



INREACH



OUTREACH



WORSHIP



STEWARDSHIP

DURHAM PARISH 2020 AND BEYOND



Stewardship is a habit...

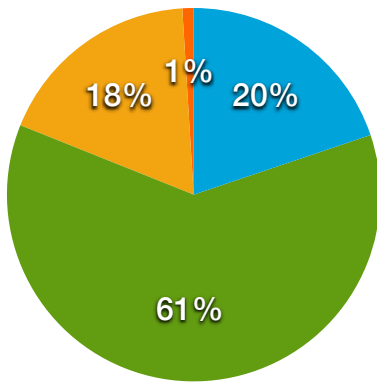
...that directs our decisions about how we use the blessing we have received from God. It is an expression of our faith in God's ability to provide, our gratitude for all the ways we have been blessed, and our priorities as followers of Jesus. Stewardship is grounded in the belief that blessings are meant to be shared.

And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God? *Micah 6:8*

Our parish thrives and grows when gifts are made to support ministries that transform lives and when the church uses those gifts to live out the Gospel to serve others, making our community, our nation, and the world a better place. In this brochure you will discover more about Durham Parish’s ministries that your time, talents, and dollars make happen. These are some ways in which Old Durham is touching the hearts, minds and bodies of Christ’s people, even in 2020’s difficult circumstances. Thank you for your devoted service and financial support of God’s work at Old Durham.

Where our money comes from

- Rent/Invesments \$26K
- Pledges \$81K
- Gifts \$24K
- Fundraisers \$1K



Pledges make up the bulk of Durham’s income. Almost every household that worships with us returned a pledge card for 2020. A financial pledge to the church, of whatever amount, represents a conscious decision to honor God with a proportion of the gifts God has shared with us. The Vestry uses the pledged income to establish a

budget for the year. Other sources of income include our investments and rental income and gifts made to the parish and to Joe’s Place. We cannot make plans based on these gifts, but they are welcome reminders of God’s on-going provision for us. In most years we also hold fundraisers like the Festival and Fish Fries, but 2020 was not like most years.

The big story of 2020 has been Joe’s Place



Supplied by a network of donors, shoppers, and volunteer drivers, and powered by a few dedicated parishioners, Joe’s Place has served a steadily increasing number of local families this year, offering much-appreciated groceries in a difficult time.

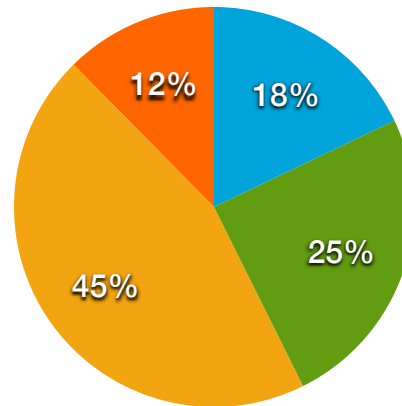
Worship and formation have moved online



Worship, fellowship, and education (along with administrative meetings and much else) all moved on-line abruptly when the pandemic hit in Lent. It's been a joy to see a robust and resilient worshipping and learning community come together!

How we use our money

● Inreach ● Outreach ● Worship ● Admin



Inreach: we rejoice with our fellow parishioners who rejoice and weep with those who weep, and we strive to grow into the full stature of Christ through on-going Christian education and formation. \$25K

Outreach: we participate in the world around us through Joe's Place, through money sent as gifts to those in need, and through the ministries and mission of the Diocese of Washington. \$34K

Worship: we offer praise, lament, and thanksgiving to God. We seek inspiration and to draw closer to God and to one another. \$62K

Administration: we keep the lights on, the rain off, the grass cut, and the bills paid for our historic church building, the cemetery, the rectory, and the parish hall. \$17K

This year has been unlike any we have experienced, with the closure of the church buildings and a prolonged fast from the Eucharist. It has not been easy, to say the least, but God continues to show us paths to growth. We have read Morning Prayer and Compline together weekly, and adapted both our worship and our learning to online platforms. Pastoral care has moved from the bedside to the phone and mailbox. Fellowship has likewise moved to virtual presence, and all of this has been unsettling and uncomfortable for many of us. But at the same time, we have renewed ties with far-distant communities and friends who have been brought near by technology. And in caring for the our neighbors and feeding the hungry through Joe's Place, we have been able to maintain a thriving ministry where it counts the most.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. *John 15:12*

Frequently Asked Questions about Pledging

What is a pledge? A pledge is a promise to contribute a certain amount of money to the church in the coming year.

Why should I pledge? Making a pledge is a way of responding with thanks to God for the material blessings in your life and affirming your support of the mission and ministries of the church. The church plans its staffing and ministries for the year based on pledged income.

How is pledging different from putting money in the collection plate? “Loose-plate” giving—money put in the collection plate not in fulfillment of a formal pledge for the year—is certainly welcome but cannot be used as a basis for planning for the coming year.

Does everyone pledge? The great majority of our active parishioners pledge, as do the clergy. Our goal is for every household to show support for the ministry of the church by pledging.

How much should I pledge? For first-time pledgers, the act of pledging may be more important than the amount, because it reflects a personal commitment to the life of the church. “Proportional giving” is a way of giving that starts from the question, “How has God blessed me?” rather than, “What does the church need?” Then the decision is made to return a proportion (or percent) of our material blessings to God in gratitude. The Biblical standard is the tithe, or ten percent. If your financial circumstances change over the course of year, you may adjust the amount of your pledge.

How do I make and fulfill a pledge? You can make a pledge by completing a pledge card. Cards are provided to all parish households in the fall. Complete and sign the card, then return it to the church office (christchurchdurhamparish@gmail.com) either electronically or by mail. You can fulfill your pledge by check, cash, or other means (see below). Please note “pledge” in the memo line of your payment.

Can the church accept non-cash gifts and/or electronic payments? Yes. The church can accept appreciated stocks and similar financial instruments. Note on your pledge card how you would like to fulfill your pledge, and we will get in touch with you to work out the details.

Christ Church Durham Parish
8700 Ironsides Road, Nanjemoy, MD 20662
www.OldDurham.org
The Rev. Catharine T. Gibson, Rector — The Rev. Susan Fritz, Deacon
The Rt. Rev. Mariann E. Budde, Bishop of Washington

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 