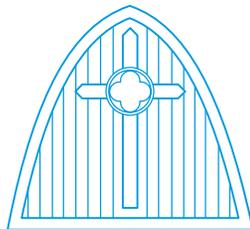


*Walk in Love*



# 2016 NARRATIVE BUDGET

St. Mary's Church | Goochland, VA



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Growing in Faith | Building Community | Giving Joyfully

# GROWING IN FAITH, BUILDING COMMUNITY, GIVING JOYFULLY

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful time to be at St. Mary's! Our church is vibrant and growing. Throughout the week—not just on Sundays—our buildings and grounds hum with people of all ages who are here to worship, to learn, to serve, and to simply be together.

As we enter the fall, high school students are planning a mission trip, men and women of all ages are committing to new Bible and book studies, and our enthusiastic greeters are making sure that all who join us know that they are welcome. Our Fellowship Committee and Pastoral Care teams, which are open to all who want to participate, continue to make sure that we tend to each other in good times and bad. A renewed focus on outreach ministries includes more opportunities for hands-on involvement with our outreach partners and a commitment to taking St. Mary's out into the world.

Much of the excitement that we're now experiencing stems from the discernment process which we went through together in the spring. We focused on five areas of our common life—fellowship, outreach, spiritual formation and education, stewardship, and worship—and the discoveries of that discernment process continue to guide us as we head into an exciting future. Part of the discernment process included a recognition that we want to be stronger stewards of the talent, time, and treasure that God has given all of us to strengthen St. Mary's now and for the future.

We hope that this booklet will give you a greater understanding of how we can all be stronger stewards of our talent, time, and treasure. We also hope that it will inspire you to think about how much more we can be and do in the future with what God has given each of us, and how much that will both strengthen us as a community in Christ and empower us to share Christ's love in the world.

As you read this booklet and as you pray about your pledge afterward, please contemplate what is known as proportionate giving. It can be a profound, even life-changing, spiritual exercise: if God is the source of all that we have and has entrusted it to us, what is our responsibility to give back? What percentage of our income reflects the gratitude that we feel for God's many blessings in our lives? 3%? 5%? 10%? More? Please prayerfully consider what difference each of us can make in the life of St. Mary's here and in the world.

We have so much to celebrate. Thank you, and thanks be to God!

Gratefully,



**The Rev. Louise Browner Blanchard**  
Rector, St. Mary's Episcopal Church



# OUR ASPIRATIONS

## *for 2017*

At St. Mary's, we are committed to proportionate giving, asking each member to set aside a certain percentage of their income for the work of God in this Parish. Pledging is a commitment: offering the first fruits of our labor and income, rather than offering from what is left over. It is a reflection of our gratitude to God for the abundance He has provided to us.

We prayerfully ask each parishioner to increase the percentage of support to the church each year, moving toward the biblical standard of tithing (offering 10%). The first step is to calculate your actual giving percentage from last year and determine whether it is where you can be. Regularly review how you are able to increase the percentage over time, guided by your deepening commitment to Christ and this church.

We also hope that all new members of the parish will pledge this year. New pledges provide needed additional resources and replenish the generosity of those who are called away from the parish each year. Our hope is that even in the most challenging times, we will become more aware of the blessings of our lives and the blessings brought to us by this church family.

**Based on our experience in recent years, we estimate that our 2017 expenses will increase by about \$100,000 or approximately 10%.**

Factors we anticipate will contribute to the increase include:

- Added staff to provide the services our large parish needs so that we can minister to the entire Parish, especially with respect to the findings in the spring discernment report.
- Growth in key expenses driven by an increase in cost of living.
- The daily maintenance of our existing facilities.

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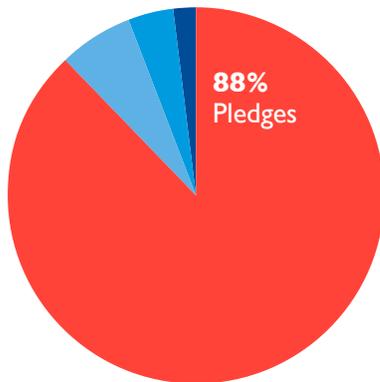
**With an additional \$50,000 in pledges, the Vestry also hopes to include these ministries in the final 2017 Financial Budget:**

- Increase our outreach budget in all respects: new ministries, additional granting, new opportunities.
- Sponsor a mission trip either domestically or internationally.
- Ensure that future maintenance and upkeep costs of all facilities are planned for.
- Host more events to bring the congregation together, such as the Spring Feast of Mary Allen and the Shrine Mont Parish Retreat.



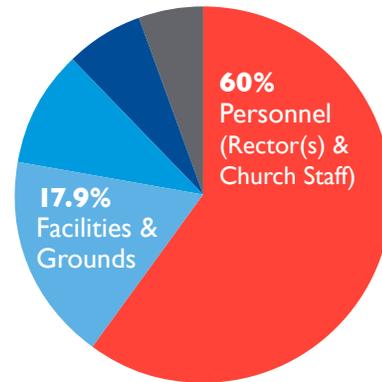
# DOLLARS & CENTS *Church Operation September 2015 - August 2016*

**2016 Budget Revenues**  
Income Total of \$1,054,000



- **6.2%** Unpledged Donations
- **4.1%** Other Income
- **1.7%** Weekly Plate Donations

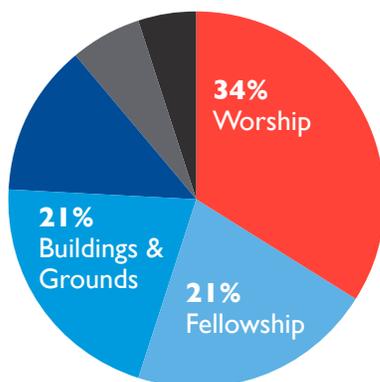
**2016 Budget Expenditures**  
Operating Expenditures of \$1,054,000



- **10.1%** Outreach (CARITAS, Diocese, Charitable Contributions)
- **6.7%** Ministry/Education (Music, Children's Programs, Nursery, Fellowship)
- **5.4%** General Administration (Computers, Telephones, etc.)

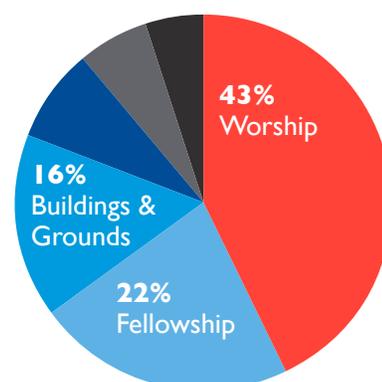
# TIME, TALENT & TREASURE *As distributed among our ministries*

**Staff Time & Talent - 16,000 hours**  
Representing proportionate salaried time spent in each area by clergy and staff



- **13%** Pastoral Care
- **6%** Spiritual Formation & Education
- **5%** Outreach

**Volunteer Time & Talent - 37,000 hours**  
Representing time and talent given by those not compensated



- **8%** Pastoral Care
- **6%** Spiritual Formation & Education
- **5%** Outreach

*\*All amounts are approximate and made in good faith.*





## WORSHIP

Worship is at the heart of our common life, a time and place where, in the words of the Book of Common Prayer, “we unite ourselves with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, to hear God’s Word, to offer prayer, and to celebrate the sacraments.” It is what prepares and nourishes us to go out into the world to do God’s work. At St. Mary’s, we seek to experience a full range of Episcopal worship. We offer two distinct services each Sunday, Noonday Prayer each Wednesday, and seasonal and special liturgies throughout the year, including Holy Week services, Confirmation, and Choral Evensong.

Led by our clergy, our varied worship opportunities require dozens of volunteers each week. These volunteers prepare the altar and sanctuary for all services, carry the cross and bring forth the offerings, read Scripture and lead prayers, join in distributing communion, and enhance the service with musical offerings. Lay people of all ages fill a vital role in our worship services, and there is a place for anyone who wishes to participate.

## GROWING IN FAITH

### Opportunities to serve:

- Acolytes
- Altar Guild
- Choirs
  - St. Mary’s Choir
  - Children’s Choir
- Intercessors
- Lay Eucharistic Ministers
- Lay Eucharistic Visitors
- Oblation Bearers
- Readers
- Ushers & Funeral Ushers

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*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

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## PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care is, quite simply, how we care for one another at St. Mary's. Parishioners who are homebound or otherwise in need of a special touch receive visits, notes, birthday cards, prayer shawls, and communion from their fellow parishioners. Pastoral Care Teams and the Prayer Shawl Ministry group meet regularly to coordinate care and make sure that we are aware of each other's needs. Lay Eucharistic Visitors take communion to those who are unable to receive it in church on Sunday.

**Pastoral Care Team members** are our ears and eyes and hearts in the community. There are four pastoral care teams, each of which meets monthly unless the office is closed on that day. Team members may bring us up to date on visits that they have made or news about parishioners of which we may not be aware: deaths in a family; changes in family status, such as divorce; hospitalizations; illnesses; job losses; upcoming surgeries, etc.

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets monthly on the **third Thursday** of each month at **10:30 a.m.** in the **Education Building Library**. Parishioners enjoy prayer

and fellowship as they knit soft, washable prayer shawls for newly baptized babies and adults who find comfort in a tangible expression of St. Mary's love and support.

**Eucharistic Visitors** are lay people who have been trained and licensed to give communion to parishioners who are homebound, hospitalized, or otherwise unable to receive communion at church.

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*How many people do we know who are fighting personal battles which are so overwhelmingly life changing? Some know how to find comfort better than others.*

-PEGGY TALMAN, PASTORAL CARE TEAM

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# SPIRITUAL FORMATION & EDUCATION

Spiritual formation and education are an ever-increasing and dynamic aspect of our life at St. Mary's. From young children to adults of all ages, we seek to offer a number of opportunities to listen, discuss, wrestle, and grow in spiritual wisdom and knowledge.

Sharing God's love with children is important and special in the spiritual formation of our children. Children's Ministries, led by director Amelia McDaniel, includes a dedicated team of over 15 teachers. They share the story of our faith with our children from age 3 through grade 5 each week in Sunday School. In addition, they provide materials to enhance those children's experience of worship. We also work closely with St. Mary's Episcopal School, our resident preschool, including regular chapel services and family and parent offerings.

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*Grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord  
and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory  
both now and forever!*

2 PETER 3:18

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The opportunity to begin to engage and develop young peoples' maturing faith is a vital ministry. Youth Ministries, led by director Matt Rawls, serves youth in grades 6 through 12 through Sunday School, confirmation class, youth group gatherings, service projects and mission trips. Since hiring a dedicated full-time staff person, the youth participation has increased tremendously. The youth ministry at St. Mary's is growing, vibrant and dynamic. It is a safe space where the young people of St. Mary's can find community and deepen their faith, and it is a place where they can, and do, invite their friends from outside the church.

Adults participate in offerings ranging from Bible studies, classes, forums, book studies, speakers, and special offerings like Quiet Days, days at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts with rector Weezie Blanchard, and retreats at the Society of Saint John the Evangelist. While some offerings stay constant, new groups, new leaders and new topics give elasticity to the available experience.

## *Opportunities to Learn & Engage*

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### **Adults**

Sunday Forums  
Wednesday Bible Study  
Book Studies  
Quiet Days and Retreats  
Seasonal Classes  
Speakers

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### **Youth**

Sunday School  
Confirmation  
Middle/High School Youth Groups  
High School Mentoring  
High School Mission Planning

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### **Children**

Sunday School  
Vacation Bible School  
Children's Lessons & Carols  
Children's Stations of the Cross





## FELLOWSHIP

St. Mary's is a welcoming, friendly, and warm parish. By definition it may be a large parish but we still value the "small church" feel which comes from strong fellowship and personal connections. Fellowship opportunities through parish suppers and breakfasts, senior lunches, Dovers social gatherings and many more events help to strengthen and deepen personal relationships with each other, our Parish, and, ultimately, our relationship with God.

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*Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."*

1 PETER 4:8-10

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### Parish Breakfasts & Suppers

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### Seniors Lunch

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### "Dovers" Socials & Picnics

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### Special Events & Celebrations

*St. Mary's hosts many fellowship events throughout the year in addition to those listed above.*



# OUTREACH

Did you know that St. Mary's was founded as an outreach mission to local coal miners and farmers? Or that a feeding ministry served St. Mary's members during the Depression? There is a rich history of outreach here, both in giving and receiving. You may know that St. Mary's members were instrumental in founding what are now our current outreach partners, Elk Hill and Goochland Free Clinic & Family Services. Outreach, or in other words, doing God's work in the world, is one of the primary ways that we as Christians love and serve God as faithful witnesses.

Today, St. Mary's is actively involved in outreach in a number of ways. This year, the Outreach Committee instituted a grant application process, which seeks to provide more accountability from our outreach partners. The Outreach Committee, a Vestry committee, researches and recommends financial grants to the Vestry. The amount of grant money available depends on the annual giving participation of all St. Mary's parishioners. More importantly, this process seeks to strengthen relationships between St. Mary's and our outreach partners, as well as, among St. Mary's parishioners who are involved in outreach at St. Mary's. For example, this past spring, in addition to granting \$5,000 to St. Andrew's School, 15 St. Mary's parishioners signed up to serve as volunteers there. The hiring of Ashley Cameron, our new Director of Communications & Parish Life, will enable us to grow and facilitate volunteer opportunities with other outreach partners and help organize hands-on participation.

The children and youth of St. Mary's are also strong participants in outreach. This year, St. Mary's children raised money in their Sunday School classes throughout the year and donated it to CARITAS. Our youth have participated in the Diocesan service day at Shalom Farms and have their own homegrown mission trip this summer at Shalom Farms and Grace and Holy Trinity Church's soup kitchen. They are excited about planning future mission trips farther afield.

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*And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.*

-BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, PAGE 366

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Some of St. Mary's outreach partners include:

- CARITAS
- CrossOver Healthcare Ministry
- Elk Hill
- Gateway Homes, Inc
- Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services
- Peter Paul Development Center
- St. Andrew's School





## BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

We are blessed with stunning buildings and grounds at St. Mary's—surroundings which refresh and invigorate us with the Holy Spirit. Our church property is comprised of historic and contemporary buildings, surrounded by a beautiful cemetery that reminds us that we are all in God's care now and eternally. Parishioners of all ages come together to enjoy so many varied aspects of our facility.

The significant asset these buildings and grounds provide to our worship and outreach efforts requires a meaningful amount of treasure and time to maintain, repair and improve. We must constantly ensure the accessibility, safety and structural integrity of our buildings and grounds so that all may use them for eternity. We are privileged to be charged with the care of all that God has placed in front of us.

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*The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,  
the world and all who dwell therein.*

-PSALM 24:1

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## WHAT YOU CAN DO

Throughout the year, the Stewardship Committee will organize monthly Stewardship Moments to inform parishioners about various ministries going on at St. Mary's which have been represented within this Narrative Budget. Our impact on those around us already reflects a strong commitment to God and a generosity of spirit among us.

However, the Stewardship Committee's goals with this Narrative Budget, and yearly with our Annual Giving Campaign, are much more practical, necessary and immediate: We must appropriately fund the ministry needs of St. Mary's through our individual annual commitments.



**Together, we can meet our funding needs!  
Please consider these three requests:**

1. **Glance back through this document and focus on what's going on in key areas of interest to you.** Are we supporting our Youth Ministry as fully as our current young people need? Are we focusing both our time and financial resources on Outreach to the level you'd like to see happening? Are we committed to routine maintenance and repair of our facilities to ensure they'll service God's purpose for the next 100 years? We fund only the activities that current giving levels allow, so additional giving immediately creates additional opportunity!
2. **Be in prayer throughout the Annual Giving Campaign.** Ask God to lead you in making a pledge that reflects your blessings and to lead our entire congregation in pledging sufficiently to develop our 2017 ministries to their fullest potential.
3. **Return a Pledge Card by Sunday, November 13, 2016.** Returning a pledge card is the culmination of your prayers and consideration, but in total, the level of our combined pledges dictates our ministry plans for the coming year. In that sense, everyone's participation is critical, at whatever commitment level you are called to make. Our hope is that 100% of our pledge cards are returned and that all who can increase their annual pledge are called to do so.

## WALK IN LOVE

*This Narrative Budget reflects not only our time and talents, but also the congregation's gratitude to God for the opportunity to be in communion with one another at St. Mary's and in our community. Our Stewardship Committee is thankful to all who contributed to its preparation, and we are grateful for your participation in this year's Annual Giving Campaign.*

