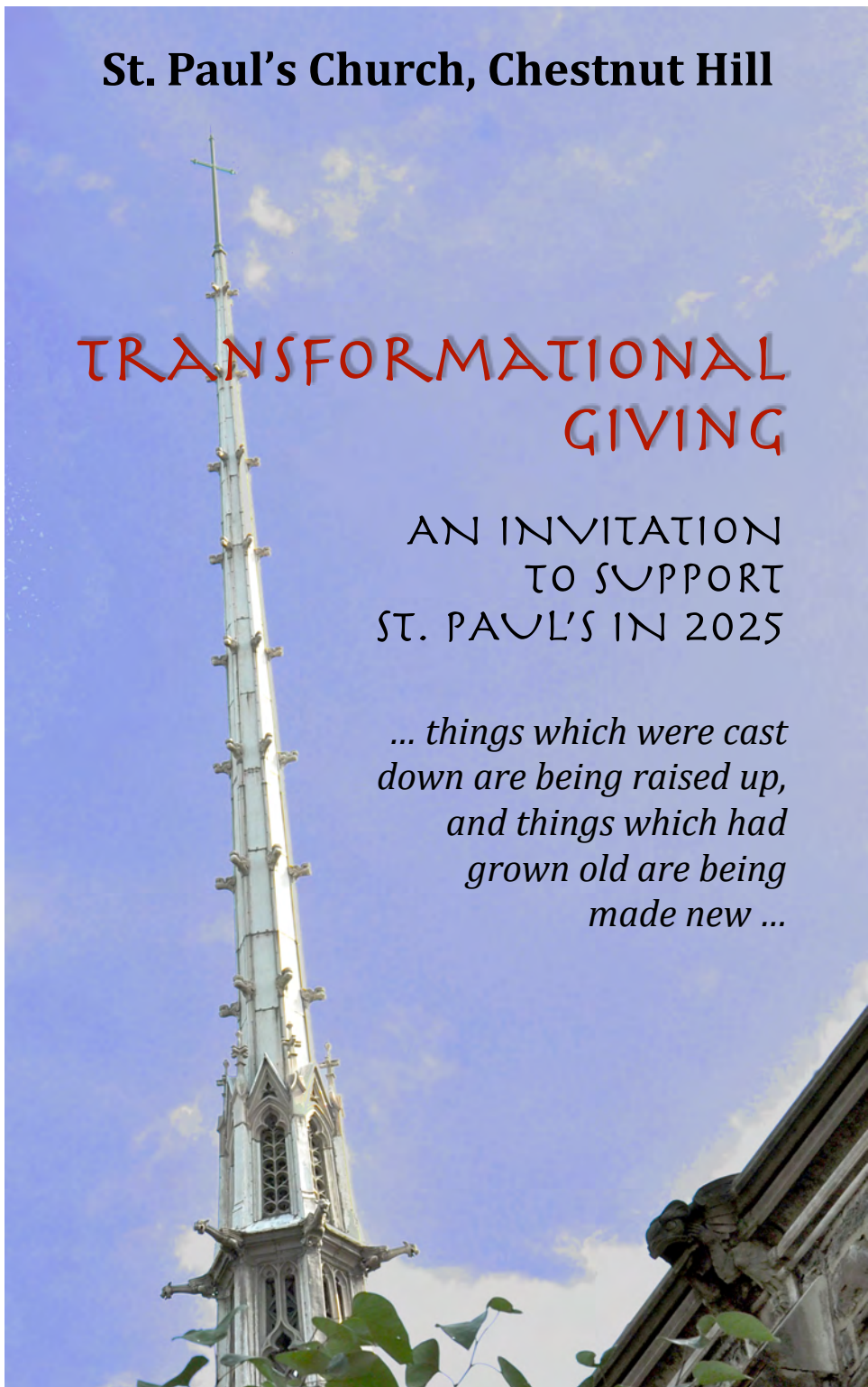


St. Paul's Church, Chestnut Hill

TRANSFORMATIONAL GIVING

AN INVITATION
TO SUPPORT
ST. PAUL'S IN 2025

*... things which were cast
down are being raised up,
and things which had
grown old are being
made new ...*



A VISION FOR ST. PAUL'S

From the Rector

"... 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."

Book of Common Prayer

We pray these words during the Easter Vigil Service and at every ordination. They are full of power and the promise of transformative change. At St. Paul's we are called to be a part of this "raising up" and "making new." We have been blessed with some extraordinary gifts: loving, brilliant, and imaginative parishioners with a "can-do" spirit; an extraordinary church building; a beautiful campus in an amazing location; and emerging signs of growth and vitality that suggest we are embarking on a new and exciting journey together.

† We will continue our efforts to make St. Paul's known as a place of welcome and respite, where excellent worship is prioritized, healthy relationships and loving kindness are nurtured, and all feel a sense of belonging;

† We are called to love and serve our neighbor as Christ has loved us. In the words of St. Theresa of

Avila, we are the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We will develop our visibility and active witness in the community, and continue to build on outreach partnerships locally and further afield;

† Remembering our calling as co-creators with God, we will find new ways to harness the creative and inspiring talents within our community, to bring vitality and innovation into our worship, gathering, and mission.

As a people when we gather to receive the Body of Jesus Christ we become transformed into the Body of Jesus Christ and we are able to offer nourishment and hope to our community by our presence. It is a joy to partner with you in this work!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Eric+



*The Rev. Eric Hungerford, Rector of St. Paul's
The Rev. Madeleine Harris-Lerew, Assistant Rector*

BRINGING TRANSFORMATION

Moving St. Paul's forward as a welcoming and outward-facing community of faith and maintaining good financial stewardship are responsibilities that rest with the entire parish family. We must look to an equitable sharing of the work. Joyful and generous giving by us all, in response to God's call, is key to building a healthy and sustainable base of support for our parish operations as they grow.

BUILDING ON GROWTH

Reversing a decline: encouraging signs as St. Paul's moves into the fourth year of Fr. Eric's tenure as rector.

- Thanks in part to the efforts of the recently-formed Welcome Task Force, Sunday church attendance has recovered from the pandemic hiatus. It has surpassed 2019 levels across all services and is on an upward trend.
- Air conditioning in the church helped grow summer church attendance by 16% over last year.
- Since 2019 there has also been a steady increase in the number and amount of pledged gifts, notably in the number of new pledges.
- We now regularly offer four diverse worship services every Sunday, as well as many other special services.
- Deacon Madeleine Harris-Lerew joined us as a full-time Assistant Rector. She will be ordained priest in 2025.
- A Property Manager position has been added, and Marianne Moore joined the staff as Godly Play Facilitator.
- We recently completed an ambitious program of capital projects: air-conditioning the church, electrical and sewer replacement, many sanctuary and parish house upgrades.
- We are celebrating the rededication of our landmark pipe organ, following its extensive four-year renovation project.
- Our facilities are increasingly being sought after for community events.



BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

Building on this transformational growth is an urgent priority for 2025 and beyond. In accordance with the vision expressed by Fr. Eric and adopted by the Vestry, we are looking to:

- Continue building our welcoming efforts as new friends find their way to St. Paul's;
- Develop new programs and ministries that enhance engagement with and outreach to our local community;
- Revive our connection to Standing Rock and support multi-generational mission experiences there and elsewhere;
- Increase pastoral care and enrich spiritual development opportunities for our growing parish family;
- Advance our capacity for greater administrative efficiency and effectiveness to serve expanding parish operations;
- Improve campus security and meet the additional costs incurred by increasing usage of our buildings and grounds;
- Continue to care for our historic church buildings and proactively address deferred maintenance across our campus.

THIS IS ST. PAUL'S

Parish Life, Mission & Outreach

Strengthening bonds and taking care of the St. Paul's family, opening our doors to the community, and taking the message of the Gospel beyond our four walls. Includes pastoral care, our diocesan sacred gift, hospitality and events including support for outreach projects, the mission trip to Standing Rock, a new Fall Fair, and clergy salaries allocated to this category.



Administration

Maintenance of a functional and compliant office with appropriate equipment, technology and supplies; insurance, audit, leases and subscriptions, communications and stewardship. Includes a full-time Parish Administrator, tech and accountancy support staff, and allocated clergy salaries.

Photo credits here and throughout this booklet: Van Williams, Nick Steever, Arabella Pope.

Worship & Music

The heart and soul of our Christian life together, conducted through three diverse Sunday morning services of Holy Eucharist; as well as Evensong, Taizé, and Compline services on Sunday evenings; weekday and off-campus services, and special services such as Lessons & Carols, the Jazz Mass, a Hymn Festival of Thanksgiving. Includes allocated clergy salaries, a full-time Music Director, organ scholar, staff singers and choristers, instrument maintenance, flowers, liturgical and music supplies.



Christian Formation

Foundational spiritual education and activities for Children, Youth and Families through Godly Play, Saint Paul's Youth, and Parents' Exchange. Preparation for baptism and confirmation, and weekly Bible Study and Adult Forums. Includes special activities such as the Christmas Pageant and Advent Night, the camping trip, allocated clergy salaries, a part-time Godly Play facilitator, and the provision of nursery care.



Property

Providing safe and welcoming spaces for worship and Christian formation, life events including weddings and funerals, neighbor groups such as AA, CHMA, and Mt. Airy Learning Tree, as well as the rector's family home. Includes Property Manager and custodial staff salaries, ongoing maintenance of all buildings and grounds, cleaning, utilities, and taxes.



BUDGETING FOR TRANSFORMATION

“A budget is a theological document. It is how we show that we are doing Christ’s work in the world.”

Praesidium Academy, Safe Church training video

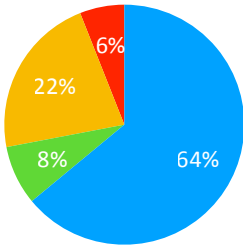
Expense Budget	2024 actual	2025 preliminary*
Parish Life, Mission & Outreach	\$181,322	\$217,050
Worship & Music	\$350,100	\$381,316
Christian Formation	\$54,328	\$91,728
Property	\$263,500	\$275,600
Administration	\$309,622	\$342,108
Total expense budget	\$1,158,372	\$1,307,802

*The final 2025 budget will be approved by the Vestry in December, after review by the Budget and Finance Committees.

Our preliminary **expense budget** for 2025 is an increase of 13% over the previous year. In addition to standard allowances for inflation on fixed costs it incorporates funding for a full-time Assistant Rector. Modest amounts are included to increase St. Paul’s visibility and welcoming presence in the community, renew our missional relationship with the Standing Rock diocese, support outreach projects, and make necessary property upgrades. The totals for each category include clergy and staff salaries allocated appropriately.

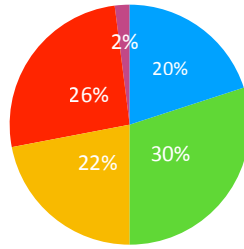
The charts on the opposite page show the composition of the parish’s **revenue sources**. Pledged support currently represents 64% of total revenue and is the single most important way that we can work towards our vision as a church community. As St. Paul’s demographics and membership have changed over time, so too has our revenue from pledges. St. Paul’s faces a substantial reduction in pledged support for 2025 with the loss of a beloved and generous benefactor. An ambitious campaign goal of \$900,000 has been set in order to meet our projected budget needs, and to begin building back a broad and sustainable base of pledged support. When realized, this goal could elevate the share of projected operating revenue from pledges to an estimated 69% in 2025.

2024 revenue sources



- pledged gifts
- other gifts
- interest income
- miscellaneous

2024 distribution of pledges by size of pledge



- 1 at \$50,000+
- 14 at \$10,000-\$49,999
- 25 at \$5,000-\$9,999
- 92 at \$1,000-\$4,999
- 42 at <\$1,000

2025 CAMPAIGN GOAL

\$900,000



ABOUT PLEDGING

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” James 1:17

Why do we pledge?

An Episcopal parish operates substantially on funds that are given annually by its members and other friends. Pledging is a response to God’s call and His abundance in our own lives; it is a statement of thanksgiving and purpose. It simply means that people indicate their intention to contribute an amount of their choice to the church during the course of the coming financial year. This form of covenant giving is non-binding, but is extremely helpful in making decisions about the allocation of resources.

The Stewardship Campaign is a season of asking and giving. At St. Paul’s we typically conduct a campaign each year in the fall, so that pledges made at that time can guide the preparation of the parish budget for the following year. However pledges and other donations are gratefully received throughout the year.

How much should I pledge?

Simply put, financial gifts are needed to continue building the community of St. Paul’s so that we can grow together in faith and reach out to extend compassion and love to our neighbors. The amount of your gift is a matter between you and God, to be prayerfully discerned.

Some people use the tradition of tithing as a guideline, meaning that 10% of family income is directed to the church. Or, you may decide on a specific percentage increase over your previous pledge to help us meet a larger operating budget. This year’s need to achieve growth in the size and number of pledges is especially important. In addition to meeting the budget we are rebuilding our base of pledged support following the loss of a significant benefactor.

You might consider where St. Paul’s figures among your charitable priorities and household finances. For some families, any increase at all may be a hard goal to achieve, whereas others are able to contribute at a higher level than previously. You should determine an amount to pledge that brings you true joy in making your gift.



How do I make a pledge?

ONLINE Visit www.stpaulschestnuthill.org/giving and Pledge for 2025, or scan the code here and complete the simple pledge form online.



BY MAIL Send or bring a completed pledge card to St. Paul's. Pledge cards and envelopes were included in the campaign mailing and are available in the Parish Office.

How can I make payments on my pledge?

- You may fulfill your pledge throughout 2025 with a single payment or in installments to suit your convenience.
- Special envelopes for cash or checks are available and may be returned in the collection plate or mailed; these are helpful for identifying and directing the payment towards your pledge.
- Single and installment payments may be made securely online using the St. Paul's Realm system. No account is necessary to make a payment through Realm.
- You may make a gift through an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (age 70½ and over) or by donating appreciated stock or securities.
- **With questions, please contact Paul Diefenbach in the Parish Office** info@stpaulschestnuthill.org or 215-242-2055.



STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN DATES

OCTOBER 27	First Sunday Holy Eucharist at 8, 9, and 11 a.m.
NOVEMBER 3	Second Sunday <i>Feast of All Saints & All Souls' Commemoration</i> Holy Eucharist at 8, 9, and 11 a.m. Choral Evensong at 5 p.m.
NOVEMBER 10	Third Sunday Holy Eucharist at 8, 9, and 11 a.m.
NOVEMBER 17	Fourth Sunday Holy Eucharist at 8, 9, and 11 a.m. Organ Rededication at 11 a.m. Hymn Festival of Thanksgiving at 4 p.m.
NOVEMBER 24	Fifth Sunday <i>Christ the King Sunday</i> Turkey donations collected before church Combined service of Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. Blessing of Pledges and Giving of Thanks Festive lunch at 12 noon

2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

Stewardship Committee

Arabella Pope (*Chairperson*)

Pam Bracey

Colin Brown

Kevin Brown

Chip Butler

Sandy Dillon

Rick Felton (*Consultant*)

Clark Groome

Denise Jones

Steve Pearson

Matt Sware

Vestry

Denise Jones (*Rector's Warden*)

Colin Brown (*Parishioners' Warden*)

Dick Kolb (*Accounting Warden*)

Wendy Munyon (*Secretary*)

Brian Henes

Matt Hyde

Michael Latini

Chesley Lightsey

Kara McShane

James Poole

Arabella Pope

Frankie Sims



St. Paul's Church

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