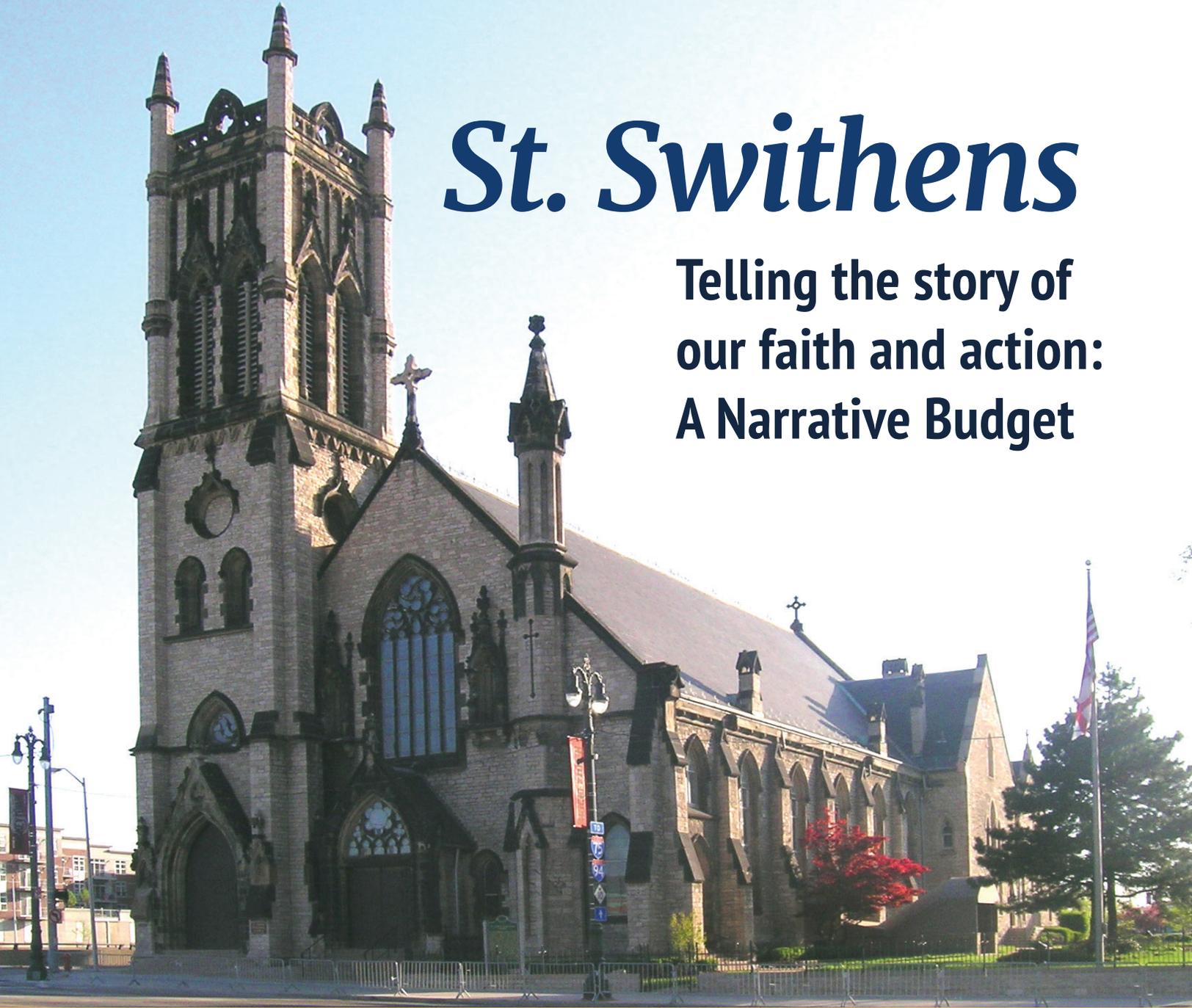




St. Swithens

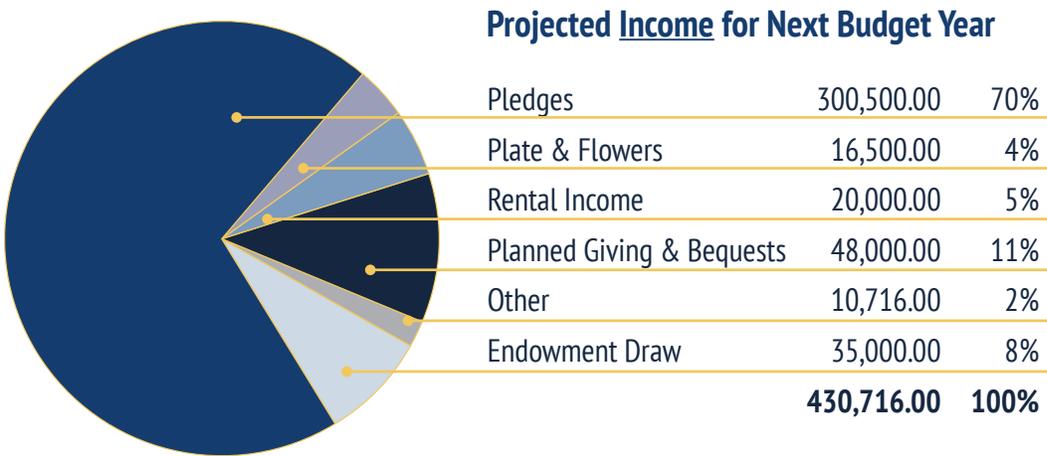
**Telling the story of
our faith and action:
A Narrative Budget**



St. Swithen's is a community of Episcopalians celebrating our tradition and diversity as we live out our faith in the world, raise up new generations of caring people, and gather for support, worship, activism, education, and fun. A narrative budget spreads fixed costs, like utilities, facilities, and salaries across program areas so that we see the impact of our money.

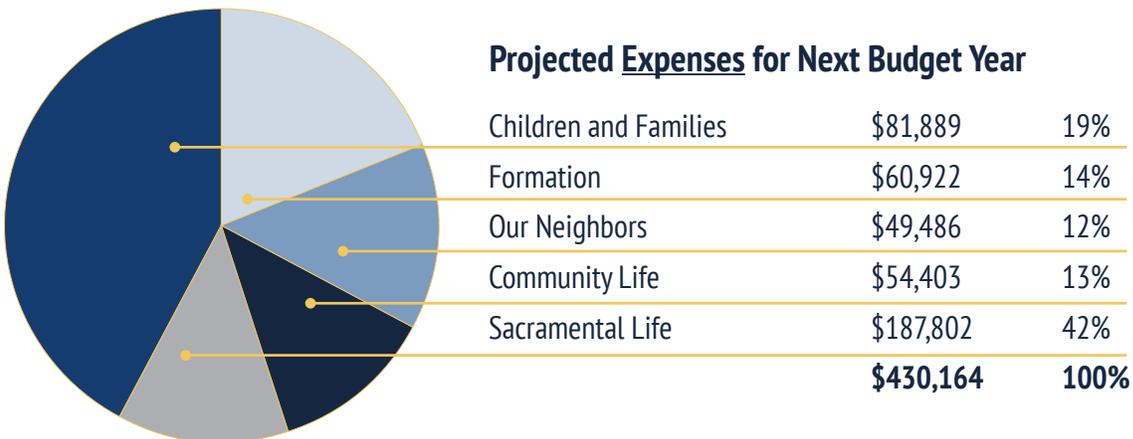
How We Fund Our Budget

Like many communities of faith, we **rely on pledges and gifts** from our members to support our ministry. Pledges account for 70% of our annual income, with plate offerings and other special offerings comprising another 6%. **We are entirely self-funded.** We do not receive financial support from the diocese for our operations.



How We Allocate Our Budget

Our budget reflects the values we shape and share with the world around us. Each of us in our varied ways, employing our many blessings and gifts, build a better world through our love of God, self, and neighbor. We align our budget with the work of our life together.



Children & Families 19% of Our Budget



At St. Swithen’s children and families are uplifted and especially welcome – they represent the future of our Church and our society. Many generations of youth have been formed through Godly Play and other youth activities. As we form these young people in faith, we are also forming them to expect and work for a world focused on justice, truth, and peace. Our youngest lead the way!



“When we were walking home from Church, Amir asked me if we could buy lunch for a man who was sleeping on the sidewalk. When I asked him where he got that idea, he told me they had just studied the Good Samaritan in Godly Play, and that he wanted to help this man on the side of the road, just like the Bible story. This is why we support St. Swithen’s Episcopal Church!” – Lisa M.

Some Activities that Support Our CHILDREN & FAMILIES

- Godly Play: ages 3-11
- Confirm Not Conform: ages 12-14
- Youth Groop: ages 15+
- Parents’ Night Out
- Game Nights
- Youth Service Corps
- Christmas and Easter pageants
- Children’s Sermon



Formation 14% of Our Budget



One of the reasons we gather together is to learn about our traditions and to educate ourselves about our faith and our action so that we may engage the Gospel with the world around us. Our formation occurs at all ages, from toddlers to teenagers; from early childhood to elders. When we learn more about our faith, we learn more about each other and how we relate to the world.

Not only are we taught, but we also learn to teach, telling the stories of our faith. How we are formed in our community of faith informs the kinds of jobs we seek, the ways we raise our families, the way we invest our resources, and the ways we engage justice and injustice in our society.



Last year, we had 15 small groups meeting throughout the week, engaging us in conversation, study, prayer, and support. Held virtually over Zoom, more than one hundred people participated in ongoing formation!

Some Activities that Support Our FORMATION

- Wednesday Night Forum
- Rector’s Forum and Zoom “Coffee Hour”
- Lenten Series
- Advent Reflections
- Sunday Speaker Series
- Tuesday Readers’ Club
- Peace & Justice Coalition



Our Neighbors 12% of Our Budget



At our own baptism and confirmation, and again every time a new member is added to our Church, we enter into covenant with God and our community in the words of the Baptismal Covenant. It is our vow to seek and serve Christ in all persons, respect the dignity of every human being, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. These principles are the very cornerstone of our faith and how we share the love that has been shown to us with others.



St. Swithen's by the numbers!

- 5,200 sandwiches made and distributed with love
- 150 toys donated and wrapped for the Downtown Mission
- 300 back-to-school kits assembled
- 1200 pounds of produce donated and distributed to St. Martin's Kitchen

Some Activities that Support Our NEIGHBORS

- Meals for Open Cathedral
- Dinners for Winter Shelter
- Our support for diocesan ministries
- Monthly visits to the Elder Arms & workdays at Downtown Mission
- Neighborhood Street Fair and block parties
- Neighborhood NERT and emergency preparedness meetings
- Toy Drive and Backpack Drive



Community Life 13% of Our Budget



Fellowship is another important reason that we gather together on Sundays and throughout the week. The way we care for each other is a model for the way we care for the world around us. Our potlucks are legendary, and so are our parties. We also gather for the business of the church, to help others discern their vocations, and to visit the sick and shut-ins. For social reasons, formation, activism, and worship, we like to get together a lot! Even in a year when our gathering was over screens and through masks, our love for each other was as strong as ever!

Some Activities that Support Our COMMUNITY LIFE

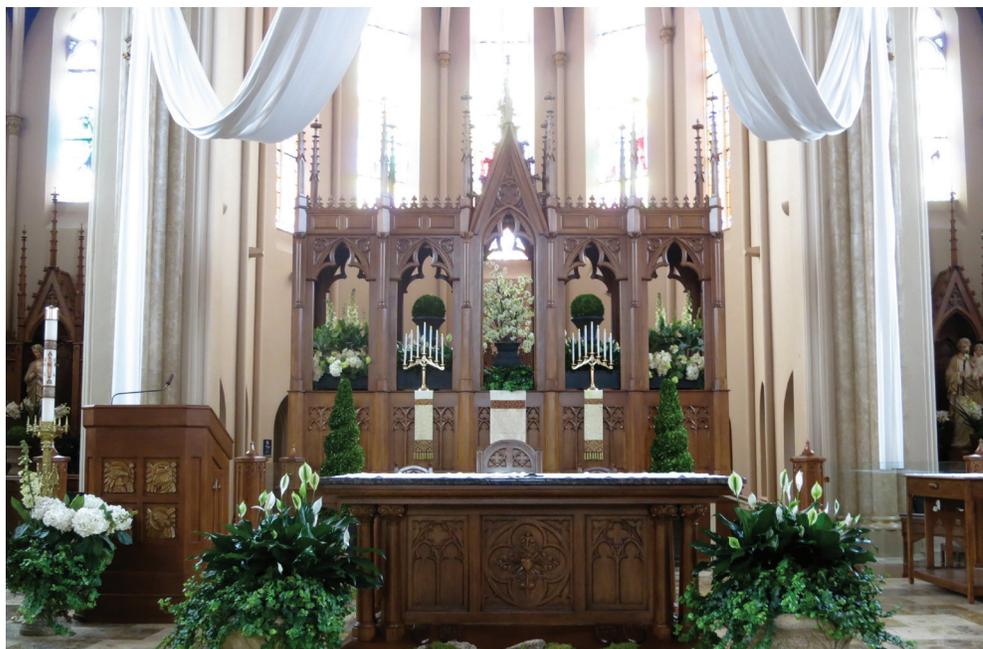
- Community yoga
- Mardi Gras party & Easter Egg hunt
- Romper Room Music Program and other neighborhood meetings
- Weekly potlucks
- Opening our doors to rental groups and 12-step groups
- Pastoral Care
- Vestry, Deanery, and Convention delegates
- Monthly Concert series
- 20's and 30's group



“It meant so much to me to be able to continue seeing my friends and my “church family” over Zoom this year when other ways of getting together were so restricted. I looked forward to weekly check-ins, study groups, and meetings more than ever. Thank you for helping me get online!” – Vera P.



Sacramental Life 42% of Our Budget



Worship and music are some of the most powerful parts of our life together. Through our sacramental life together we hear the stories of our faith, are nourished by the Eucharist, are filled with life through beautiful music and prophetic preaching, and are empowered to go out into the world to share and live the Gospel. We also mark the important milestones and moments of our lives with sacrament in baptism, confirmation, marriage, healing, reconciliation, burial, and the discerning of calls to ministry.



“I loved being able to participate in the choir virtually this year, as we learned how to use technology and streaming to be able to rehearse and sing at church! All we were missing were our choir robes!” – Jess C.

Some Activities that Support Our SACRAMENTAL LIFE

- Our music program, the choir, equipment for virtual worship
- Healing ministry, pastoral care, and the columbarium
- Holy Communion
- Christmas, Holy Week, & Easter services
- Weddings, funerals, and baptisms, and preparation
- Liturgy committee, altar guild, and flower guild



How You Can Make Your Gift



ONLINE: Fill out your pledge card and submit
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