

## Our Stewardship Goals

This year our annual campaign goal is \$506,000. This is \$58,000 more than last year. There are three areas where we recommend increasing funding.

- **Diocesan Pledge**

The goal set for all churches in the diocese is 10% of the previous year’s Pledge and Plate. We are currently at 8%.

- **Additional Staff**

From 2004 until the end of January of 2020, Hickory Neck had a full-time Associate Rector or Curate on staff assisting the Rector. With the increasing medical costs and pay ranges set by the diocese for clergy, we are unable, at this time, to have a full-time Curate. The need for pastoral care, home and hospital visitation, following up on guest worshipers, providing worship support, and more, is an important but heavy burden. To assist Mother Jennifer, the Vestry created two part-time positions to be filled by retired priests.

- **Community Engagement/Outreach**

For years we have funded grants to charities and supported parishioners’ ministries from funds raised at the Fall Festival and Fiber Fest. In recent years, the revenue received from the festivals has dropped. The regular practice among parishes is to budget community engagement/outreach in the budget supported by our tithes and gifts.



“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

2 Corinthians 9:7-8

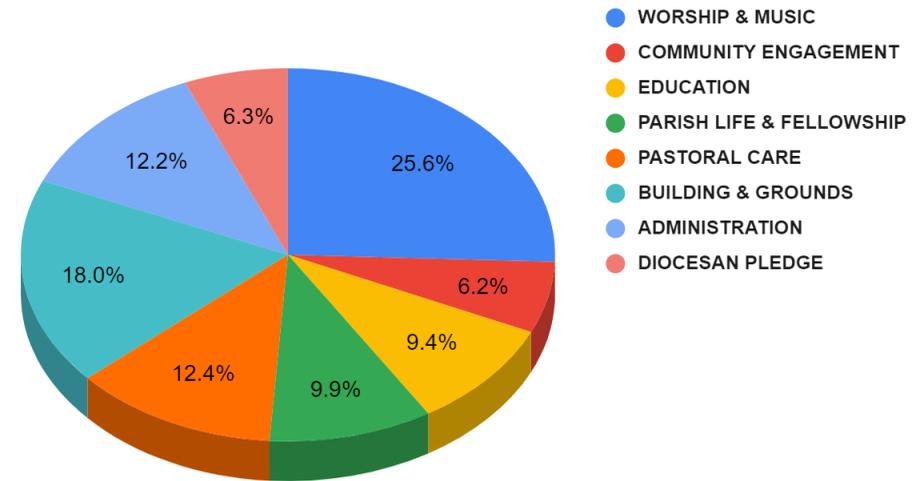


## HICKORY NECK EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### Plan for Ministry 2023



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.



## Worship & Music

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.

Important components of our worship at HNC: Celebrant, Preacher, Minister of Music, Choral Scholars, Choir, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Guild, Acolytes, Lectors, Greeters, Ushers, bulletins, and notices. Worship and Music appropriately represent the largest portion of our budget.

## 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 a church, or through the emotional care of a trained Stephen Minister.

## 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.



## Community Engagement & Communication

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 Faith in Action, From His Hands, Grove Christian Outreach and Salvation Army Transitional Housing, just to name a few.

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.

## 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.

## Administration & Diocesan Pledge

Robin J. Axness our Parish and Communications Administrator supports Mother Jennifer, our staff and many members in the daily activities 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.

