELISM

*The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.*

*Catechism, BCP, 855.*

“We commit ourselves through evangelism to proclaim the person and work of Jesus Christ, unceasingly and authentically, inviting all to embrace the beauty and joy of the Gospel”.<sup>8</sup>

The Most Rev'd Michael Curry posed an imagined Jeopardy! question during the sermon at his installation as 27th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church: “Name two words that begin with ‘E’ but that are never used at the same time’. And the answer? What is ‘Episcopalian’ and ‘evangelism’?”



of the Gospel by virtue of our Christian baptism, opening our doors and welcoming the community, and going out and setting our faith in the world are ways in which we evangelize.

The term “evangelism” stems from the Greek word, *εὐαγγέλιον* (*euangélion*), meaning a good message, i.e. the Gospel.<sup>9</sup> Understanding ourselves as ministers

of the Gospel by virtue of our Christian baptism, opening our doors and welcoming the community, and going out and setting our faith in the world are ways in which we evangelize.

+ Accounting for evangelism is more challenging than others to quantify: we can debate whether this term is limited to specific activities or is, indeed, all encompassing. The rector estimated that evangelism accounts for about 9% of his time. In addition, we have estimated that it accounts for just under 300 volunteer hours (about 5% of the time reported in our survey). We have included greeters at the door on Sunday

<sup>8</sup>Primates of the Anglican Communion. “Walking Together in the Service of God in the World,” Addendum B (Statement on Evangelism). Canterbury. January 15, 2016. Retrieved from [primates2016.org](http://primates2016.org)

<sup>9</sup>Strong, James. *The Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*. Cincinnati: Jennings & Graham. 1890. Retrieved from [blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org)

mornings, as well as a portion of time spent on publicity and our buildings and grounds.

+ Evangelism represents about \$49,000 or 17%, of our current budgeted expense, when we include the eight hours a day, four days a week (in addition to worship on Sunday) that our buildings are typically open to the community, along with allocated expenses for the rector’s compensation and a share of administrative costs.

*Lord Jesus Christ, who didst stretch out thine arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love of thee; for the honor of thy Name. Amen.*

*Morning Prayer, BCP, 58.*

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## PASTORAL CARE

*Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve thy sick servants, and give thy power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in thy loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Traditional Collects, BCP, 208.*

Pastoral care is the ministry of caring at the heart of the church’s life. The cure of souls (*cura animarum*) is the exercise by priests of their office and typically includes instruction, admonition, and administration of sacraments. The rector of our parish is committed to providing for the spiritual needs of all members of the church and others who are in need and have no other pastoral support. A healing mass is celebrated on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm. The rector regularly visits those in the hospital or convalescing, where a need or request is known. Confessions are regularly scheduled with the rector as well as lunches or office meetings to provide pastoral guidance.

- + Pastoral care accounts for about 20% of the rector's time. In addition, it accounts for just under 300 volunteer hours (about 5% of the time reported in our survey), including administrative support.
- + Pastoral care represents about \$30,000 or 11%, of our current budgeted expense. These expenses include allocated expenses for the rector's compensation.

## PARISH LIFE

*The communion of saints is the whole family of God, the living and the dead, those whom we love and those whom we hurt, bound together in Christ by sacrament, prayer, and praise.*

*Catechism, BCP, 862.*



Parish life encompasses the time we have for informal fellowship with each other and includes “coffee hour” after masses, the first Sunday lunch and other special meals, the Easter egg hunt, and the Blessing of the Animals service.

- + Parish life accounts for about 20% of the rector's time. In addition, it accounts for just under 1,100 volunteer hours (about 20%

of the time reported in our survey), including time spent on the parish newsletter and publicity; the work of the Henry VIII guild, hosts, kitchen keepers, and the reception committee; and a part of the work of the vestry.

- + Parish life represents about \$33,000 or 12%, of our current budgeted expense. These expenses include explicit hospitality expenses (coffee, kitchen supplies, etc.) and allocated expenses for the rector's compensation and administrative support, as well as building costs.

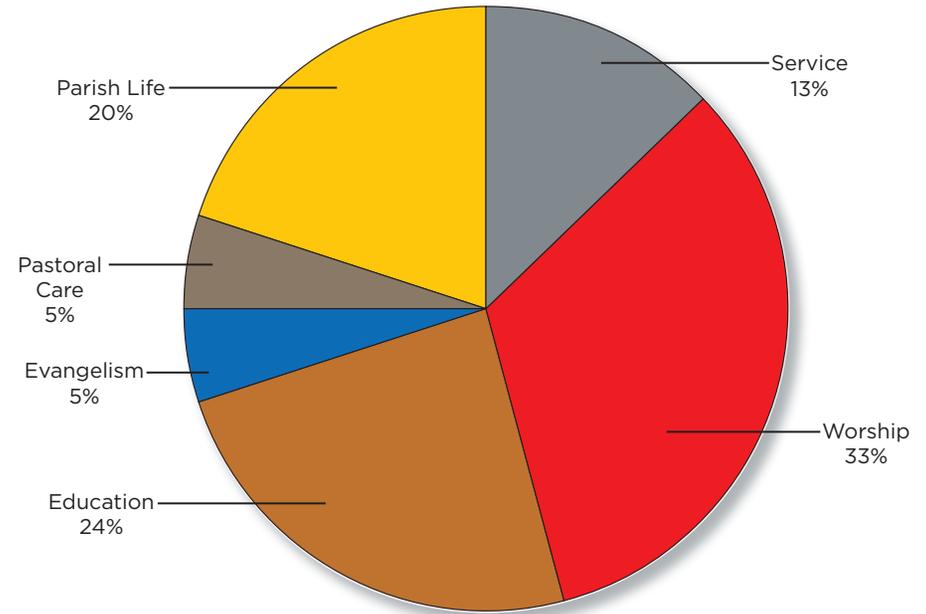
# Offering to God

## TIME & TALENT

*“And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee.”*

*Holy Eucharist I, BCP, 336.*

The following chart illustrates the distribution of our gifts of time and talent.



Many people offer many hours every week and every year to carry out the mission and ministry of the Church of Our Saviour. There are parishioners who lead us in singing, prepare the sanctuary for mass, and serve the priest; parishioners who ensure that our visitors are welcomed and everyone offered hospitality; some who work to keep our grounds; and other who help us to communicate with each other. There are parishioners who ensure that we reach beyond ourselves to show Christ's love to those in need of food, clothing, and other aid.

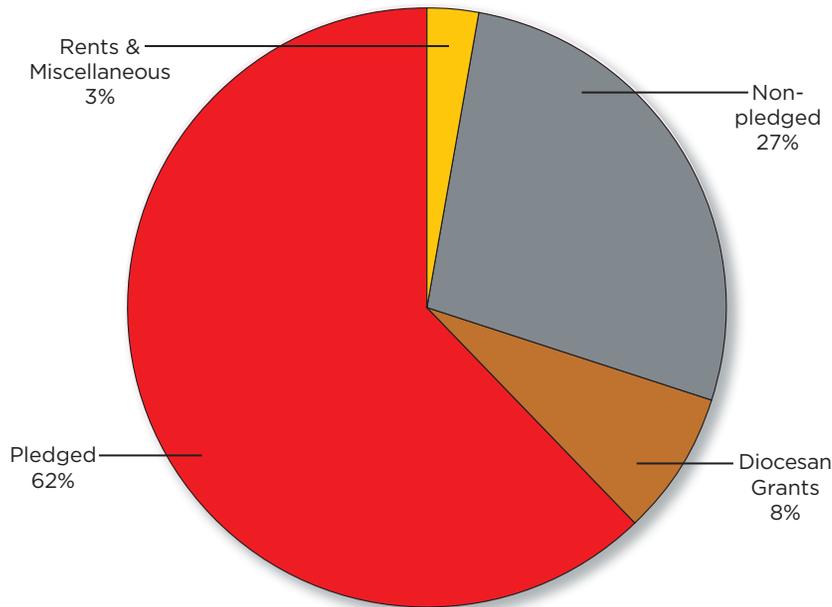
While it is impossible to measure every gift of time and talent that is offered as a part of the mission and ministry of this parish, we have estimated nearly 5,500 hours a year are given through the Church of Our Saviour.

## TREASURE

*Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High.*

*Psalm 50:14*

Budgeted revenue for 2017 is illustrated in the chart below.



The Church of Our Saviour is not an endowed parish. Funding for our mission and ministry largely comes from the contributions of parishioners.

Revenue is divided among the following categories:

- + Pledged: payments on pledges ; this is the largest category of revenue for the parish. It is the fulfillment, across a year, of pledges made during the Every Member Canvass

- + Non-pledged: gifts and contributions from parishioners who have not pledged, newcomers and visitors, as well as other freewill offerings
- + Diocesan grant: a grant from the diocese for the work of our priest, who serves as chaplain to Emory
- + Rents & miscellaneous: freewill offerings for the use of our facilities and other miscellaneous revenue

## Looking Toward the Future

If you've ever sat in the pew thinking "Wouldn't it be nice if ..." As the body of Christ, isn't it up to us to discern where and how we will use our time, talents, and treasure to further God's Kingdom? Your ideas and passions matter.

If you have a hope or idea for our parish, share these with the Rector or his Warden and commit to taking a step to realizing them.



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*The Church of Our Saviour is an active and vibrant parish with a history now passing 90 years. We are located at the corner of North Highland and Los Angeles in the lively intown neighborhood of Virginia-Highland.*

*We are committed to being a witness to Catholic Christian tradition within the Episcopal Church. This witness is embodied in our worship, ministries and commitment to our community.*

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**The Church of Our Saviour**

*An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the  
Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta*

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