

# *St. Peter's Church*

Telling the story of  
our faith and action:  
A Narrative Budget - 2026



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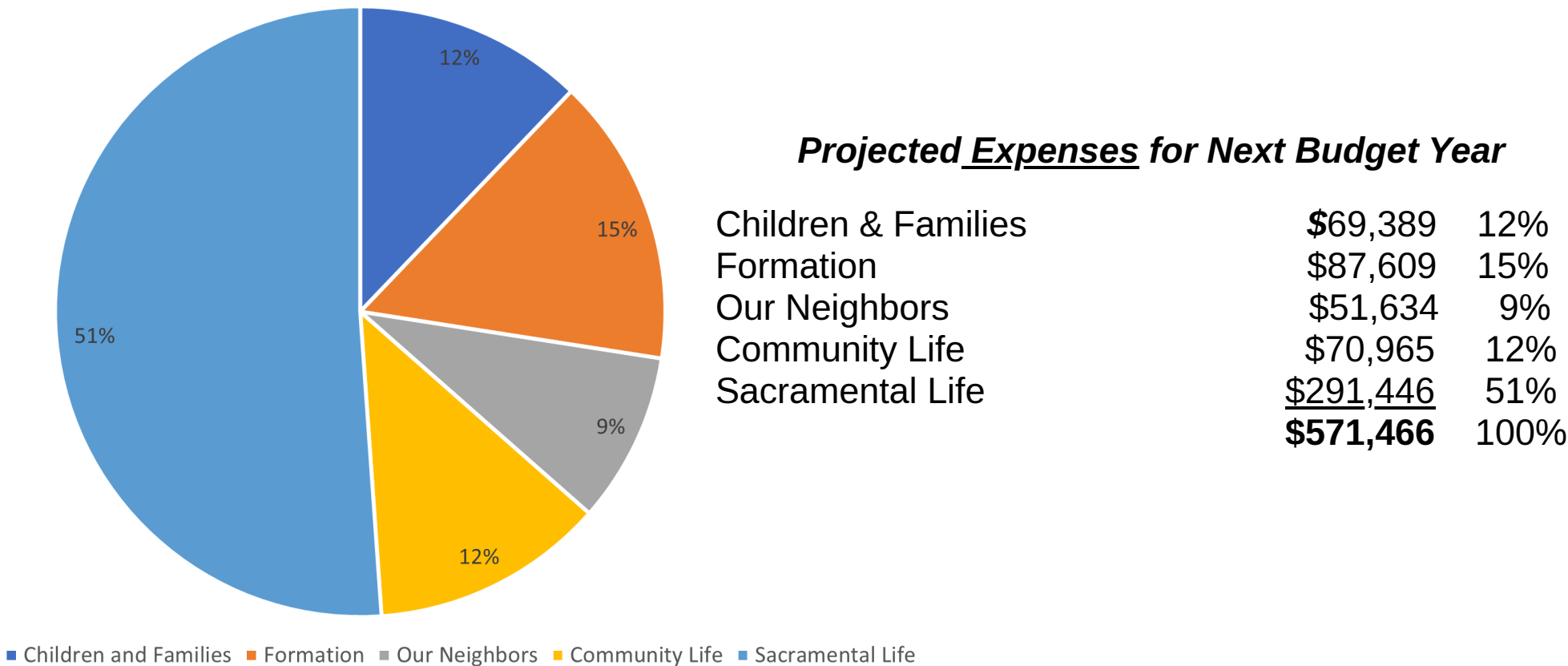
**St. Peter's is a community of Episcopalians celebrating our tradition and diversity as we live out our faith in the world, raise up new generations of caring people, and gather for support, worship, activism, education, and fun.**  
*A narrative budget spreads fixed costs, like utilities, facilities, and salaries across program areas so that we see the impact of our money.*

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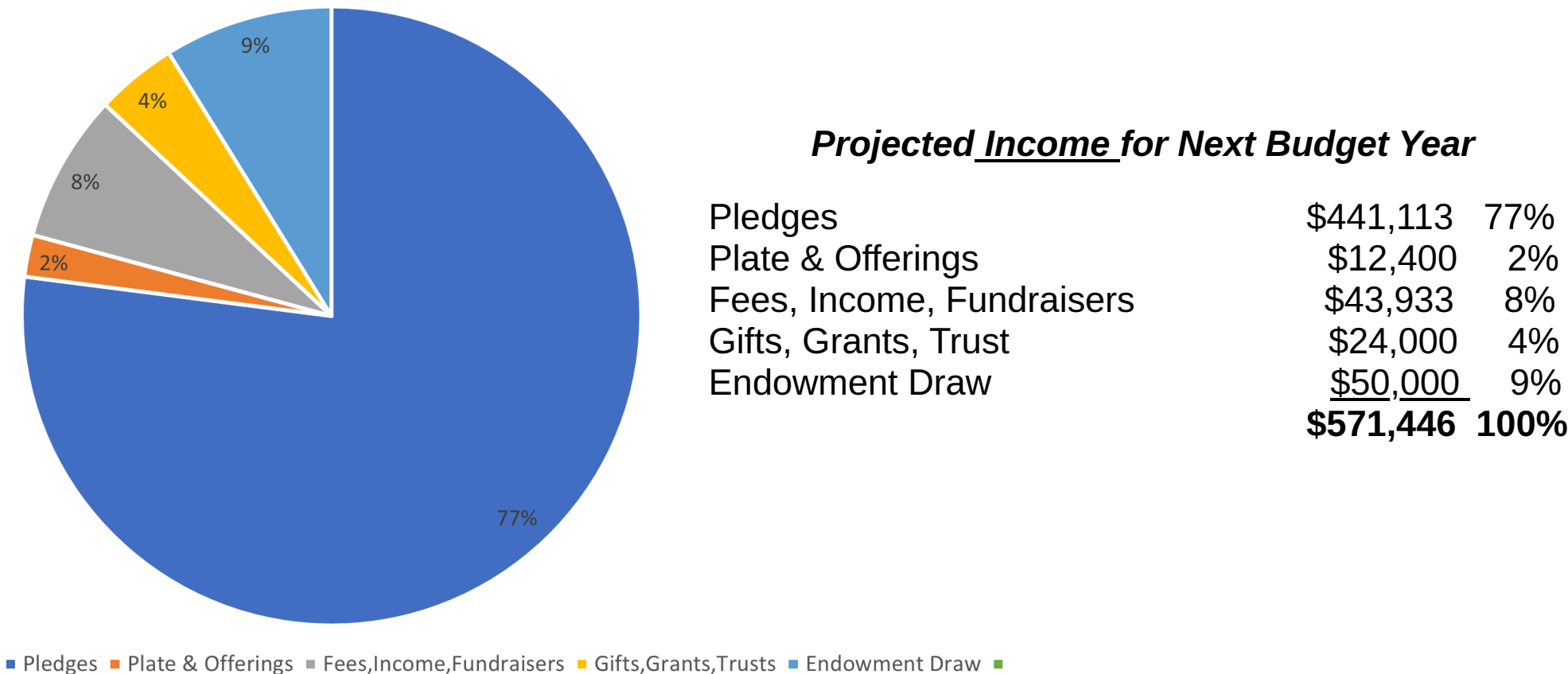
# How We Allocate Our Budget

Our budget reflects the values we shape and share with the world around us. Each of us in our varied ways, employing our many blessings and gifts, builds a better world through our love of God, self and neighbor. We align our budget with the work of our life together.



# How We Fund Our Budget

Like many communities of faith, we **rely on pledges and gifts** from our members to support our ministry. Pledges account for 77% of our annual income, with plate offerings and other special offerings comprising another 2%. **We are entirely self-funded.** We do not receive financial support from the diocese for our operations.





# Children & Families

## *12% of Our Budget*

At St. Peter's children and families are uplifted and especially welcome – they represent the future of our Church and our society. Many generations of youth have been formed through Sunday School and other youth activities. As we form these young people in faith, we are also forming them to expect and work for a world focused on justice, truth, and peace. Our youngest lead the way!



### Activities that Support Our CHILDREN & FAMILIES

- Pre-K and Elementary grades Sunday School
- Youth Group: ages 11+
- Confirmation Class
- Christmas Pageant
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Choir School
- Outreach Activities





# Formation

## *15% of our Budget*



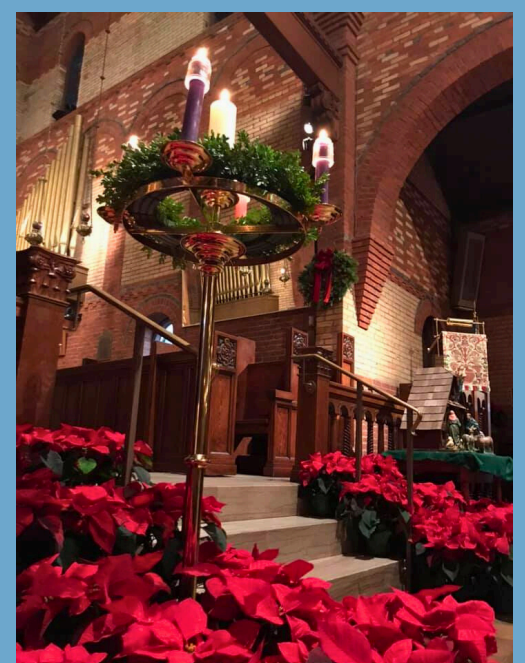
One of the reasons we gather together is to learn about our traditions and to educate ourselves about our faith and our action so that we may engage the Gospel with the world around us. Our formation occurs at all ages, from toddlers to teenagers; from early childhood to elders. When we learn more about our faith, we learn more about each other and how we relate to the world.

Not only are we taught, but we also learn to teach, telling the stories of our faith. How we are formed in our community of faith informs the kinds of jobs we seek, the ways we raise our families, the way we invest our resources, and the ways we engage justice and injustice in our society.



### Some Activities that Support Our FORMATION

- Sunday Adult Forum
- Wednesday Men's Bible Study
- Inquirer's Class
- Lenten Series
- Meditation/Prayer Sessions
- Nicene Creed Series





# Our Neighbors

## *9% of our Budget*

At our own baptism and confirmation, and again every time a new member is added to our Church, we enter into covenant with God and our community in the words of the Baptismal Covenant. It is our vow to seek and serve Christ in all persons, respect the dignity of every human being, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. These principles are the very cornerstone of our faith and how we share the love that has been shown to us with others.



### **Some Activities that Support Our NEIGHBORS**

- Blessing Box
- Joseph House lunches
- Wi-Middle Christmas clothes & supplies drive: teacher appreciation
- Wi-Middle Christmas Angels
- Neighborhood Third Fridays Downtown
- Volunteer week at Cold Shelter for Homeless
- Our support for Children's Home Foundation and other Diocesan ministries
- Wicomico Goes Purple partner
- Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake
- Pollinator Garden/Green Team





# Community Life

## *13% of our Budget*



Fellowship is another important reason that we gather together on Sundays and throughout the week. The way we care for each other is a model for the way we care for the world around us. Our meals and potlucks are legendary, and so are our parties. We also gather for the business of the church, to help others discern their vocations, and to visit the sick and homebound. For social reasons, formation, activism, and worship, we like to get together a lot! Even in years past when our gathering was over screens and through masks, our love for each other was as strong as ever!



### Some Activities that Support Our COMMUNITY LIFE

- Thanksgiving Potluck
- Holiday Bazaar
- Epiphany Dinner
- Church Picnic
- Green Hill Sunday
- Opening our doors to rental groups
- Pastoral Care
- Rides to Church
- Bringing the sacrament to the homebound
- Messiah Concert and other community music offerings
- Vestry and Convention delegates
- Seasonal Concert series





# Sacramental Life

## *51% of our Budget*



Worship and music are some of the most powerful parts of our life together. Through our sacramental life together we hear the stories of our faith, are nourished by the Eucharist, are filled with life through beautiful music and prophetic preaching, and are empowered to go out into the world to share and live the Gospel. We also mark the important milestones and moments in our lives with sacrament in baptism, confirmation, marriage, healing, reconciliation, burial, and the discerning of calls to ministry.



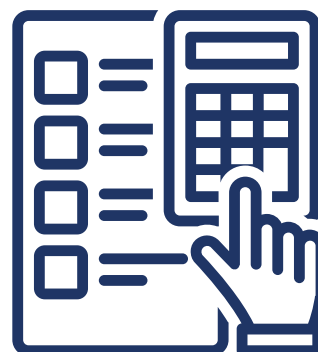
### *Worship by the numbers*

Last year:

- *Sundays = 168 services*
- *Weekdays = 221 services*
- *Baptisms = 1*
- *Confirmations = 3*
- *Burials = 9*

This year:

- *Average Sunday attendance in church = 80*
- *Average Sunday attendance on livestream = 240*



### **Some Activities that Support Our SACRAMENTAL LIFE**

- Our music program, the choir and bell choir, equipment for livestreamed worship
- Healing ministry, pastoral care, Wednesday Healing Service
- Holy Communion
- Christmas, Holy Week and Easter Services
- Public Daily Prayer in the church and livestreamed
- Weddings, funerals and baptisms, and preparation
- Worship Committee, Altar Guild, Camera Operators, Lay and Ordained Ministers

*Because of the parish's commitment to livestreaming Sunday services as part of St. Peter's Community Life ministry I and so many others are able to participate in our weekly worship and remain an active part of the congregation. - Carole DiPietro*



# How You Can Make Your Gift



**ONLINE:** Fill out your pledge card and submit [www.stpeterschurch.net/stewardship](http://www.stpeterschurch.net/stewardship)



**APP OR WEBSITE:** Set your recurring payment or make a one-time gift at [www.stpeterschurch.net/give](http://www.stpeterschurch.net/give)



**SECURITIES OR STOCKS:** We accept stocks and securities for donations. Contact us for more information or go to [www.stpeterschurch-net/giv](http://www.stpeterschurch-net/giv)



**PLANNED GIVING AND THE 1768 LEGACY SOCIETY:**  
Contact us for more information  
[www.stpeterschurch.net/planned-giving/](http://www.stpeterschurch.net/planned-giving/)



**GET INVOLVED AND VOLUNTEER!:** Indicate your interest on your pledge card.



**MAIL** your check or pledge form to the Church Office  
115 St. Peters Street, Salisbury, MD 21801



**PLACE** in Pledge Box in Church.

## **ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of St. Peter's Church is to welcome all to know Christ through rich liturgical worship, sacred music, spiritual education, Holy Scripture, and prayer; to share His love through fellowship and outreach to our neighbors.*

*This is an aspirational budget of what we plan to undertake for 2026 and the resources we need to support our work. St. Peter's Vestry will vote on a final 2026 budget on December 17, 2025.*