



St. Mark's Narrative Budget 2020/21

August 28, 2020

A B E A C O N O F F A I T H , H O P E A N D L I G H T

A lesson we keep learning over and over again is that we do not live in this world alone. One of the worst aspects of COVID-19 is the isolation so many of us know and how much we appreciate staying connected to one another, even if remotely through notes, phone calls, e-mails and social media contacts. We are created by God to live in relationship with others. We are one body in Christ. We depend on God, the Source of our lives, and we depend on one another for sharing the gifts God gives and for taking care of others.

As we hear the inner voice of God's love for us, we become increasingly aware that we are being invited to build a community of love at St. Mark's. Our personal relationships with Christ turn our hearts toward others so that we freely share what God has given to each of us.

Stewardship is about giving to others from your heart filled with God's love. This year's stewardship

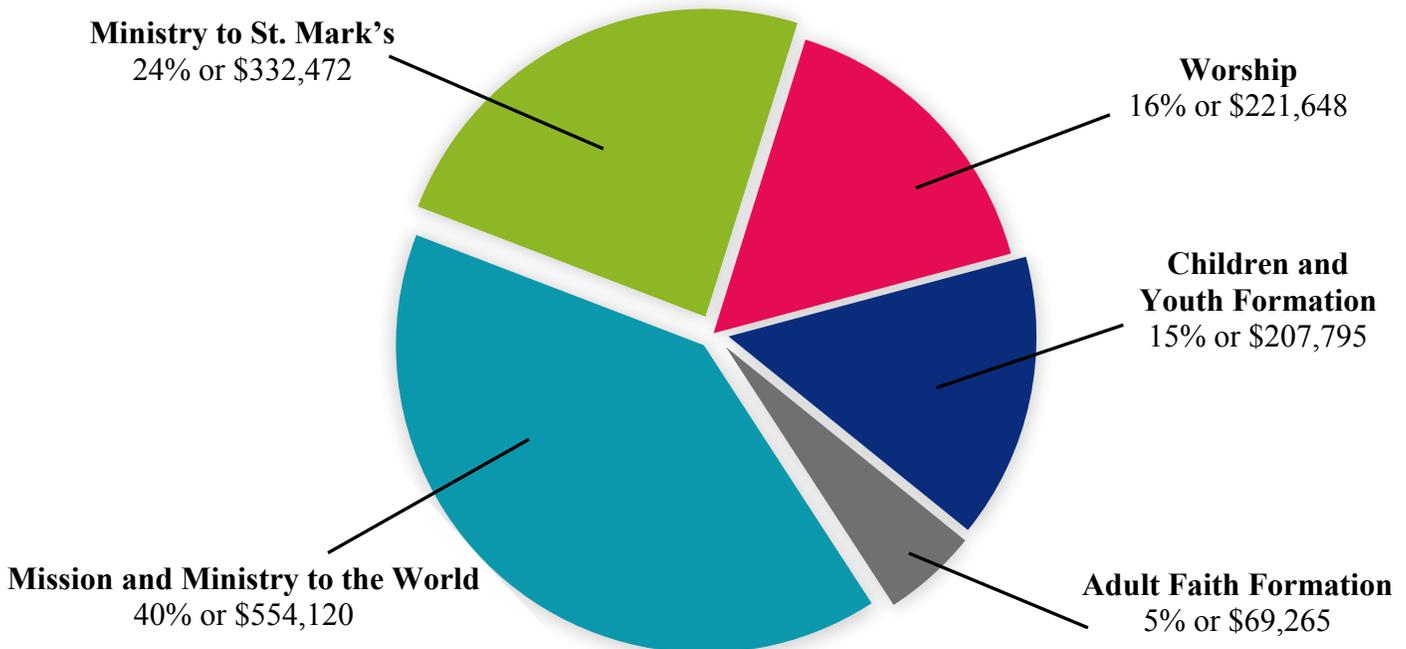
campaign – *Building a Community of Love* --- invited each of us to give to God by giving to one another. When we give, we loosen the grip of fear that wants to isolate us. And, when we give, we deepen our commitments to one another.

As you review this summary of how St. Mark's stewards your gifts to God given to build our community of love and to support the mission and ministry of this community, I hope you see how every dollar you share goes to the work of loving this world as God loves us. Your generosity changes lives of people you may never know, because that is how God works when we pull together and let go of our fears.

See you Sunday...on Livestream!

The Rev. James B. Cook
Rector

Financial Expenditures for Ministries at St. Mark's (Operating Budget: \$1,385,300)



Worship

16% or \$221,648

Worship is the heart of our life together as a congregation. More than 25,000 people attended weekend worship services during the past year, while another 50,000 attended weekday services. In worship, we are formed into the body of Christ as we gather to give God our thanks and praise. We trust that when we worship together with pure hearts and in community, effective evangelism is the natural outgrowth. At St. Mark's, we strive to make all worship relevant, reverent and worthy of God, and this requires much planning, preparation and strong leadership.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support worship at St. Mark's:

- The Choir of St. Mark's
- Full-time Director of Music
- Excellence in preaching
- Clergy and staff leadership
- Altar Guild supplies
- Flower Guild
- Seasonal decorations and musicians
- Lights, air conditioning, cleaning and building maintenance
- Bulletins and *Weekly News* inserts
- Instrument maintenance and repairs
- Schedule and train acolytes, lay readers, chalice bearers, ushers, greeters, coffee hour hosts, Eucharistic visitors, hospitality shoppers, offering counters and vestry hosts
- Vergers
- Coffee hour fellowship supplies
- St. Mark's Children's Choir Camp
- Livestream Sunday Worship

Children and Youth Formation

15% or \$207,795

St. Mark's is blessed with an abundance of children and youth. Of course, this summer of 2020 has fallen victim to COVID-19, which means all of our youth and children's activities were cancelled. Plans had already been underway for the high school mission trip to Boston, with more than 25 young people ready to go. The middle school mission trip through our own Hearts of Palm was set for a dozen middle schoolers, while Vacation Bible School was prepared to register nearly 150 children before being cancelled. Both groups, however, have continued to meet with our youth director on Zoom calls and in small gatherings. St. Mark's continues to support the largest acolyte ministry in the diocese with more than 50 children (third grade through high school) participating. Sunday School meets weekly for our younger children, while a professionally staffed nursery assures our youngest members receive the best care possible. And don't forget: our primary mission at St. Mark's is our school, which serves 429 students annually in grades PK through eighth. The clergy and program staff spend about a quarter of their time ministering to St. Mark's

School, through worship, teaching and administrative leadership. The school's operating budget, which is separate from the church operating budget, is more than \$7 million annually.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support Children and Youth Ministry at St. Mark's:

- Middle School Youth Group
- High School Youth Group
- Mission trips locally and nationally
- Sunday School
- Vacation Bible School
- Baptismal preparation
- Professionally staffed nursery
- Full-time Youth Director
- Acolyte Program
- Special retreats and programs
- Transportation
- Parish events that cater to children
- Building maintenance, cleaning, air conditioning and lights
- Clergy and staff leadership, including leading all school worship services and occasional teaching
- Family Fun Day
- St. Mark's Children's Choir Camp

Adult Faith Formation

5% or \$69,265

Making the commitment to follow Christ means aligning our lives with the teachings and guidance of Jesus. His death and resurrection have opened for us a way in life that does not have room for fear, and so we learn day by day how to live new lives of faith in a God who has opened the gate to eternity for us. At St. Mark's, we are blessed with many opportunities to engage our faith in meaningful ways.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support Adult Faith Formation at St. Mark's:

- Excellence in preaching
- Clergy and staff leadership
- The Peace Lecture Series
- Community of the Cross of Nails
- Labyrinth and spiritual direction
- Retreats and new member "Boot Camp"
- Bible and book studies
- Confirmation classes
- Marriage preparation classes
- Mark's Men
- Cursillo and Reunion Groups
- Daughters of the King
- Guest presenters and lecturers
- Education for Ministry (EfM)
- Episcopal Church Women (ECW)
- Air Conditioning, building maintenance, lighting, and cleaning
- Lenten Series

Mission and Ministry to the World

40% or \$554,120

St. Mark's seeks to serve all persons in Christ through countless ministries and missions locally, nationally and internationally. Raising funds for home repairs in Riviera Beach or raising funds for students and farmers in Kenya are just the tip of the iceberg for the many ways we serve others while shining as a beacon of faith, hope and light. This year we completed the renovation of our second Hearts of Palm House in Riviera Beach, where a family from The Lord's Place now finds temporary, transitional housing. St. Mark's has also been deeded diocesan property in Pahokee as a future ministry site and is currently negotiating with the diocese to assume responsibility for St. George's Church in Riviera Beach.

As our parish grows, so does our diocesan assessment, which is the second largest in the Diocese of Southeast Florida. The \$160,000 a year sent by St. Mark's helps support clergy in small urban congregations; assists with disaster relief around the globe; underwrites services provided by the bishop and diocesan staff such as insurance, communications, clergy counsel and congregational development; missions and ministries of the national Episcopal Church, and Episcopal Charities.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support Mission and Ministry to the World:

- Family Promise
- Building maintenance, air conditioning, cleaning and lights
- Hearts of Palm
- Clergy and staff leadership
- Hosting self-help groups
- Mothers of Pre-Schoolers (MOPS)
- The Mama Ada Foundation (Kenya)
- KIVA small-business loans in Third World
- Expansion to Pahokee
- Toy and Train Show
- The Lion's Den Café and Bookstore
- *Listen. Think. Pray.*
- Bridges of Palm Beach County
- St. Mark's Thrift Shop
- Stitch 'N Stuff Prayer Bear Ministry
- Flower delivery
- Discretionary Fund for assistance
- St. George's Church and Community Center
- CROS Ministries
- The Lord's Place
- St. Mark's School
- Real Life Children's Ranch
- Supportive housing through HOP Houses

Ministry to St. Mark's

24% or \$332,472

Serving one another as Christ serves us is what makes a community strong. At St. Mark's, we seek to build friendships, form new relationships, reach across barriers of age and gender, race and nationality; and ensure that we are caring for one another in all possible ways so that no one is left out in the caring hands and hearts of so many who call St. Mark's home.

In response to this summer's racial unrest, St. Mark's is forming a task force titled **Becoming a Beloved Community: Racial Justice and Healing at St. Mark's**. We are committed to tackling institutional racism and opening the way to respecting the dignity of every human being.

And, at the start of the pandemic in March, St. Mark's launched *St. Mark's Connected*, a daily video blog that reaches the community with inspiration, teaching, worship and humor.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support Ministry to St. Mark's:

- Clergy counseling, pastoral care and visitations
- Social Media Coordinator
- Communications Coordinator
- Funeral and marriage support
- Mailings that educate and inform parishioners
- Web site maintenance; Facebook updates and all social media ministry that includes *Vestry Updates*
- *Listen. Think. Pray.*
- Building maintenance, lighting, cleaning and air conditioning
- Financial management and record-keeping, membership records and directories
- Audit
- Mortgage payments
- Development Office
- Endowment marketing and management
- Stewardship Campaign
- Eucharistic Visitors
- Communications and marketing
- Building-use schedules and contracts
- Special events, dinners and luncheons
- The Supper Bowl (formerly Breaking Bread)
- St. Mark's Mobile App
- St. Mark's Cares and Shepherd's Program
- New member incorporation
- Family Fun Day
- Handyman Ministry
- *St. Mark's Connected*

**Parish Income
(Operating Budget: \$1,385,300)**

