

Plenty Good Room

St. Paul's on the Green 2027 Narrative Budget



God's Radical Welcome

calls us to open our doors, *extend our hands*,
and put our faith into action.

Together

we are building a *community of welcome*,
service, and *hope* in Norwalk and beyond.

October 2026

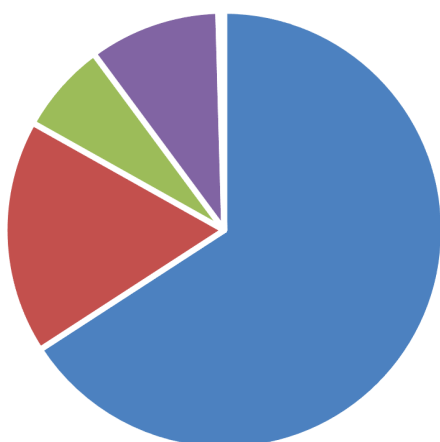
The Resources That Fuel Our Mission

The mission and ministry of St. Paul's are sustained by the generosity of our community and a range of resources. Our operating budget is supported by pledges and other trackable income; space-use income from organizations and programs that use our facilities, including Watch Me Grow Daycare and Rising Stars Performing Arts; one-time gifts and anonymous offering-plate cash; an annual draw from our endowment; planned gifts and bequests; and fundraising.

Our 2027 pledge goal is \$445,000.

Income and Expenses

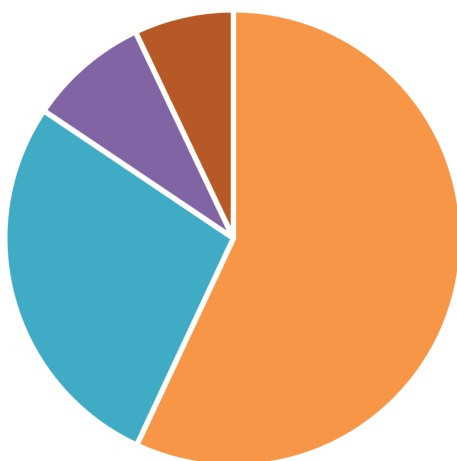
INCOME



Pledges	\$516,600	65.8%
Space-use income	\$135,828	17.3%
One-time gifts and plate	\$ 52,850	6.7%
Grants and endowment	\$ 76,000	9.7%
Fundraisers and other	\$ 3,450	.4%
TOTAL INCOME	\$784,728	100%

These numbers are based on the 2026 budget and subject to change until the final 2027 budget is approved in January 2027

EXPENSES



Staff salaries, benefits, and expenses	\$457,994	57%
Fixed costs: maintenance, utilities, supplies, fees	\$220,983	27.5%
ECCT: Common Mission Support	\$ 68,529	8.5%
Ministry and program costs	\$ 56,675	7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$804,181	100%

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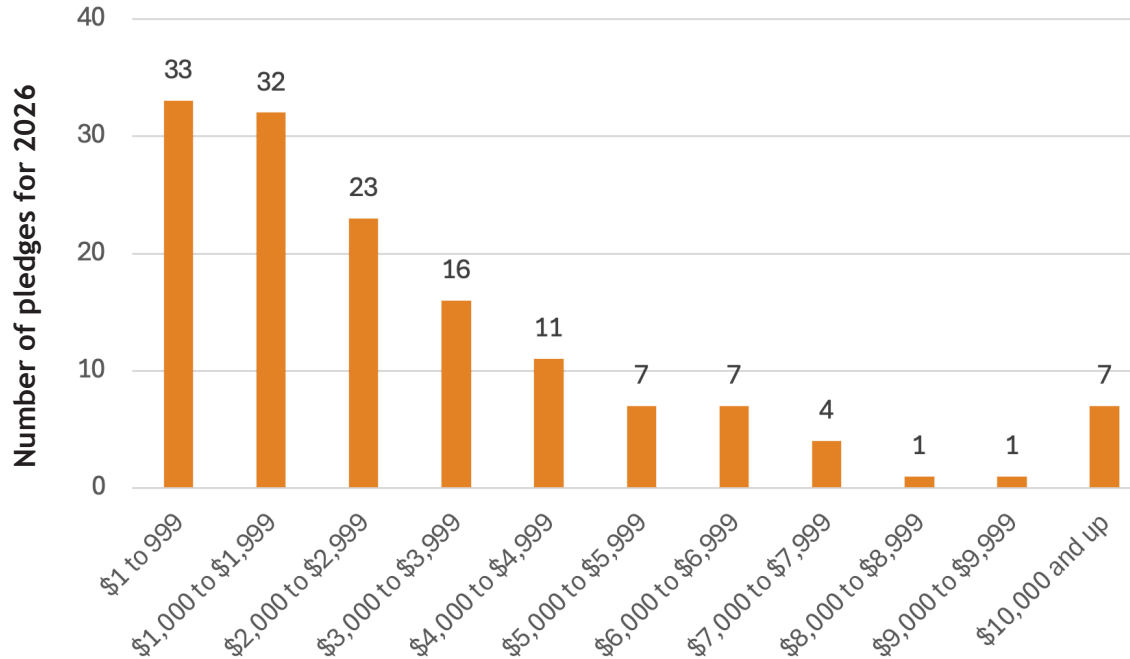
Mission and Ministry Support

Our mission is sustained by the generosity of our parish community. Pledges and other forms of intentional giving provide almost three-quarters of our operating budget and make possible so much of what we do together.

For many at St. Paul's, a pledge is more than financial support. It is a heartfelt expression of gratitude for what this community means to us and of our faith in the work we do together.

So, how much should you pledge? That is a personal decision, one we hope you will make prayerfully and with discernment. The graph below shows how our 2026 pledges were distributed and offers one way to think about your own giving.

Every dollar we spend—from supporting our staff and keeping our buildings warm to providing music for worship—helps us live out our mission.



Breakdown of number of pledges and pledge amounts in 2026



Sunday morning Eucharist

Sacramental & Liturgical Life

Worship brings us together every week. It reminds us that we belong to God and to each other, and equips us to go into the world with hope rather than fear. In the liturgy and sacraments, we bring before God all that we are—our joys, sorrows, and questions—and allows us to be transformed by God's love.

“St. Paul's is a sacred place, a place of close and warm community, and a place of growth for all.”

– St. Paul's parishioner

Our Prayer in Action

- Sunday Eucharist (in-person and livestreamed)
- Sunday service opportunities (greeters, ushers, altar party, sacristans, lectors, healing teams)
- Wednesday Eucharist
- Daily online prayer
- Weekly Compline (in-person and livestreamed)
- Lay-led pastoral care
- Music program (adults, youth, and children)
- Organ recital series
- Seasonal and community-based services (Lent, Holy Week and Easter, Juneteenth, All Souls, Advent, Christmas, and Burning Bowl)
- Pet Ministry



Parishioners enjoying music together at the Parish Retreat

Faith, Formation, & Continuous Learning

As followers of Jesus in the 21st century, we are part of a long and continuing tradition that includes literature, art, music, and a wide variety of spiritual practices. We are eager to keep learning, growing in our faith and exploring the world around us, offering opportunities for learning and reflection that span a range of topics and formats.

*“St. Paul’s has been a sanctuary, a place
of serenity and inspiration... of peace
in turbulent times.”*

– St. Paul’s parishioner

Formation That Supports Our Faith

- Sacred Ground anti-racism training
- Acknowledgment and learning about the parish’s involvement in slavery
- Children’s Sunday learning experiences
- Advent program
- Lenten spirituality series
- Summer Choir Camp
- Congregational pilgrimages
- Interfaith activities
- Black History Month programs
- Juneteenth celebration
- Visiting speakers and preachers
- “Better Together” Nonviolence Training



Lunch making for our unhoused neighbors: A Partnership with Glory Bound

Service & Partnerships

We are called to go beyond our church walls—to build bridges, serve others and encounter God in the world around us. This year we are creating many more service opportunities with several Norwalk organizations: Building One Community, Person to Person, and Open Doors, as well as partnering with our existing companion ministries.

*“St. Paul’s is a place to grow my faith,
make friends, help others... and make
a difference in the world.”*

– St. Paul’s parishioner

How We Help Our Community

- Christ Church’s Angel Food Pantry
- Community demonstrations and vigils for justice
- Doing Christmas Differently – sock drive
- Earth Day on the Green
- Glory Bound sandwich-making
- Healing garden and labyrinth
- Immigration Action
- Laundry Love
- Partnership with Watch Me Grow Daycare and Rising Stars Performing Arts
- Prayer chain and prayer shawl ministry
- Pride in the Park
- School supply drive/donations to tutoring program
- Teaching spaces for music teachers



Enjoying community at the Sunday Social on the Labyrinth

St. Paul's Community Life

We enjoy being together, and we believe that life in community is an important part of our faith. Beyond Sunday morning worship and coffee hour, we are constantly creating new opportunities to connect and grow, both in person and online—from social gatherings in our homes and shared meals in the parish hall to retreats and field trips.

“This is an authentic, loving, and vibrant community.”

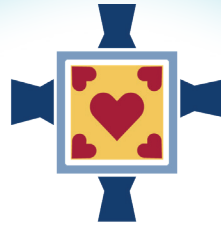
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How We Grow Together

- Sunday coffee hours & Lemonade on the lawn
- Sunday Socials
- Yoga
- Men's Group
- Women's Group
- Online community
- Community vegetable garden
- Buddhist-Christian *sangha*
- Art With Heart



St. Paul's Community Garden



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How to Make Your 2027 Pledge

You can make a pledge to St. Paul's online, or fill out and return a pledge card. Cards are available in the church or from the parish office.

Online: Go to <https://www.stpaulsnorwalk.org/giving-2027>
and click on 'Make your 2027 pledge'

In person: Drop your pledge card in the Sunday offering or
bring it to the parish office

By mail: Send your pledge card to St. Paul's on the Green,
60 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851

How to Fulfill Your 2027 Pledge

By check: Payable to St. Paul's on the Green, delivered in person or by mail

Online: Go to <http://www.stpaulsnorwalk.org/giving-2027>
and click on 'Donate now'

From your IRA: If you are at least 73 years old and receive funds
from an IRA through your required minimum distribution (RMD),
you can use those funds tax-free to make a gift to St. Paul's.

From other investments: To make a gift of stock,
please contact the parish office.

On the cover:
Communal art piece created at the parish retreat
in May at Camp Washington, facilitated
by Brenda Jacobsen

Booklet designed by parishioner Audrey Cozzarin
Printed by Minuteman Press, Norwalk

