

**2016 Saint Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church
Confidential Stewardship Commitment Card**

Family Name: _____

Existing stewards need only indicate changes to the following information:

Address: _____

City: _____

State ____ Zip _____

Home Telephone: _____

Email: _____

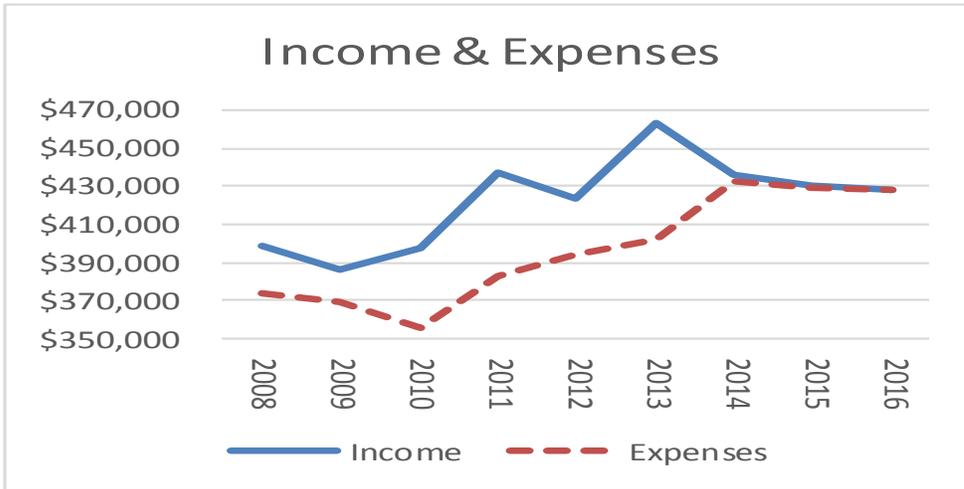
**In gratitude for God's blessings
I/we make the following 2016 commitment to the
ministries of St. Spyridon Church \$ _____**

*Your offering to Christ and His Church can do as much as you empower it to do.
We give to Christ and His Church not according to our means but according to our love for Him.*

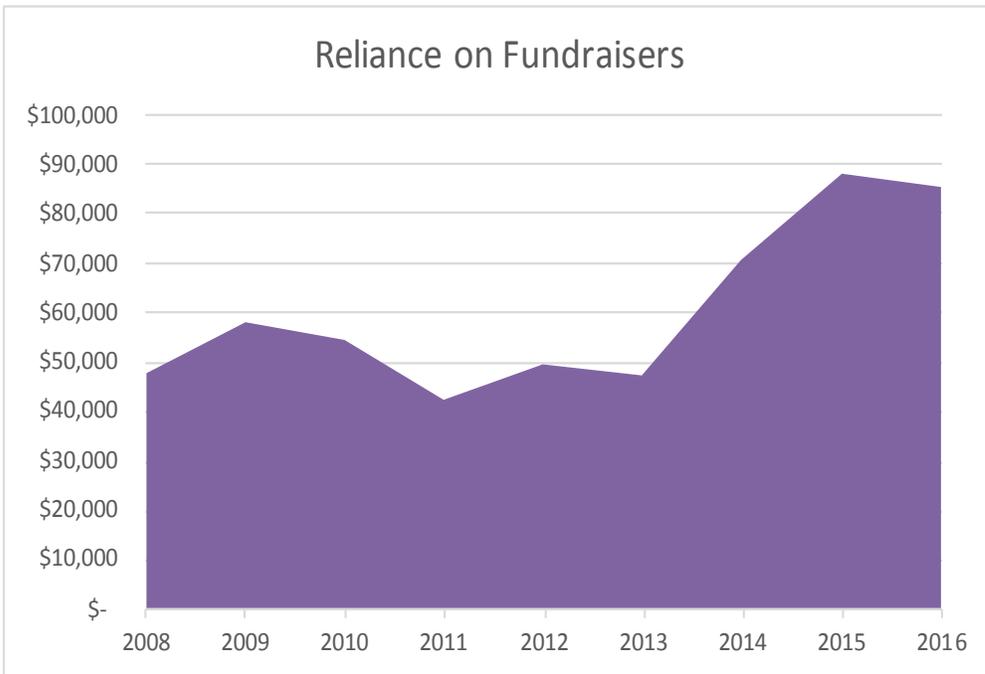
**I/We would like to participate or offer my/our time & talents to the ministries of
St. Spyridon Church in the following areas:**

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philoptochos | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Iconography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday School | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Pantry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Language School | <input type="checkbox"/> Church Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Church Camp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visitation of Elderly/Infirm | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking-Events or Outreach | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Missions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer - general | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal | <input type="checkbox"/> Ushering / Welcome |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer – Web Site Mgt | <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical / Plumbing | <input type="checkbox"/> Byzantine Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parish Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Work | _____ |

Financial Trends 2008-2016



In this parish income and expense chart, the figures for 2008-2014 are actual figures and the 2015-2016 are budgetary figures. However, the trend here shows that expenses are increasing faster than our income. Most of our expense increases are either inflationary or tied to national commitments such as Archdiocesan obligations which is beyond our control. It is thus imperative that we increase our contributions to keep pace with the expenses of our growing parish.



In this chart the figures for 2008-2014 are actual figures and 2015-2016 are budgetary figures. The trend here shows that we are increasingly relying on our fundraisers to pay for our everyday expenses. In the 2016 budget, 20% of our income will come from fundraisers. These fundraisers are the Summer Festival & Christmas Craft Show. This trend is unsustainable.

Maintaining the parish on the efforts of our aging volunteers who are running most of our fundraisers should not be the vision of our parish. We should strive to fund our parish through stewardship and donations. We all need to work together to reverse this trend for the good of our community.

Food for Thought

We could eliminate the need for a Craft Show by all our stewards giving \$1.52/month more in stewardship.

We could eliminate the need for a Festival by all our stewards giving \$17.32/month more in stewardship.

In other words, if all our stewards add \$18.84/month more in stewardship we could give our aging cooks and volunteers the rest and respect that they deserve. They have given us a beautiful church without any debt. We must meet our responsibilities and not rely on their continued labor in our kitchen to pay our obligations.

What is \$18.84/month compared to our average spending?

- The average American spends\$56/month on coffee
-\$64/month on Cable TV
-\$38/month on alcohol
-\$51/month on entertainment

Let us consider that we raise our stewardship commitment so that we may eventually wean ourselves off our reliance to fundraisers. It is definitely an achievable goal if we all strive to meet our responsibility together.

GOALS FOR 2016

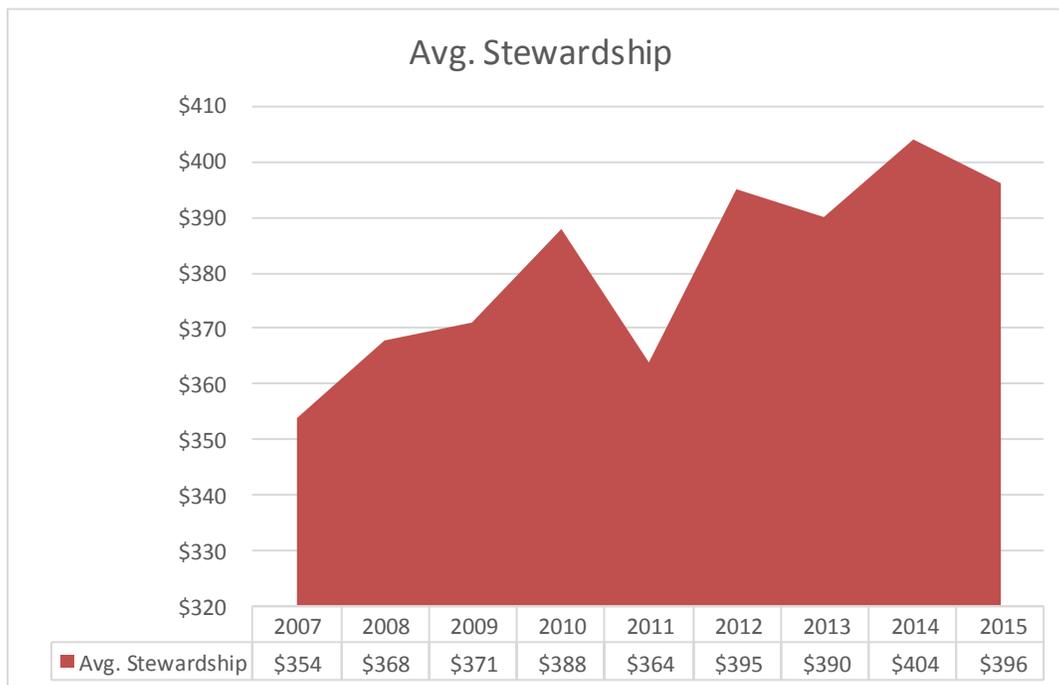
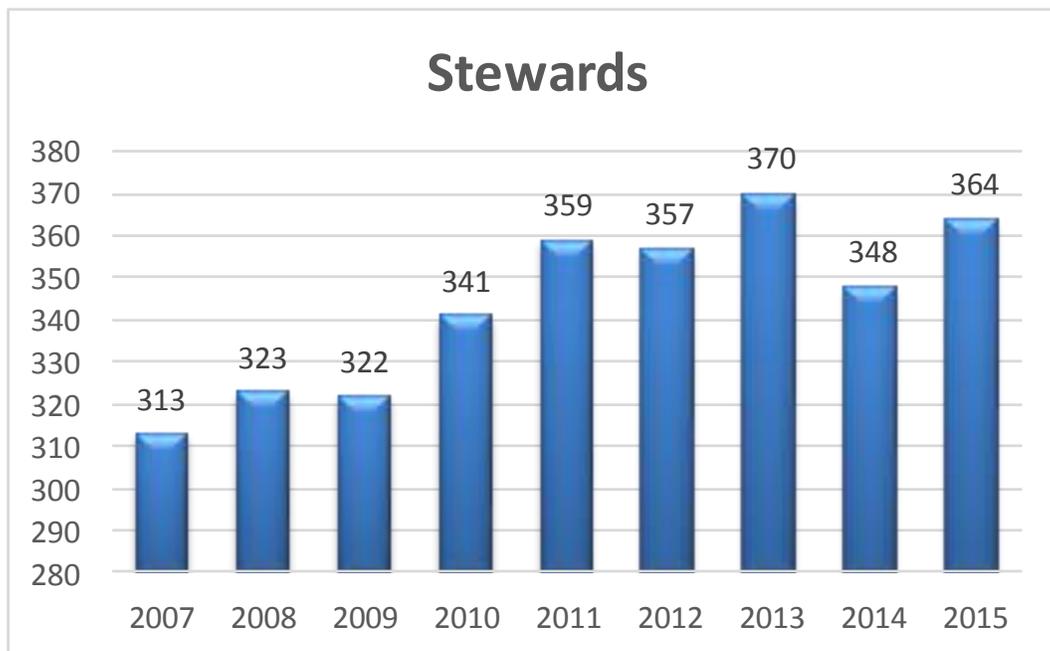
400 Stewards

GOAL FOR STEWARDSHIP AVERAGE FOR 2016

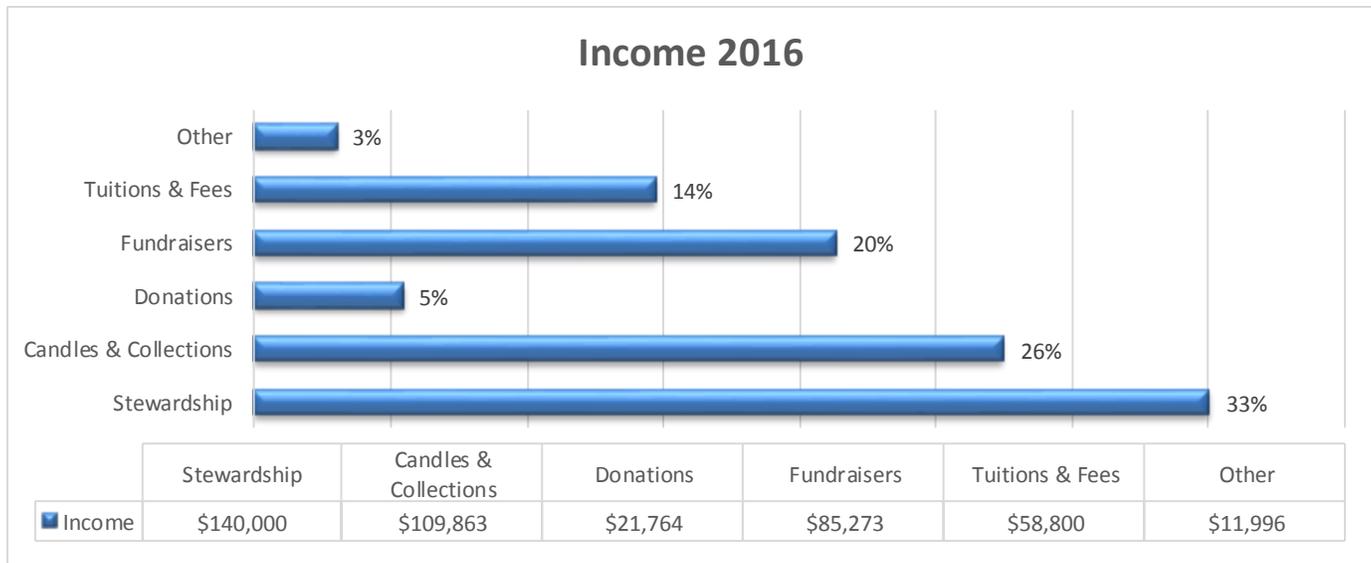
\$450/per steward annually or \$37.50/monthly

OUR GOAL FOR OUR AVERAGE STEWARDSHIP BY 2020

\$600/per steward annually or \$50/monthly



INCOME BUDGET FOR 2016



STEWARDSHIP is the primary way to support the ministries of our church. Our stewardship involves our time, talent, and treasure. A steward is an active participant in the worship life of the church, and devotes his or her talents in ministering to the community. The 2016 stewardship card contains a multitude of opportunities for volunteering. Our church could not function without our dedicated volunteers. Every steward also perceives the financial needs of the church as his or her own. Our stewardship to the church should adequately reflect our priorities and our devotion to our parish home. We need to work together to raise our stewardship portion of the parish income to 50% or an average of \$50/month, in order for our parish to grow and minister to its faithful. Therefore, please encourage family members or friends to join our parish and also consider increasing your own stewardship contribution for 2016.

TUITION AND FEES include everything that is paid toward the Religious Education School and Plutarchos Greek School. Our schools rely on dedicated staff and volunteers. The tuition seldom covers the expenses for our schools and therefore the financial support of the parish and our faithful is needed for our schools.

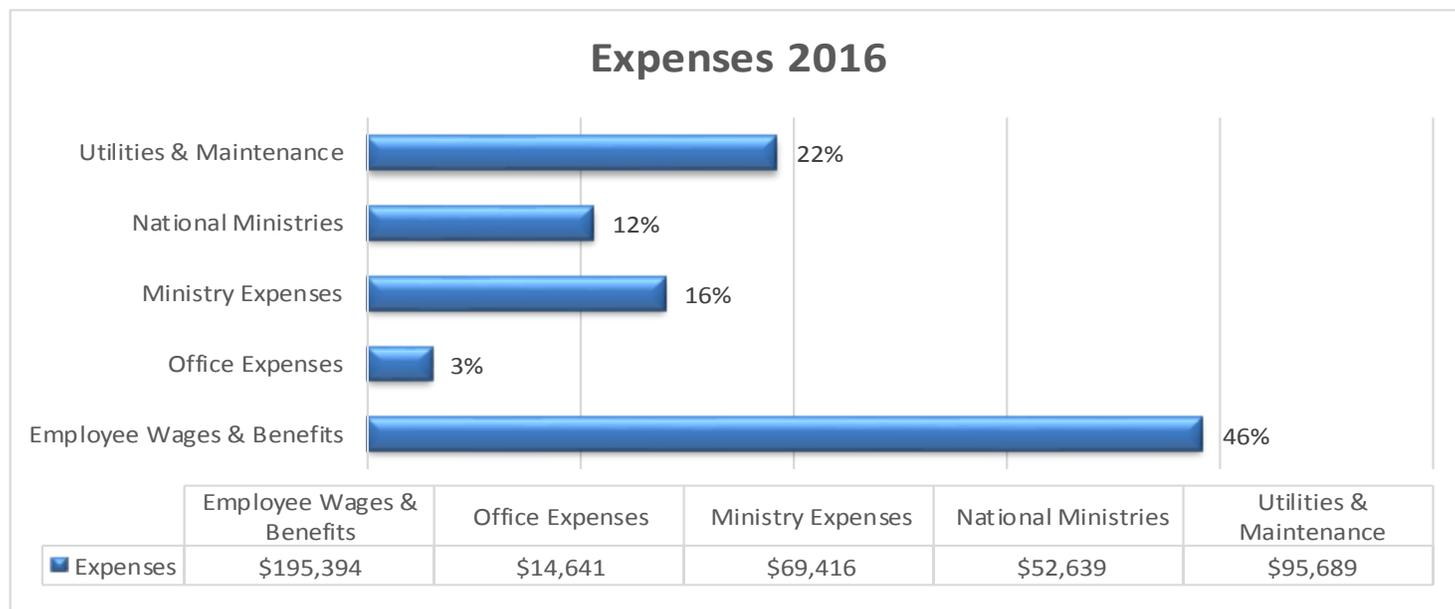
FUNDRAISERS include the Summer Festival and Raffle, the Craft Show, and the Community Dinner Dance. Everyone is called to support these events as volunteers, donors and participants, because we are relying on their success to meet the needs of our community.

DONATIONS include all the appeals on Christmas, Pascha, flower donations, in memory donations, youth activities, Kentro Bookstore income, and other gifts that are offered by the faithful. Once again we always count on everyone's participation in these appeals.

CANDLES & TRAYS are very much dependent on church attendance. A parish can have wonderful finances but without church attendance it will become a museum. We need to attend church regularly, partake of communion at least monthly, and plan to give a respectable weekly offering that reflects our priorities and devotion to God and to our community.

THE OTHER category includes the Kentro sales, Youth Ministry fees and interest from the bank.

EXPENSE BUDGET FOR 2016



EMPLOYEE WAGES & BENEFITS includes the parish priest, chanter, secretaries and custodians. Built in to these expenses are items beyond our control such as the contributions to the Archdiocesan Health Plan. All of our employees are compensated much less than they deserve but they are motivated by their own devotion for the good of the parish and also the assistance of our dedicated volunteers who give their time and talent to make our church ministries possible. We are the largest parish in the Metropolis of Chicago without a second priest or a youth director. An overview of our parish ministries shows an active worship ministry with over 250 services and sacraments, counseling and visitations, numerous fundraisers, food pantry and missions, three schools, website and newsletter, accounting and payroll, bible studies, music classes, youth groups and athletics, organizations and other ministries, all of which are coordinated by our staff and volunteers. With the volume of work that is involved in running our numerous parish ministries, we are always in need of volunteers in order to keep our costs low. A variety of volunteer opportunities are outlined in the 2016 stewardship card.

OFFICE EXPENSES include copying, postage, paper, and equipment needed to communicate with all the faithful. Again, many thanks to the volunteers who assist with our office work.

MINISTRY EXPENSES include all the expenses associated with our youth programs and athletics, our Religious Education School, our Plutarchos Greek School, our choir, our Kentro Bookstore, and other ministry programs. This area as well relies heavily on volunteers who help us minimize the cost of these ministries.

NATIONAL MINISTRIES includes our contribution to the Archdiocese as it is set by the National Clergy Laity Congress, and our contribution to the St. Iakovos Camp and Retreat Center that is set by the Metropolis Clergy Laity. The national ministries support our Metropolis staff, the Ecumenical Patriarchate, our Holy Cross School of Theology, and a number of Archdiocesan ministries whose details can be found on www.Goarch.org.

MAINTENANCE includes all the utilities, snow removal, and routine maintenance that is constant with an aging building. Our facilities are in need repairs and updates, and once again the costs are kept low by many volunteers who give of their time and talents to maintain our building. What is not showing in the maintenance budget is the long term depreciation. The big ticket items that come up every few years such as the roofs, heating and AC units, parking lot, and structural repairs require us to set aside about \$40,000 every year in anticipation of these long term expenses.

ΠΡΟΫΠΟΛΟΓΙΣΜΟΣ ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΝ ΤΟ 2016

Σύμφωνα με τον προϋπολογισμό που εγκρίθηκε την 16ην Δεκεμβρίου, 2015, από την Γενική Συνέλευση της ενορίας μας, προβλέπουμε τα ακόλουθα για το 2016.

Προϋπολογισμός Εισόδων 2016

Πρόγραμμα Καλού Οικονόμου	\$140,000
Δίδακτρα	\$58,800
Δίσκοι και Κεριά	\$109,863
Δωρεές	\$21,764
Κέντρο και άλλα προγράμματα	\$11,996
<u>Καλοκαιρινό Φεστιβάλ και Εράνους</u>	<u>\$85,273</u>
<u>Σύνολον</u>	<u>\$427,696</u>

Προϋπολογισμός Εξόδων 2015

Εξοδα Γραφείου \$14,641

Αντίτυπα, Τηλέφωνο, Ταχυδρομικά, Ενημερωτικά Δελτία.

Συντήρηση της Εκκλησίας και άλλων κτιρίων \$95,689

Ηλεκτρισμός, Θέρμανση, Ασφάλεια, επισκευές και έξοδα συντηρήσεως των κτιρίων.

Για όσους υπηρετούν την Εκκλησία \$195,394

Εξοδα δια την διακονία της Εκκλησίας, μισθοί και έξοδα του προσωπικού.

Η Διακονία της Εκκλησίας \$69,416

Εξοδα το Κατηχητικό και Ελληνικό Σχολείο και έξοδα δια την διακονία της Εκκλησίας

Η Διακονία της Μητροπόλεως και Αρχιεπισκοπής \$52,639

Η προσδιορισμένη από την Αρχιεπισκοπή προσφοράν

ΣΥΝΟΛΟ ΓΙΑ ΤΟ 2016 \$427,779

**Παρακαλούμε όπως παρατηρήσετε ότι, ενώ τα έξοδα της ενορίας καλύπτονται στον προϋπολογισμό, χάρις της αγάπης και της γενναιοδωρίας όλων σας, αυτά που δεν καλύπτονται είναι οι μεγάλες επισκευές όπως η σκεπή, το πάρκινγκ, οι εγκαταστάσεις θερμάνσεως και κλιματισμού, και οι ανακαινήσεις του κτιρίου. Αυτά τα μεγάλα έξοδα προκύπτουν κάθε λίγα χρόνια, και απαιτούν όπως κρατούμε στην άκρη περίπου \$40,000 τον χρόνο δια να καλύπτονται χωρίς την ανάγκη εκτάτων εράνων.*

Στόχος του 2016

400 Μέλη για την Εκκλησίαν μας

Ας συνεχίσουμε να προσφέρουμε ότι το καλύτερο μπορούμε στην αγαπημένη μας ενορία του Αγίου Σπυριδωνος, και ο άγιός μας ας μεσιτεύει για όλους μας για ένα ευλογημένο και υγιές νέον έτος 2016.