

St. Paul's on the Green Narrative Budget for 2025

Discover how your generous support funds the mission and ministry of this historic and progressive community that is making a difference to people in Norwalk and beyond.

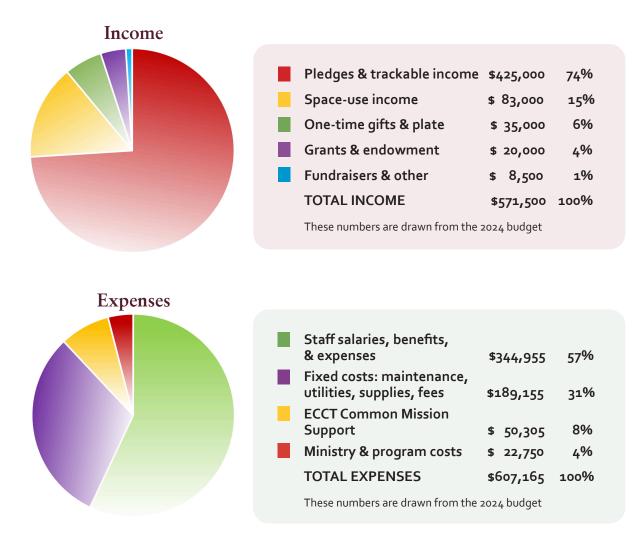




St. Paul's depends upon your generous giving.

Our operating budget comes from a number of sources:

- Pledges and other trackable giving
- Rental income from Watch Me Grow and Rising Stars
- A draw from our endowment each year for operating income
- One-time gifts and Sunday open-plate contributions
- Planned-gift income and bequests



The "nuts and bolts" costs of operating the church – salaries, repairs, maintenance, and utilities – make possible the four areas of ministry focus described on the following pages.

ministry areas

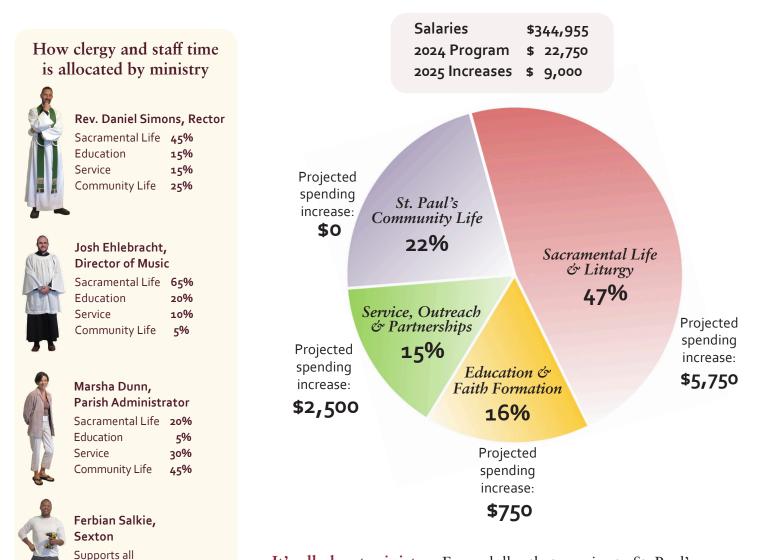
equally



Funds are distributed to the following St. Paul's ministry areas:

- Sacramental Life (liturgy, music, and support for services)
- Education & Faith Formation for all ages (including Sunday School)
- Service, Outreach & Partnerships
- St. Paul's Community Life

St. Paul's employs three full-time staff – the Rector, Director of Music, and Parish Administrator – and a Sexton at 10 hours/week. This chart shows how we support our ministries when salaries and program costs are added together:



It's all about ministry. Every dollar that we give to St. Paul's supports our ministry together. **Turn the page** to learn more about each of these four ministry areas – both what we have done and what we are hoping to do in the coming year.



Sacramental & Liturgical Life



Sunday service

Worship is central to our life together. It grounds us in God and strengthens us as a community. Worship prepares us for service in the world.

This year we will recruit and train new volunteers to serve in worship and will continue to broaden our rich and diverse music program under our new full-time Music Director.

"St. Paul's is an inclusive, peaceful, and welcoming community in which respect for all the experiences and gifts of the congregation is paramount. The inclusive, joyful, positive worship was evident from the first and has become a beautiful part of my life."



Bringing up the donation basket



Director of Music and choir

All quotes are from St. Paul's parishioners

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, and Friday Morning Prayer (on-site)
- Weekly Compline (in-person and livestreamed)

- Lay-led pastoral care
- Music program (choristers, choral scholars, adult choir)
- Seasonal and community-based services (Christmas, Lent, Easter, Juneteenth, All Souls)
- Organ recital series
- Gratitude on the Green
- Blessing of the Animals



Education & Faith Formation



Adult Forum held during Black History Month



St. Paul's Music and Art Camp



supplies, speakers, and other program enhancements.
"I feel we are all working towards a common goal to grow in faith and fellowship ... I look forward

A key activity for us is providing opportunities for members of all ages to grow in faith, informed by the rich resources of our Christian tradition: Scripture, history, music, art, spirituality, and theology. In order to improve what we already do, we are planning this year to have a budget for

to raising my grandson [here]."

"[St. Paul's is] very open and welcoming, like someone threw out the textbook but taught from the soul."

Lenten Soup Suppers

Formation That Supports Our Faith

- Sacred Ground antiracism training
- St. Paul's history of enslavement research
- Children's Sunday learning experiences
- Advent program
- Lenten series

- Summer Music and Art Camp
- Congregational pilgrimages
- Interfaith activities
- Black History Month weekly programs
- Juneteenth program



Service, Outreach & Partnerships



St. Paul's and area Episcopal churches participate in Pride in the Park each year

The future of St. Paul's is found in our partnerships in the local community. We are becoming increasingly involved in community events, organizations, and action.

God is leading us into new places through these relationships, and we need to include funding in our budget that will allow us to join in support of ongoing community partnerships.

"St. Paul's is a place committed to being part of the wider Norwalk community, working to make a difference in our community's quality of life. It is a community that cares about truth and justice for all people as a gospel imperative."



Laundry Love volunteers



Volunteering at Filling in the Blanks

How We Help Our Community

- Person-2-Person coat drive, weekly food offering
- Laundry Love
- Filling in the Blanks
- School supply drive/donations to tutoring program
- Christmas donations
- Pride in the Park

- Hosting Veterans for Peace
- Earth Day on the Green
- Partnership with Watch Me Grow Daycare and Rising Stars Performing Arts
- Healing Garden and Labyrinth
- Teaching spaces for music teachers
- Prayer chain and prayer shawl ministry



St. Paul's Community Life



A Yoga Fusion class in the parish hall



Luncheon for Juneteenth



Tour of the church community garden

Our prayer, learning, and service are all brought together in the many ways we build relationships and care for each other – checking in, coming together, reaching out in our congregation and beyond. Everybody needs something and has something to give!

> "St. Paul's is a community that celebrates with you, cries with you, but maybe most importantly of all walks with you wherever your road in life is going. It does not just leave you all alone."

"I really value the way we have open arms to new members and make them part of the community right away."

Radical Welcome

- Sunday coffee hours and lemonade on the lawn
- Sunday Socials
- Young Adult Group
- Men's Group
- Yoga
- Community vegetable garden
- Holiday Market



BE GENEROUS



















Freely you have received; freely give. Matthew 10:8

Make your 2025 pledge

Online: Visit <u>www.stpaulsnorwalk.org</u>
By mail: Return your pledge card to the parish office
In person: Drop your card in the offering plate, or leave in office mailbox
From your investments: You can also contribute from your securities, stocks, or retirement account RMD. Contact the parish office for more info.

> "This church family is truly a beloved community, a second family for me. One walks in and senses God's love for one another through Christ."

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN

60 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org www.stpaulsnorwalk.org

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