

GROW IN GRACE
AND IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF
OUR LORD



This is St. Barnabas' moment.

Dear friend,

This is an exciting time for St. Barnabas. As we approach the 70th anniversary of our founding, we are at an inflection point. 56 families have joined us in the last two years. Sunday morning worship has grown by nearly 60%. People are finding the grace they need at St. Barnabas. We feel called to do even more.

We are embarking on an 18-month season of experimentation. The vestry's vision is to resource our amazing clergy, staff, and lay leaders for adaptive leadership: to innovate, see what works, see what doesn't, and grow our reach and impact. Fr. Justin and his team have wasted no time. This fall Justin and Jewelle have launched a podcast, Marnus has restarted our concert series, and Phoebe has reconvened the youth confirmation class. Beyond the fall, we plan to host speakers on parenting and faith, launch youth mission trips, and more. Justin calls St. Barnabas a *non-judgmental, non-partisan, Jesus-focused community*. We want to offer that gift to more people in more ways.



The 2026 stewardship campaign funds this vision. Last year's stewardship campaign raised over \$845,000. **This year's goal is \$945,000. Meeting this goal will fund the church's core operations for 2026.** With your generosity, we can make Rev. Phoebe full-time so she can lead our mission and outreach programs. We can hire more childcare workers for our overflowing nursery. We can retain our talented clergy and staff. **And if we reach our goal, the vestry will release an additional \$80K from our endowment to fund more innovative ministries over the next 18 months.** We can do this with everyone's participation. Please join us.

2026 will mark 70 years of St. Barnabas. The best is yet to come.

Meredith O'Brien & Brett Wheeler
2026 Stewardship Co-chairs

Giving to St. Barnabas makes ministry possible.



Why pledge?

We ask the congregation to pledge their support for the year ahead so that we can responsibly budget. The amount we raise this year will determine our ability to retain our talented clergy and staff and to sustain the programs that help us all grow in God's grace, like our music and children's ministries.

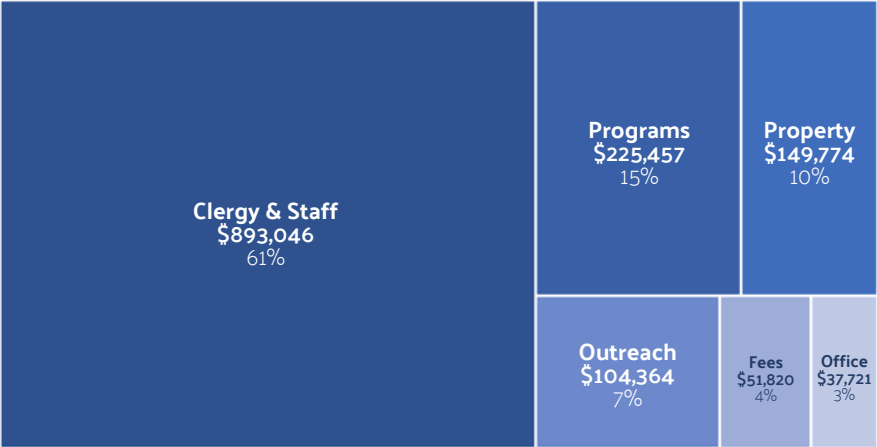
How is St. Barnabas funded?

We have three sources of funding for 2026: (1) *Donations*, including the annual stewardship campaign (65% of total revenue) and other gifts made during the year, such as the weekly plate offering (10%). (2) *Endowment draws*, including the special, one-time draw for innovative ministries (20%). (3) The *opportunity fund* for the second clergy position (5%).

How will St. Barnabas use my money?

We will spend 61% of our budget on people. Our clergy and staff care for us, inspire us, teach us, and support us. The 2026 budget makes Rev. Phoebe, our associate rector, full-time. It also reflects increased health insurance costs as well as salary adjustments to ensure we retain our great team. We will then spend 22% on programs and outreach, including our vibrant music, children's, and youth programs, innovative ministries, and support for our non-profit partners and the wider church. We will spend the remaining 17% on property and overhead. We continue to control expenses while carrying the increased infrastructure costs of a vibrant church.

Proposed 2026 Budget: \$1,462,182



St. Barnabas needs all of us.



How much should I pledge?

We encourage you prayerfully to consider the blessings God has given you, your current financial situation, and your pledge to St. Barnabas as a share of your total charitable giving. We are at an inflection point where a new or increased gift can propel us, by

God's grace, into an even bigger, brighter future.

No amount is too large or too small. Our average pledge is \$3,500, but we are a diverse congregation: our 2025 pledges ranged from two figures to six figures, all to the glory of God, all generous.

Every single gift makes a difference. *And if we reach our goal and fully fund the church's ministry for 2026, the vestry will double down on our generosity by releasing a one-time draw of \$80K from our endowment to fund new, innovative ministries: the team is already dreaming of arts camps, stargazing prayer nights, and more, to invite the community to St. B.*

Are my gifts tax-deductible?

Yes. All contributors will receive a statement at the end of the year. Ask a financial advisor about the tax benefits of giving to St. Barnabas through your DAF, IRA, RMD, or appreciated securities.

How do I make a pledge?

You can return the enclosed pledge card to the church, pledge online at stbarnabas.org, or email Lori Sodergreen, Director of Operations, at lsodergreen@stbarnabas.org. Pledges may be fulfilled at any time between when you make your pledge and the end of 2026. You can give through cash, online donations, stock transfers, and checks delivered to the church.



Thank you for helping St. Barnabas grow in grace!