



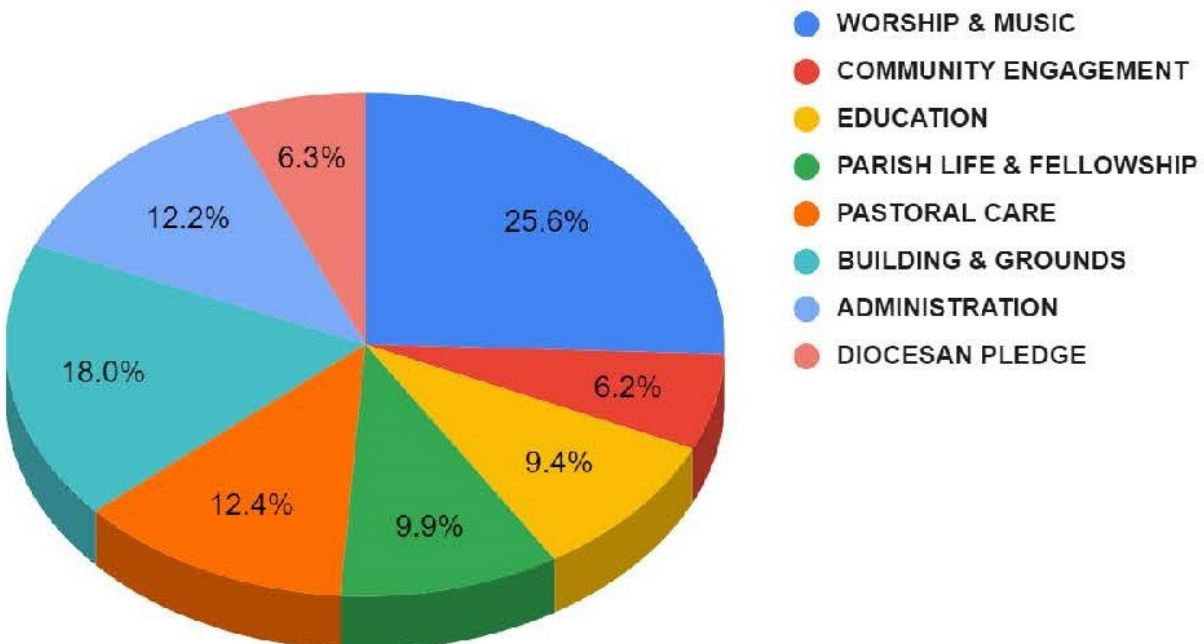
HICKORY NECK EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Plan for Ministry 2024



Plan for Ministry 2024

We are committed to responding to the needs of the wider community, sharing the love of Christ with our neighbors, and shining Christ's light in the world. Ministry happens at Hickory Neck because all of us contribute our time, our talent and our treasure. This year, we have a new opportunity to strengthen our work in Christ's name and expand our ministry inside and outside our parish. To share with everyone how our expenditures service the needs of our community and beyond, the Stewardship Committee has prepared this narrative budget or Plan for Ministry.



Communing with God, Uniting in Worship: Music and Worship



Worship and music are central activities of our Christian life. We fulfill our Baptismal Covenant when we gather to worship regularly. Each Sunday morning, we gather to hear God's word, to confess our shortcomings, to receive assurance of God's love for us, to partake of Christ's Body and Blood, to offer prayers for one another and for the world and to strengthen the bonds of our Christian community.

You see your support at work in the church through the preparation of each week's inspirational sermon; through our worship space, pleasing to the eye as well as efficient; through the musical talent of Stephen Trumbull, our Minister of Music, and through the confident, well-trained voices of our choir members and Choral Scholars; through the smiles and sometimes tears of our congregants as they let God's music move them; through the bulletins prepared for ease of participation for worshipers, veterans and newcomers alike; and in so many other ways.

You may or may not see the time and talent of our parishioners in this (or any other) area, as much of the work takes place behind the scenes. The choir members' confident voices shine through because they spend time practicing weekly. The worship space is well-prepared, thanks to our Altar Guild members, and beautiful, thanks to those who arrange for lovely flowers to adorn the space and those who donate funds for flowers in memory or honor of loved ones or special anniversaries. Volunteers take the work done by our administrative staff to prepare the bulletins and make sure they are ready to be put in our hands on Sunday mornings. Our acolytes, ushers, and greeters all play central roles in keeping each service running smoothly and making all parishioners feel comfortable and open to receiving the Holy Spirit.

Providing Spiritual Protection, Leading with Care: Pastoral Care



The ministry of caring is at the heart of the church's life. It may include hospital visitation, counseling, and support. We show our love for one another through the delivery of a prepared meal, a ride to church, or through the emotional care of a trained Stephen Minister.

You see your offering at work in the church primarily through Mother Jennifer, Father Charles, and Father Jim – and, in fact, this is an area in which you may not frequently see how your offering is at work until you most need it. Our clergy are ready at a moment's notice to provide support as members of our congregation navigate the challenges of life. The time they spend with congregants in these moments is precious and priceless.

Time and talent is at work here through parishioners who provide rides to those who need assistance getting to church events; through those who provide a delicious meal to support new parents or folks suffering from illness, injury, or loss; through our Eucharistic Visitors who ensure all parishioners can receive the body and blood of Christ; through our card ministry which connects with our parishioners to celebrate special events and provide support in difficult times; through those who provide safety training to keep our church members safe; and in many other private but quietly supportive and loving ways.

Growing God's People, Maturing in Christ: Education



Christian formation is the lifelong process of growing in relationship with God, self, others, and all creation. We begin with our youngest parishioners in the Montessori-styled Godly Play and engage our youth through Sunday School and external activities. Adult parishioners have multiple options to choose from in forums, formal study, and book clubs.

You see your pledge at work in the church through one another! Participation in Christian formation programming for all, young and adult, is fruitful in enriching our own lives but also the lives of those we sit next to in church, those we break bread with at

breakfast or brunch, those we share stories with in connection to reading, scriptural or otherwise. As we learn and grow, the money spent on curriculum materials, books, art supplies, etc., bears a harvest of fruit that cannot be predicted but is always overflowing at Hickory Neck.

Time and talent is at work here through our adult formation leaders who spend time weekly preparing for meetings and leading groups through spiritual work; through volunteers who provide Godly Play and Children's Chapel lessons not only to our young Hickory Neck parishioners but also to the children of The Kensington School; through friendly faces that provide coffee and encouragement to parents at preschool drop-off at The Kensington School; through Sunday School and Youth Group leaders who show up weekly to guide our young people in learning God's word, and through Vacation Bible School helpers who spend a week each summer providing young people not only from Hickory Neck but also from St. Martin's and Bruton Parish with fun and engaging songs, stories, snacks, and crafts; and also, often, a chance to do God's work in their community through a project like creating care packages for homeless people in our area.

Sharing Ourselves, Engaging Our Community: Community Engagement & Communications

Living out our Baptismal covenant means moving from worship to community engagement. The Community Engagement Council encourages and supports church members to discover and implement their personal ministries for serving God in the community, in addition to continuing to support various community agencies.

Our Communications team creates the Nuggets, our monthly newsletter. Through regular mailings, snail mail and electronic, they nurture our connections with one another. To those in our larger community, they inform and invite people to discover a community that is warm and welcoming.

You see your funding at work in the church through the printing and postage that allows us to connect with our community; through the colorful publications that allow us to tell our story, God's story, to our neighbors; through technology that allows us to connect with those outside of locale, spreading our message further than we could have imagined just four years ago; through utilities – yes, utilities! – that allow us to provide a warm, safe space for homeless people in our area when we host the winter shelter.

Time and talent is at work here through volunteers who ensure our services can be accessed online, live and recorded for later viewing, by local parishioners and those joining us from all over the country; through writers, proofreaders, and editors who prepare the informative and entertaining monthly Nuggets

newsletter to keep our parishioners connected; through those who capture our special and precious moments, big and small, for posterity and to share the news of the good work we are doing at Hickory Neck; through those who use those images to tell our story on social media; through those who coordinate efforts to give back to our community through projects like Sleep in Heavenly Peace and our yearly backpack drive and Angel Tree project; through those who reach out to our newcomers in various ways, inviting and welcoming visitors and shepherding them to become active parishioners; and through those who provide delicious treats for coffee hour and host various receptions and parish activities, allowing us to gather together, get to know one another, and even bring friends to experience Hickory Neck.

You also see time and talent at work here through the fundraising efforts of our CEC members. In order to have resources to pour into the community, larger scale fundraisers like our annual Fall Festival currently fall to CEC members to organize and facilitate.



Holy Week at Hickory Neck Church

Sunday, April 2	8:00am	Palm Sunday, Holy Eucharist Rite I	Historic Chapel
Sunday, April 2	10:00am	Palm Sunday, Holy Eucharist Rite II	New Chapel/Livestream
Monday, April 3	7:00pm	Holy Monday - Compline	Parish Hall
Tuesday, April 4	7:00pm	Holy Tuesday (Light in the Deepest Night - a Music Event)	New Chapel/Livestream
Wednesday, April 5	7:00pm	Commemorial Service of Healing	New Chapel/Livestream
Thursday, April 6	7:00pm	Mourning Thursday	New Chapel/Livestream
Friday, April 7	12:00pm	Liturgy of Good Friday	Historic Chapel
Friday, April 7	7:00pm	Good Friday Musical Reflection	New Chapel/Livestream
Saturday, April 8	7:30pm	Great Easter Vigil	New Chapel/Livestream
Sunday, April 9	8:00am	Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist, Rite I	Historic Chapel
Sunday, April 9	10:00am	Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist, Rite II	New Chapel/Livestream
Sunday, April 9	11:00am	Easter Egg Hunt	

Creating a Refuge, Providing Stability: Buildings and Grounds

While our members are ready volunteers for seasonal clean-up efforts and general handyman tasks, much of this expenditure comes from necessary maintenance to our three buildings, parking lot and grounds, but also utilities and repairs.

You see your caring at work in the church through updates to our buildings, like painting in the Historic Chapel, that allow us to have beautiful spaces to worship and attract those visiting; through the landscaping – if you take a moment to enjoy it (whether as the children run around giggling together after church or before services when you can soak in the tranquility from a bench; through the carefully tended to pathways that allow parishioners of various mobility to access church services.

Time and talent is at work here through those who show up to work hard on campus clean-up days; through those who maintain our garden space; through those who volunteer for the small tasks – lightbulb changes and paint touch-ups; through those who set up and clean up, preparing our spaces for work and/or play.



Demonstrating Our Message, Stewarding Our Resources: Administration & Diocesan Pledge

Robin Axness, our Parish and Communications Administrator, supports Mother Jennifer, our staff, and many members in the daily activities and promoting the various programs of the church. The Diocese of Southern Virginia is led by our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes. She has a staff of 12 supporting her and the 101 parishes in the diocese. The goal of each parish is to pledge 10% of their pledge and plate from the previous year.

You see your support at work in the church through the timeliness and completeness of communication through the weekly ePistle; through the sharing of our story on social media; through the coordination of all movements necessary to allow clergy and parishioners to focus on worshipping, then going out into the world to serve others and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Time and talent is at work here through those who support the administrative work of our staff by helping to prepare bulk mailings, and by sharing photos, videos, and other content that can be included in the ePistle and/or via social media to help keep our parishioners and the public informed. The Stewardship team works to enlighten our parishioners of the needs of their Time, Talent, and Treasure to ensure that we can accomplish our mission as laid out above.



For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21





HICKORY NECK EPISCOPAL CHURCH

DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN VIRGINIA

The Right Reverend Susan B. Haynes, Bishop

STAFF

The Very Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, *Rector*
(jandrewsweckerly@hickoryneck.org)

The Rev. Canon Charles Robinson, *Pastoral Associate*
(crobinson@hickoryneck.org)

The Rev. James P. Nickols, *Rector's Associate*
(jnickols@hickoryneck.org)

The Rev. Bob Gay, *Deacon* (bgay@hickoryneck.org)

Stephen Trumbull, *Minister of Music*
(strumbull@hickoryneck.org)

Robin Axness, *Parish and Communications Administrator*
(raxness@hickoryneck.org)

Amy Knowles, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
(adminassist@hickoryneck.org)

VESTRY

Senior Warden	Andrea Sheffield
Junior Warden/ Christian Formation	Judy Bristow
Pastoral Care	Nancy Sullivan
Buildings & Grounds	Chase Grogg
Community Engagement	Julie Vaisvil
Parish Life	Terri Lensenmayer
Stewardship	TBD
Worship	Andrew MacDougall
Evangelism	Stu Farrand
Register	Nancy Byrd
Treasurer	Fred Boelt