



NOW INTO
THE WORLD

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WALKER'S PARISH



“Our giving is at best a response to the fact that God has already given, we wouldn’t have anything to give. We talk about how much we give and how often we give, forgetting that God is the first and greatest giver.”

—William D. Watley

CHRIStIAN STEWARDShIP is a grateful and responsible use of God’s Gifts in the light of God’s purpose for our lives as revealed in Jesus Christ.

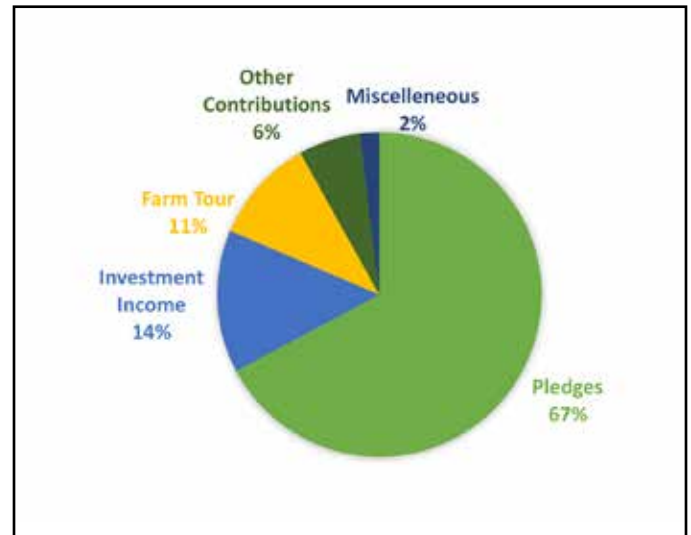
The stewardship committee has again developed a narrative budget that demonstrates how the money given and other income are filtered through Grace to touch the lives of people. We looked at our various ministries and assigned all anticipated expenses to one of 6 categories: Grace Worship, Grace Serves and Shares, Grace Learns and Grows, Grace Connects, Grace Cares and Grace Continues.

Through words and pictures, this is the story of Grace worshipping, reaching out to the local and wider community, educating children, youth and adults, connecting with each other through fellowship and communication, caring for each other and practicing wise stewardship of our resources. We are using all that we have received from God for the work that God wants us to do

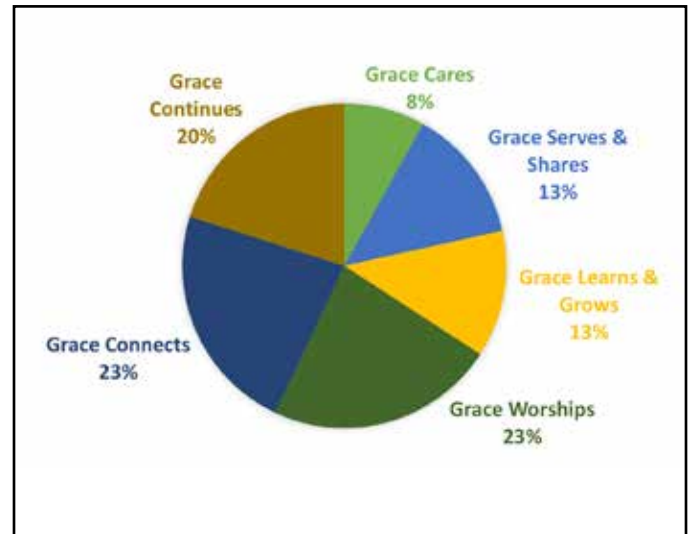
In order to continue God’s work in 2019 and keep up with inflation, Grace’s budget will inevitably increase some. Your monetary gift, given joyfully and in gratitude, is needed for Grace to continue impacting lives through these ministries. Please prayerfully reflect on the gifts you have received from God, as you consider what proportion of your income you can return to God. Knowing that determining the amount to give is a very personal decision, you are encouraged to continue your stewardship journey here by taking another step of faith and planning your gift.

Again this year Grace will celebrate the Ingathering of Gifts to God with a special worship service followed by a festive Harvest Brunch of Thanksgiving. Please bring your Stewardship Cards to Church on Sunday, November 18th to join the congregation in a communal blessing of gifts. Any Stewardship Cards that are returned earlier will be placed in the offering plate that day, so that ALL gifts can be blessed at the altar on that Sunday.

Where the Money Comes From



Where the Money Goes



GRACE WORSHIPS

“Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship with reverence and awe.”

—Hebrews 12:28

WORSHIP is the central act of our life at Grace. We gather in worship to lift our voices in individual and collective prayer, to expand our understanding of Christian faith, to receive the blessing of Holy Eucharist, to enjoy and benefit from interactions with each other, to experience the beauty of our Church and the music of the service, and to leave refreshed in spirit and commitment in Christ.



Worship requires almost one-fourth (23%) of the total budget and pays the costs associated with worship services, including:

- Over 120 life-changing Sunday services at Grace and All Saints Chapel. Our services average 121 attendees weekly
- Christmas Eve Services, Holy Week, and Easter services with special music and total attendance of 602
- Special Lenten services
- An experimental Sunday evening service and supper
- Annual Outdoor Service
- Keswick Community Thanksgiving Service
- Blessing of the Animals
- Leadership and administration of the ministry and music program including salaries for the Rector, Director of Music, supply clergy and musicians
- Worship material including, bulletins and music
- Sanctuary and Altar flowers and decorations
- Holy Communion supplies
- Cost of special services and events
- Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals
- Improvements to the church sound system and the care of organ and piano
- Volunteers devote their time to functions essential to worship service—Altar Guild, Choir, Lay Readers, Prayer Leaders, Lay Eucharist Ministers, Ushers and Acolytes

Grace is truly blessed to have a Deacon who serves without compensation.

23% of our budget
or **\$110,620** helps Grace Worship

GRACE SERVES AND SHARES

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

—Matthew 25: 35-36

AS AN EXPRESSION of our faith we have chosen to contribute 13% of our budget and provide thousands of volunteer hours to effective programs.

Monthly Food Closet • More than a dozen volunteers collect food and pack boxes of dried goods, bread, produce and meat for around 35 families. We make holidays special by giving out seasonal foods and treats.

Habitat for Humanity • Our volunteers contributed over 90 work days to build homes in partnership with and for hard-working, low income families.

Salvation Army Meals • Over a dozen volunteers serve 240 meals each month to men, women and children.

Blessing of the Hounds • Volunteers provide parking directions, information, donuts and coffee for around 1,000 people who attend this Thanksgiving tradition. Our 2017 collection of \$ 2,600 was donated to Wildlife Center of Virginia and the Rivanna Conservation Alliance.

Farm Tour & Country Fair • With generous participation and hundreds of volunteer hours from over 80% of our parishioners, the Grace “Historic Farm Tour – Beyond the Gates,” “Farm Fest” and “Country Fair” have generated over \$ 450,000 in nine years to benefit our community. Stewardship at its finest!

And so many more dollars and hours for:

- Alcoholics Anonymous
- All Blessings Flow
- Amari Cares
- 4-H Scholarship
- Boys and Girls Club of Central VA
- C-A Habitat for Humanity

- CHIP of Virginia
- Free Clinic Service
- Georgia’s Healing House
- Grace Food Closet
- Hospice of the Piedmont
- International Rescue
- Lafayette Academy Riding Scholarships
- Literacy Volunteers
- Little Learners
- Meals on Wheels
- Montanova Riding Scholarships
- New Day Foster Homes-China
- Prison Ministry
- Rivanna Conservation Society
- Salvation Army Meals
- Service Dogs of Virginia
- Sexual Assault Resource Agency
- Shrine Mont
- Splish Splash
- Stone Robinson Elementary School food packets. Principal’s Fund & Tutoring
- Stony Point Elementary School Principal’s Funds for clothing and school supplies for students who have no other means.



13% of our budget or **\$65,070**
and many volunteer hours
help Grace to Serve and Share.

GRACE LEARNS AND GROWS

CHRIStIAN EDUCATION is the very heart of the Church and is a life-long quest to explore the Christian tradition and grow closer to God. Grace is committed to promoting the spiritual growth of all ages through a variety of classes, discussion groups, retreats and activities. We want members and friends to be nurtured in faith, grow in their Christian knowledge, and be inspired to live in service to God and neighbor. We believe Christian Education occurs not only in the classroom, but is also part of everything we do. . . worship, outreach, and fellowship with one another.

Ministry staff and volunteers lead programs, teach classes, set up materials, prepare snacks and clean classrooms for the following programs:

For Children and Youth

- Nursery
- “Mini-Messy” Church
- Monthly Youth Sundays
- Christmas and Easter Pageants

For Adults

- Wednesday Night Adult Forums
- Women’s Study Group
- Sunday Morning Cafe Grace
- Explorer Series
- Grace Salon

Seasonal Activities for All

- Messy Church
- Mardi Gras Pancake Supper
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Vacation Bible School with local churches
- Shrine Mont Fall Retreat
- Tri-Diocesan Fall Camp
- Blessing of the Animals
- All Hallows Eve Celebration



13% of our budget or **\$61,040**
enables Grace children, youth and
adults to Learn and Grow.

GRACE CONNECTS

“Community is first of all a quality of the Heart, It grows from the spiritual knowledge that we are alive not for ourselves but for one another.”

—Bread for the Journey

GRACE GATHERS TOGETHER to celebrate our oneness in the Spirit, nurture relationships with God and with each other, and to engage in open and honest dialogue through intentional prayer, study and fellowship. As we communicate with each other we build relationships and enrich our life of faith, inviting others to join our journey with Christ as our guide.

Activities which foster Grace connections with parishioners, our community and visitors include:

- Spreading the word through the Weekly Messenger and Sunday Bulletin
- Grace Church Website, FaceBook, Instagram, and Parish Emails
- A New Portable Announcement Board in the Parish Hall
- Greeters and Name Tags
- Staff of Life loaves of bread for visitors
- Sunday Coffee Hour
- Fellowship activities
- Church Picnic
- Special Church Dinners
- Relationships with Community Churches
- Foyer Group Dinners
- Men of Grace
- Episcopal Church Women
- Community computer
- Shrine Mont Weekend
- Quilting Group



23% of our budget or **\$110,620**
enable Grace Connections.

GRACE CARES

“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock!”

—1 Peter 5:2-3

PASTORAL CARE involves “shepherding the flock” and Grace is blessed with caring clergy: Fr. Miles and Deacon Don as well as a cadre of dedicated and caring lay volunteers.

Shepherding involves guidance, strengthening the weak, consecrating the strong, and leading by example and friendship.

- Counseling and Crisis Care
- Hospital and Nursing Home Visits
- Pre-marital Counseling
- Taking Holy Communion to Shut-Ins
- Intercessors who each pray daily for our Clergy and assigned parishioners
- Staff who provide Care and Programing
- Support for Families in Crisis



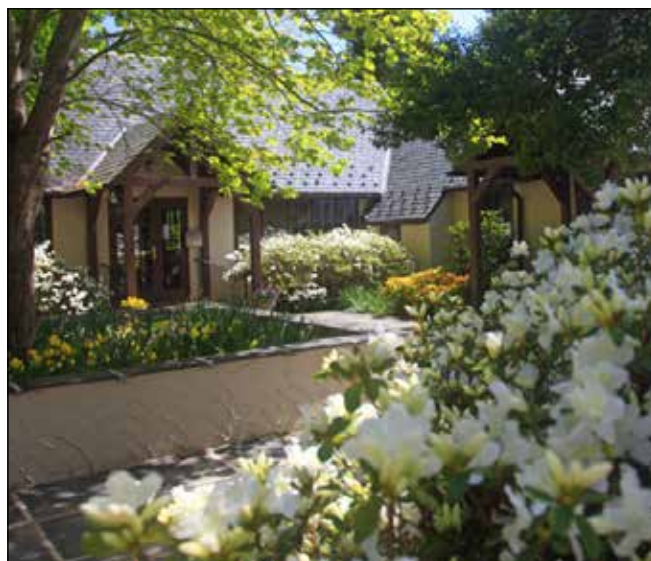
8% of our budget or **\$39,040**
goes to pastoral care. Your pledge makes it
possible for Grace to Care.

GRACE CONTINUES

Nurture. . .Enhance. . .Protect

GRACE has a sacred obligation to be good stewards of the beautiful historic Church, Parish Hall and grounds that have been given to us by past generations. We strive to be efficient, effective and environmentally sound in managing our buildings and financial and human resources so that Grace Continues for succeeding generations.

- Maintenance of Church and Parish Hall
- Sexton who cares for both buildings
- Furnishings and Equipment
- Cemetery Care
- Landscaping and Grounds Care
- Utilities, heating and cooling
- Spring and Fall Clean-Ups and Volunteer Gardening save budget dollars
- Stewardship Campaigns, Planned Giving, Investing, Budgeting, and Insurance provide financial stability



20% of our budget, or **\$97,151**
enables Grace to Continue.

STEWARDSHIP QUESTIONS

Are we expected to give to both the annual stewardship fund and the Opus 77 Capital Campaign this year?

Yes, we hope that you will prayerfully and generously support both campaigns.

Grace will continue to have normal operating expenses during the Capital Campaign period and our first priority is to pay our bills so that our ministry continues.

Opus 77 asks us to pledge above and beyond our annual gift to fund an extraordinary project—the historic restoration of our sanctuary and the purchase and installation of a new pipe organ.

Pledges to *Opus 77* may be paid over 3 to 5 years and are often paid from assets rather than income.

Doesn't Grace have a large endowment?

Grace has approximately \$1 million in funds invested with and managed by the Diocese of Virginia. The Lilly Foundation recommends that churches, for vitality and stability have an endowment of 3-5 times their annual budget. For Grace that means an endowment increase of at least \$300,000. In 2018, income from the endowment will contribute just 14% of our annual budget. A gift to the endowment may be made at any time. Often they are planned gifts from bequests or life-income gifts.

Are there ways to increase the tax advantages of a gift to Grace?

Absolutely. The U.S. government Tax-Code encourages charitable giving by offering generous deductions. Consider these suggestions:

STOCKS AND BONDS: Appreciated stocks, bonds and mutual funds may be used to pay your gift without incurring any capital gains tax on the appreciation. For information check with the Church Administrator or Treasurer.

PRE-PAYING 2019 PLEDGE IN 2018: Any amount of a 2019 gift paid in 2018 may be fully deductible in 2018. Payment must be received at Grace prior to Dec. 31, 2018 with a notation it's a pre-payment of your 2019 gift. Please consult your tax advisor for details and eligibility.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLL-OVER: : If you are 70 ½ or older you may transfer up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA

to a charity, without paying income tax on the distribution. Please consult your tax advisor for details and eligibility

I'm having trouble understanding proportionate giving and how much I should give.

Proportionate giving asks us to give a proportion of our income, in response to blessings and gifts we receive from God. The Bible suggests giving back 10% (a tithe). Episcopalians give an average 2.6% of their income to the Church and are encouraged to work toward a tithe. Try calculating what percentage of your income you gave to the Church in 2018. For 2019, try to increase that percentage. The following chart helps you see where you are now and how much a 1% increase will cost. Grace's operational costs will increase just to keep up with inflation. Please consider this reality as you decide the amount you can give. If circumstances change your ability to give, the amount can always be adjusted.

Annual Income	1%	2%	3%	5%	10%
\$30,000	\$300	\$600	\$900	\$1500	\$3000
\$50,000	\$500	\$1000	\$1500	\$2500	\$5000
\$75,000	\$750	\$1500	\$2250	\$3750	\$7500
\$100,000	\$1000	\$2000	\$3000	\$5000	\$10,000
\$150,000	\$1500	\$3000	\$4500	\$7500	\$15,000
\$200,000	\$2000	\$4000	\$6000	\$10,000	\$20,000
\$250,000	\$2500	\$5000	\$7500	\$12,500	\$25,000

Pray about your gift, remembering that God gives us all that we have and then *“Give Not Until It Hurts But Until It Feels Good.”*

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance. . . you will be enriched in every way for your great generosity which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.”

—Paul the Apostle

GRACE DREAMS

IF GRACE HAS 100% PLEDGE PARTICIPATION and many of us work toward proportional giving, some of these dreams will become realities!

- A growing congregation, happy in worship and service
- YouTube videos of Sunday services
- Enhanced outreach to families
- Expanding the Food Closet
- More programs for children, youth and adults
- Increased support to local charities
- More evening services
- Expanded community use of the parish hall, such as After School tutoring and other possibilities
- Expanded music programming
- Grace community concert series
- Outreach to Westminster-Canterbury, the Colonnades and other Senior Living Communities and Nursing Homes
- A parish history display, parish author's book display, and art displays in the Parish Hall
- Underground irrigation system
- Sacred spaces within our church grounds--labyrinth, or more garden sitting



*“For where your treasure is, there
your heart will be also.”*

—Matthew 6:19-21