



2024 ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP

Mission &
MORTAR

2023 - 2026 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

One Campaign, Two Appeals

**Commitment Sunday is
November 19, 2023**



Message from Rev. Grant

St. George's mission in the world is to be an instrument of God's unconditional love. Simple and clear. All that we are and strive to be is centered on this mission. As imperfect people, we gather together with God to build something larger than ourselves, transforming our world into the Beloved Community of God. Each week as we gather and give, for worship and prayer, for learning and fellowship, for service and advocacy, in innumerable ways, we contribute to and create a Christ-centered community of love that transforms lives and plants seeds of renewal, nurtured by the Holy Spirit for generations. For the many hands and hearts that tirelessly commit themselves to embody this mission and spread the love of Jesus through St. George's- past, present, and future-thank you!

In this brochure, our Mission in action is highlighted, along with notable impacts our congregation has in the community and in the world. You will also learn about our Mortar campaign and the capital improvements needed to ensure our building, a gift from an earlier generation of St. Georgians, is maintained and improved, enabling it to support and withstand the growing needs of our congregation and the local groups/organizations we partner with.

Embarking on our Mission and Mortar campaign, each of you has the opportunity to reflect on the impact our mission and ministry has in the world and how your contributions, your support, enable it. As you prayerfully consider your pledges to support St. George's annual stewardship and capital campaign appeals, think of those whose lives are forever changed for the better by our church: those who know God's love through this community, those who are fed and swaddled, those who are held in their grief and lifted up in their celebrations, those who discover safe space to wrestle with life's deepest questions, and those who discover affirmation and a thirst for justice.

Think about the impact St. George's has in your life and the lives of those you love- how is your life different because of the community of St. George's? What would life look like for you and others without the ministry and presence of St. George's?

Join us in strengthening and supporting our Mission and Mortar, ensuring that the vital mission and ministry of St. George's may continue for another 100 years!

Peace,
Rev. Grant Mansfield



THE FIRST APPEAL: 2024 Stewardship



Stewardship is rooted in the understanding that all we are and all we have comes from God.



When making a pledge, we commit to sharing that abundance to support this community and dedicate ourselves to love, faith and service.

Campaign Prayer

Almighty God, Giver of every good and perfect gift: It is through your love that we strive to be a people of justice, peace, and generosity. Renew in us, we pray, that right spirit of generosity we treasure at St. George's. Help us to honor our past and chart our future, reminding us always that our mission is to do your will and be instruments of your unconditional love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



2024 STEWARDSHIP GOAL: 85 Pledges

How are our funds used?

MINISTRIES

- Worship
- Music and the arts
- Spiritual formation and education for all ages
- Fellowship and hospitality
- Social justice discernment and activism

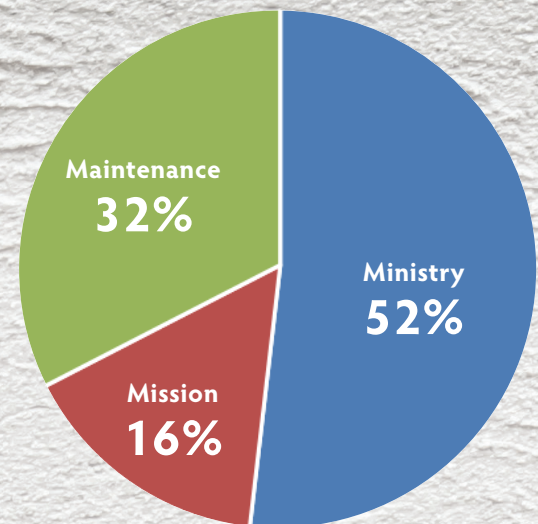
MAINTENANCE

Our pledges maintain our building and grounds – which we use for worship; for hosting community groups such as AA; arts & education and youth programs; and social gatherings

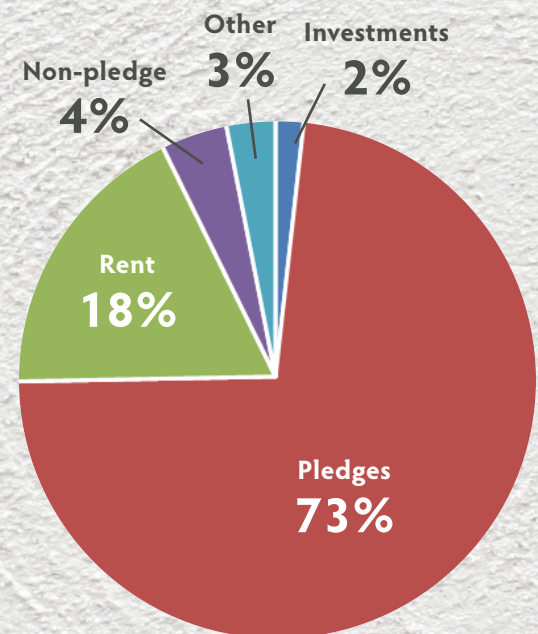
MISSION

- Grants to local food pantries and service programs for the unhoused and under-resourced
- Organizing and supplies for a neighboring church's meal program and thrift store
- Service projects by our youth group
- Grants to support immigrants and refugees

USES OF FUNDS



SOURCE OF FUNDS



Where do we get our funds?

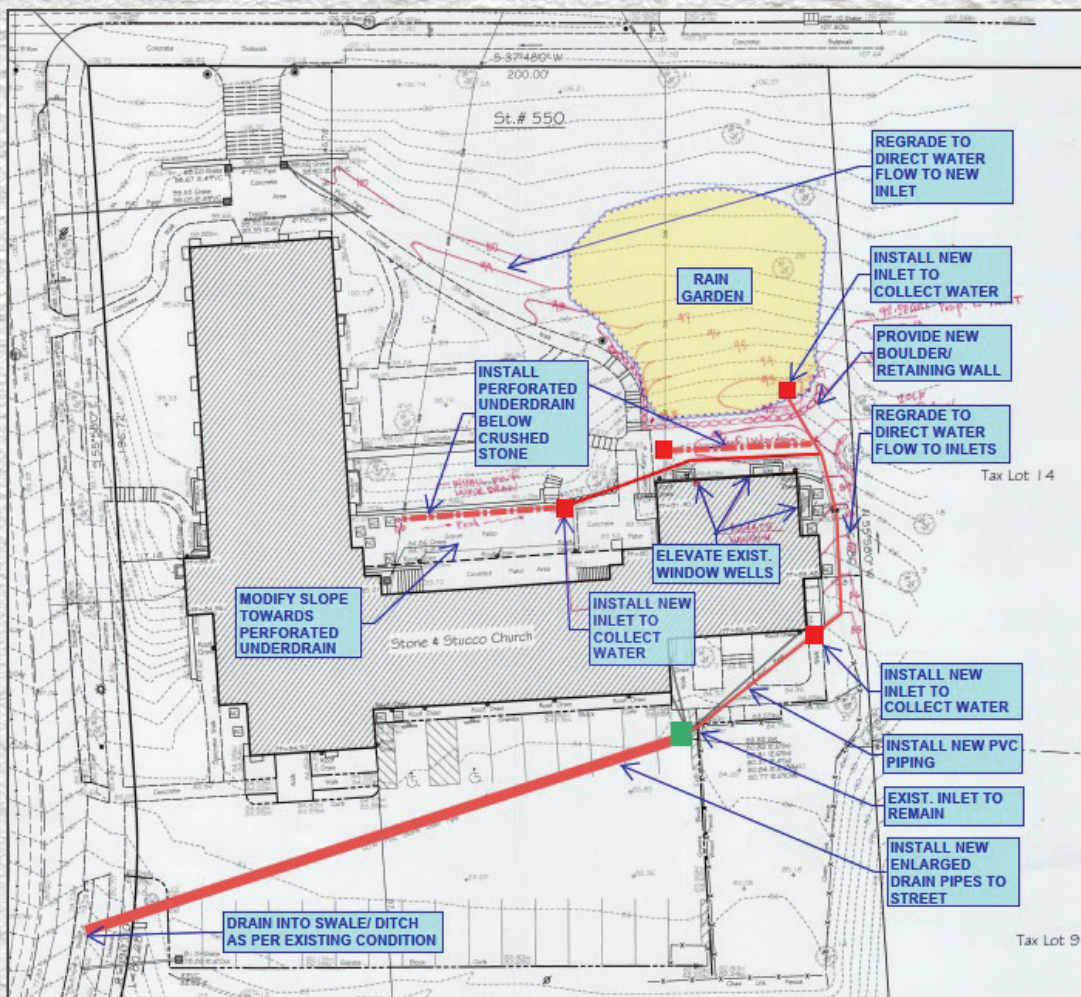
About three-quarters of our budget comes from pledges made to the annual stewardship campaign. No funds are received from the diocese.

THE SECOND APPEAL: 2023-2026 Capital Campaign

**PRIMARY GOAL:
\$600,000**

**STRETCH GOAL:
\$850,000**

First Things First: Fix the Flooding



- Regrade & install retaining wall to direct water flow
- Install rain garden (thirsty plants)
- Install additional inlets and underground piping
- Expand window wells
- Enlarge drain pipes to street

**COST:
\$50,000 -
\$80,000**



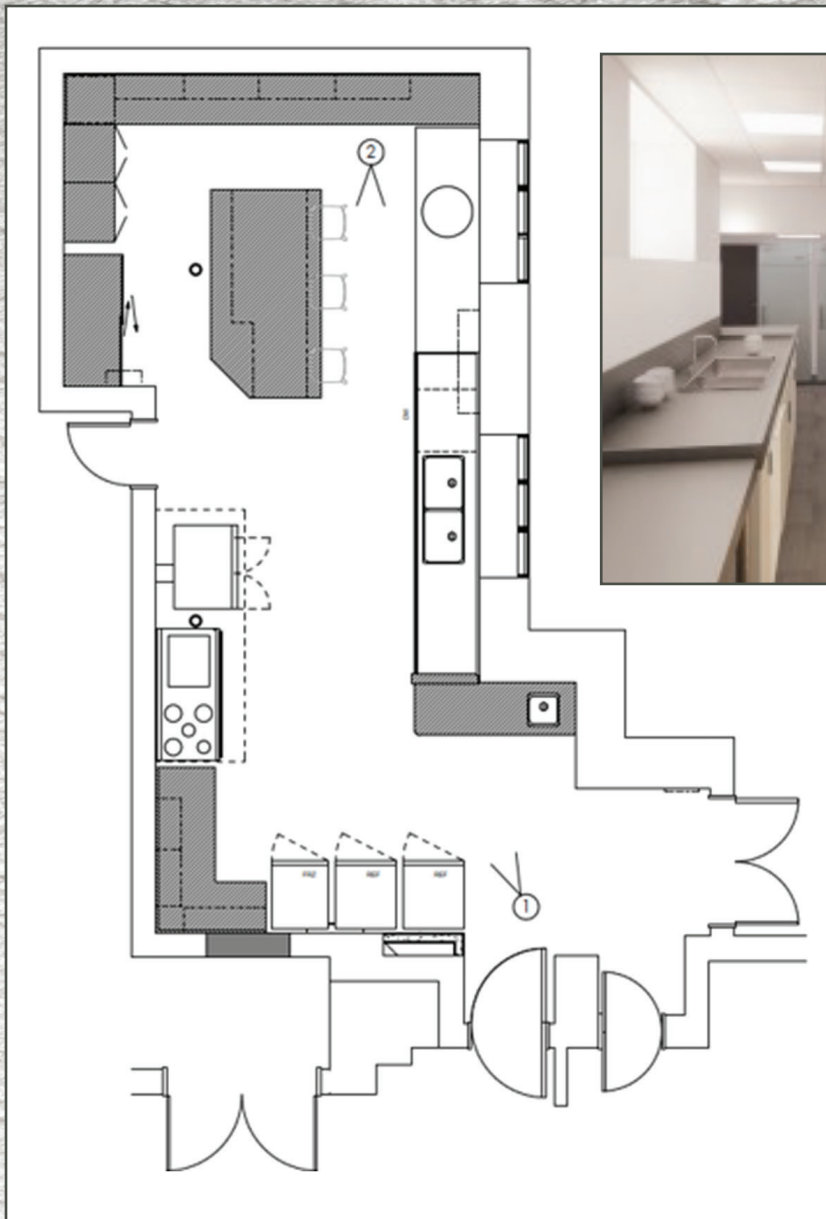
Fix the Roof

- Replace damaged or missing slate tiles
- Install snow guards above dormers
- Re-line Yankee gutters
- Replace perimeter wall, valley, peak and penetration flashings
- Install new roof & flashing on flat roof (by chimney)
- Re-caulk joints
- Investigate interior wall drainage flow (via video or dye solution)
- Wash exterior

COST: About \$160,000

We have applied for a matching grant from the Diocese of Newark that may fund a substantial part of this project.





Fix the Kitchen

- New cabinets & countertops
- New finishes & windows
- New appliances
- Accessible or child-friendly workstation

COST: About \$150,000



The kitchen images are proposed renderings.

**Including but not limited to the outlined projects.*

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. — 1 Corinthians 3:10

Beloved parishioners,

Our spiritual home took on a different meaning during the pandemic. We had to vacate, and the question so many of us asked ourselves was: "Are we a parish when we cannot worship with one another in our church?" It was a loss and a struggle as we continued to weave our mission into our daily lives and remain connected with one another. When we were blessed to return, we did so prayerfully and carefully, with joy. It was good to return to our rituals, and to see the people who helped us get through a trying time.

Our building is the most visible part of our mission to be an instrument of God's unconditional love. We bring people together for milestone events and celebrations. Not only our most cherished celebration, communion, but baptisms, weddings, funerals, concerts, parties, educational and cultural events. As a witness to our gratitude, we open our doors to people beyond our parish community. At times we all need a soft place to land, to meditate or cry, to pray, to be vulnerable and to be reminded that we are not alone. St. George's is that place.

Put simply, we fund St. George's. Stewardship giving is like the rent or mortgage that you pay monthly; an operational contribution, so that our church and parish buildings are heated or cooled, the lights are on, and our staff is paid a living wage. It keeps the doors open for all, allows us to reach out to others in need and offers us a gathering place for worship, learning, service, fellowship, and mutual support. Capital Campaign giving is the fund we build to address the needs outside the annual operational budget, to address the leaky roof and flooding issues, or updating an aging kitchen which has (amazingly) served us since the mid-1940s. This fund ensures that we have a home in which to welcome the stranger, offering compassion and companionship as God guides us.

We are the stewards of a magnificent legacy, filled with so many firsts: the first female warden; the first openly gay priest in our diocese—and the second heresy trial against an Episcopal bishop because of it; the first church to have a booth at North Jersey PrideFest; supporting women in their quest for clerical equality, including one of the first female priests; standing against racial and social injustice. We break the mold and remake it in a more inclusive way. Who knows what God intends for us and our building in the wider community?

Giving is a deeply personal issue. It speaks to "love", because people do not support organizations or institutions that they do not love. It is a commitment, but one we hope you believe is worthy. As we undertake these campaigns, we do so with faith, the same faith that got us through a health crisis, the same faith that led us to support positive change within the church when it was not popular, that guides us. Please offer your support so that we may continue to build upon the foundation as those before us have done, with great love and care and as agents of transformation and healing.

With Gratitude,
The Wardens and Vestry of St. George's Church



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