



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA

Storytelling through Narrative Budgets

FOR CHRIST. FOR THIS TIME. FOR ALL TIME.



Storytelling for Impact

- Why are stories important?
- How we tell our story
 - ❖ Why should I have a Narrative Budget?
 - ❖ What is a Narrative Budget?
 - ❖ How do I make a Narrative Budget?



“A good story tells you something interesting about someone. Things happen in a good story. People reveal who they are. This is done with ease of language and some amount of voice.”

Heidi Pitlor

Senior Editor, The Best American Short Stories

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“Stories have started feuds that have lasted for generations. Stories have started wars, but have also forged alliances. They have changed societal and cultural attitudes, beliefs and values, as well as swayed public opinion. Stories have redefined and refocused the political and social debate. They have changed and continue to change the world – to define our world. Stories can be amazingly powerful – frighteningly powerful.”

Story Proof: The Science Behind the Startling Power of Story
Kendall Haven

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It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife. —Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice

Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way. —Leo Tolstoy, Anna Karenina

You better not never tell nobody but God. —Alice Walker, The Color Purple

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair. —Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities

Barrabas came to us by sea. – Isabel Allende, *House of the Spirits*

Ships at a distance have every man's wish on board. – Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth

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“Clearly, the purpose of wealth is not security. The purpose of wealth is reckless generosity, the kind that sings of the lavish love of God, the kind that rekindles hope on dark days, the kind that reminds us that God is with us always.”

Sister Joan Chittister, OSB

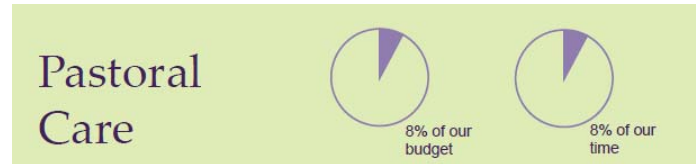
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Financial Budget

Payroll Taxes	3,400.00
Benefits	
Lay Pension	1,145.00
Total Benefits	1,145.00
Supply Staff	
Clergy	1,400.00
Organist	600.00
Total Supply Staff	2,000.00
WComp Insurance	800.00
Total Payroll Expenses	138,485.00
Operating	

Narrative Budget



The Pastoral Care Commission has oversight of several ministries, each devoted to emotional and spiritual support. The Commission helps people through difficult times and joins with them in celebration of their joyous times. Our work takes many forms, each one reaching well beyond our church grounds in order to nurture community and allow us to remain united in our faith and thanksgiving.

- Licensed Eucharistic Visitors take Holy Communion to parishioners unable to come to church.
- The Flower Arrangement Ministry prepares and delivers flowers to people who are homebound or in the hospital.
- The Prayer Group lifts many voices in prayer on behalf of those suffering.
- Meal Train provides meals for new parents.
- Parish Visitors extend the church beyond its physical structure by visiting parishioners who are unable to come to church.
- The Card Ministry sends cards on behalf of the congregation.
- What Love Looks Like helps parishioners with meals, rides and in other ways as need arises.

In Our Own Words

"It is an honor and a joy to be able to share with our home-bound members in an effort to help them continue to be connected with church even when they are no longer able to be present at church. It is a blessing for all involved to make them feel a part of One Body of Church of Our Saviour."

-- Heather Johnson

The Commission

- Email Prayer Group
- Flower Arrangements Ministry
- Licensed Eucharistic Visitors
- Meal Train for New Parents
- Parish Visitors
- What Love Looks Like

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."
--Ephesians 4:2

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Worship



21% of our budget



35% of our time

Our worship is at the heart of our common life. We seek to experience the full range of Anglican worship, offering three distinctive services each Sunday and celebrating special liturgies throughout the year, such as the Great Vigil of Easter and the Choral Evensong.

Led by our Rector, the Reverend David Stoddart, and our Associate Rector, the Reverend Jennifer Durant, our varied worship opportunities require the involvement of literally dozens of volunteers each week. These volunteers prepare the Altar for the celebration of the Eucharist, read the scripture lessons, carry the offerings of the congregation to the Altar, join in distributing Communion and enhance the services with musical offerings. The laity fills a vital role in the worship service, and there is a place for anyone who wishes to join in on the work of the commission.

In Our Own Words

"I feel so lucky to be a Licensed Eucharistic Minister. This reminds me of my time as an altar boy, when I felt closer to God in the Eucharistic celebration. You can imagine my joy in celebrating at our altar with my family. I now find that being a LEM also brings me closer to my church family. I am most blessed to serve as a LEM."

-- Matt Savinsky

The Commission

- Acolytes
- Altar Guild
- Lectors
- Licensed Eucharistic Ministers
- Ushers & Service Teams
- Choirs
 - Adult
 - Celebration
 - Youth
 - St Nicholas
 - Canterbury Bells

"Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come before him. Worship the Lord in holy splendor."
--1 Chronicles 16:29

Worship

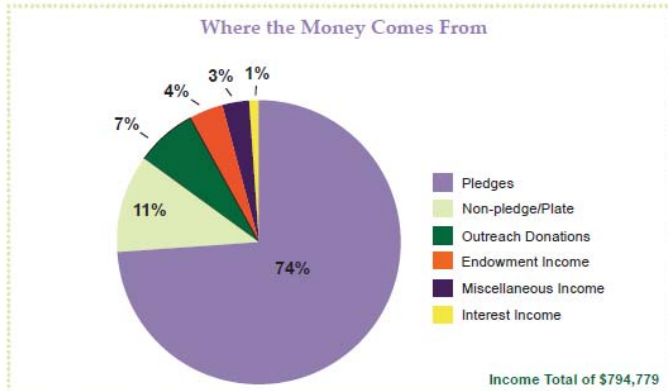


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The Dollars & Cents

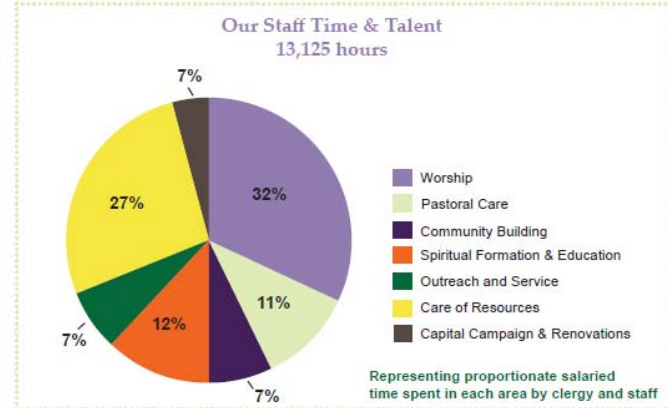
Church Operation September 2012-August 2013



Amounts above include ALL receipts and expenses other than capital campaign. The operating budget was at a small deficit in this period. Total receipts, however, include outreach gifts and an estate gift, which create a short term surplus until they're spent in those designated areas in the coming months.

Time, Talent & Treasure

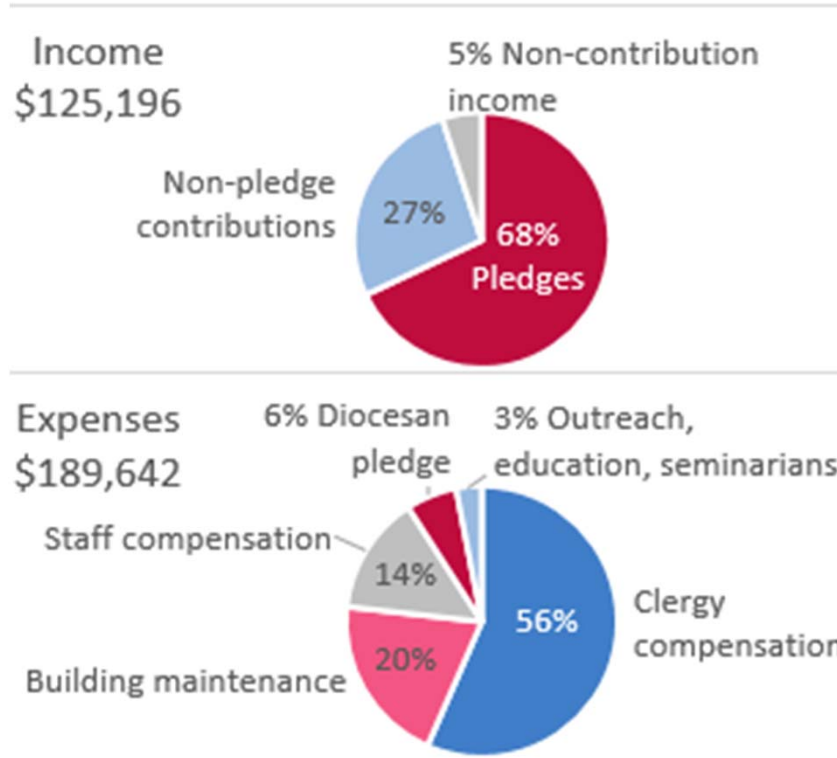
As distributed among our ministries



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What not to do...



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**These numbers/ amounts are purely arbitrary and only for instructional purposes.*

Where do you start?

Pick your categories.

**Examples: Pastoral care/ worship
and music/ outreach and mission/
Christian formation/ Church life**



For example...

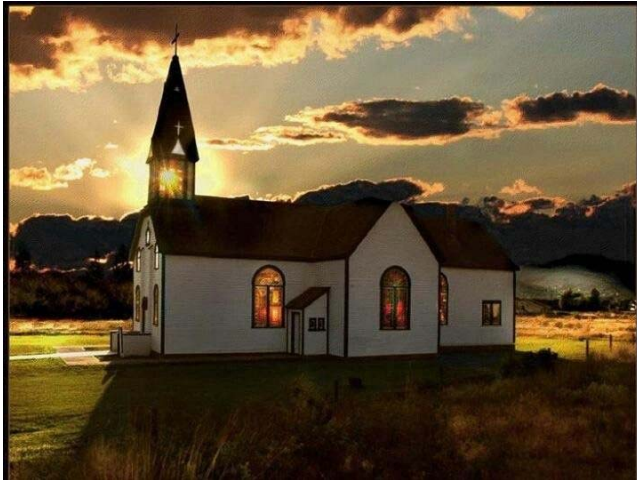
Your priest might have the following week:

- Worship prep = 10h/wk
- formation = 3h/wk
- Pastoral care = 10h/wk
- Administration = 15h/wk
- Bible Study = 5h/wk
- Outreach = 5h/wk

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And what about the building?



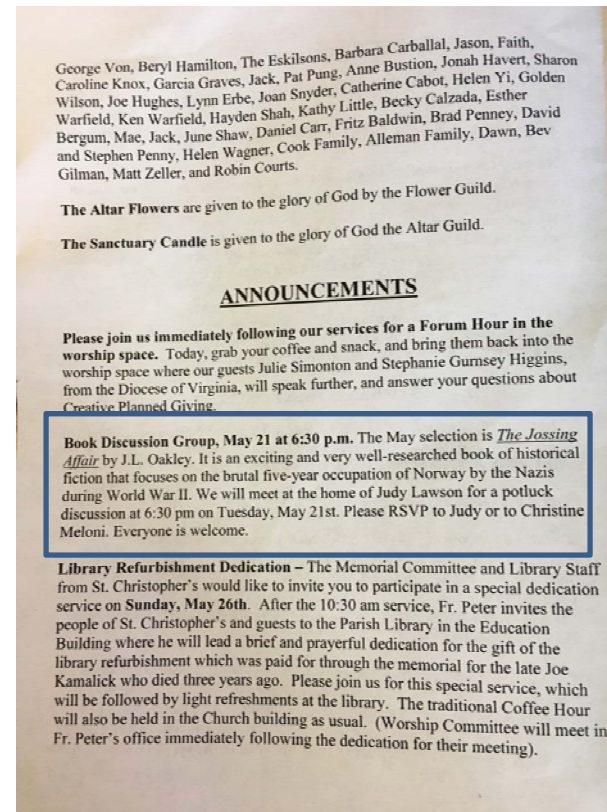
- Having heat and lights on and a custodian present enable transformative ministries to take place.
- Show how a portion of the funds in this budget area are used in this way and why it matters.

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Where will I find the information I need?

- Newsletters
 - ❖ pictures
- Bulletins
 - ❖ Meeting notices



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Not everything that can be counted counts,
and not everything that counts can be
counted.

Albert Einstein

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What Can You Count?

- Clergy performed 6 baptisms and 5 weddings
- Cherub Choir performed for worship 3 times and made a special appearance at Manor Retirement Home on Thanksgiving
- Served 100 people each month through our food pantry. This resulted in [how many meals? or pounds of food distributed? Or other impact in the community]
- Weekly Bible study attracted 6 new members

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600

CAMOUFLAGE BANDANAS & CARDS
SENT TO DEPLOYED SERVICE
MEMBERS



424

CHRISTMAS GIFTS & STOCKINGS
GIVEN TO SUPPORT NEEDY MILITARY
FAMILIES IN THE AREA



1,200

SNACK BAGS ASSEMBLED FOR THE
HOMELESS



280

TAKE HOME MEALS ASSEMBLED FOR
HUNGRY SCHOOL CHILDREN

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OUR STORY

DEEPENS AND GROWS DISCIPLES
OF CHRIST TO LIVE OUT GOD'S LOVE IN OUR LIVES



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
NURTURING RECONCILIATION



21%
\$56,000

Some of the Christian Education Ministry's plans for 2015 include:

- Elf Workshop
- Easter Butterfly Release
- Vacation Bible School
- Christmas Pageant
- Youth-e-Palooza
- Children's Sunday School (Godly Play and Jesus Junction)
- Youth Sunday School
- Adult Sunday School

Developing and nurturing people of wisdom contributes to the great pool of agents of reconciliation in the world. Our ministry is blessed by offering weekly Bible studies and opportunities for children, teens, and adults. Offerings include classes in fun Godly Play and Jesus Junction for kids. And for adults, classes such as Pathfinders, Great Awakenings, Baptism and Belonging, and History and Polity of the Christian Church are offered. We've ordained over two dozen ministers in this church and commissioned over 60 into various ministries of service.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHURCH COMMUNITY LIFE

WORSHIP

OUTREACH



80.3

Tons of Food Donated

1,450

Thanksgiving Dinners Provided

6,900+

Volunteer Hours

14,614

Individuals Fed

130,847

Meals Provided

#365DaysAtStStephens

190

Worship Services

385

Hymns Sung

716

Fellowship Opportunities

1,201

Scriptures Read

14,640

Elements Received



30

Sheltered from the Cold

394

Meals Prepared

606

Community Events Hosted

1,820

Cups of Coffee Shared

#365DaysAtStStephens



8,000+

meals prepared by 150 volunteers for parishioners and visitors at Wonderful Wednesdays, Sunday Community Suppers and Community Thanksgiving Meal

“2018 has been a period of significant change at St. Mary’s. So many changes! The response of our parish has been remarkable and inspiring. Where there could have been conflict, we saw cooperation. Where there could have been hesitation, we saw generosity. Where there could have been despair, we saw enthusiasm. Where there could have been bitterness, we saw grace... We have grown in so many ways and it feels good.” *Fay Lohr, Tracey Ragsdale, Al Rider & Tom Slater, Vestry Class of 2019*



PARISH REGISTER

10 WEDDINGS



25 CONFIRMATIONS
3 RECEPTIONS



27 BURIALS

BAPTISMS **12**



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

29 LAY READERS & INTERCESSORS



WEEKDAY **57** DAILY OFFICES
*THIS INCLUDES NOONDAY PRAYER, ETC.



MUSIC

“It’s a real privilege for me to get to work with such a great group of singers every week and to be able to offer such a wide range of great music at such a high level of performance.”

- Ryan Tibbetts, Director of Music



ST. MARY'S CHOIR REPERTOIRE SPANS FROM THE 16TH CENTURY TO PIECES WRITTEN IN 2018!

100+ HOURS SPENT IN REHEARSAL

13,727 **WORSHIP** COMMUNION WAFERS RECEIVED



“It’s a privilege to serve God in the remembrance of his gift to the world and to share this gift with the St. Mary’s community.”
- Cabell Blair on serving as a Lay Eucharistic Minister

ALTAR GUILD



40 EASTER WINDOW BASKET ARRANGEMENTS



ALTAR **84** GUILD MEMBERS

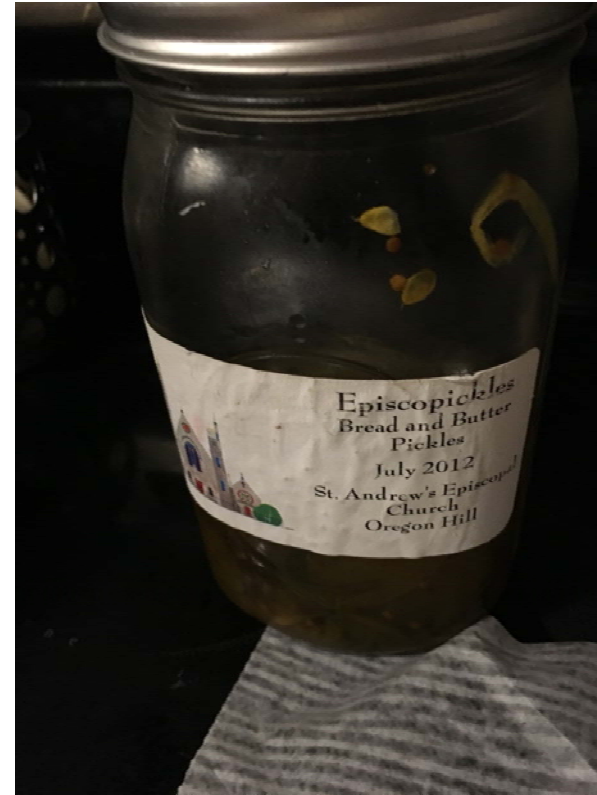
2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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Things to remember

- Keep in mind the work of all age groups
- Think creatively
- Pick one thing



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Thank You.

Stephanie Gurnsey Higgins

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