What is Stewardship?

and other frequently asked questions

What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is caring for the gifts God has given us. One practical way we live into this calling is supporting our church with our money.

What is a pledge?

A pledge is a financial promise to support the mission and ministry of Saint Paul's during the upcoming calendar year.

Can I change my pledge mid-year?

Yes. A pledge is non-binding and can be updated anytime during the year. To make a change, just contact the church office.

How do I pledge?

You can pledge online at **saintpaulswaco.org/stewardship2027**, scan the QR code to the right, or return a pledge card by dropping it in the offering plate, mailing it, or bringing it by the office.

How much should I pledge?

Your pledge is a prayerful decision between you, your household, and God. Whatever the amount, what matters most is finding a way to practice stewardship that feels faithful to you.

How do I fulfill my pledge?

You can give online through Realm, our giving portal, drop a check in the offering plate, mail a check to the office, or set up automatic bank drafts (taken on the fifteenth of each month). Bank drafts avoid transaction fees. To set them up, contact Iona Easterwood or fill out the back of your pledge card.

Many families give weekly, monthly, or quarterly, but a single payment anytime during the year works too.

How will I know how much I've given?

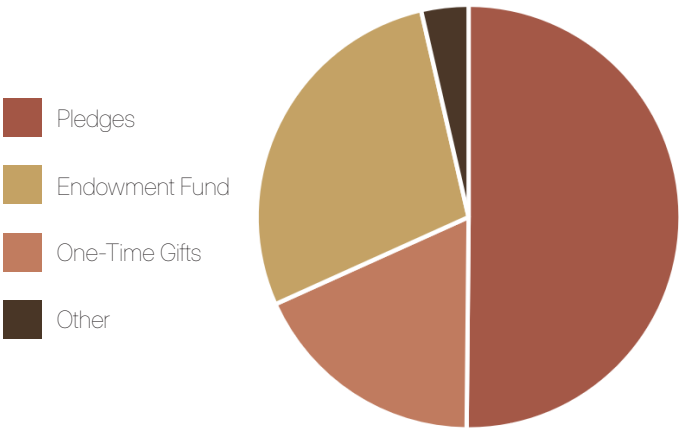
We'll send quarterly giving updates by email or mail, and you can check your balance anytime in Realm. At year-end, we'll send a receipt of your tax-deductible contributions for your records.

Is my pledge confidential?

Yes. Only the Rector, Accountant, and Director of Development can see your gift amount, for record-keeping and accounting. For thank-you notes and follow-up, the vestry and stewardship committee may see the names of pledging families, but never the amounts.

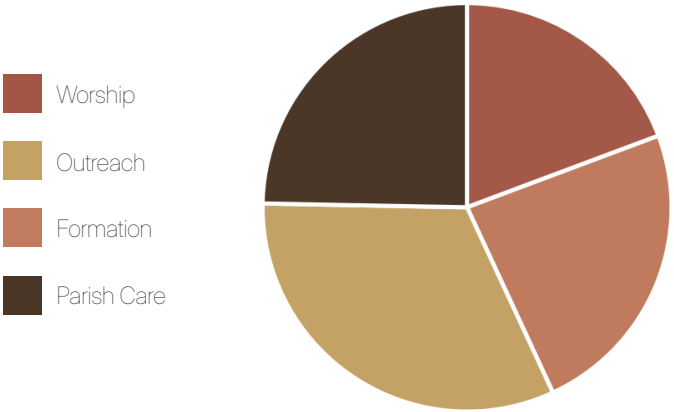
Where does Saint Paul's income come from?

Our income comes from several sources: yearly endowment distributions, gifts from funds like the Genovese and Badger Ranch funds, and pledges and donations from parishioners. Pledges currently fund 50% of our budget. To grow our budget, we need to grow both the number and size of pledges, with a goal of reaching at least an 80% parishioner-funded budget within the next few years. Signing a pledge card helps us get there.



Where does my money go?

Our expenses fall across four main areas. Worship supports our regular Sunday services and special services. Outreach funds projects like our Church Under the Bridge Thanksgiving and food donations to West Avenue Elementary School. Formation covers materials and classes for our small groups and Sunday School. Parish Care includes ministries like Lay Eucharistic Visitors and parish gatherings.



Who do I contact with questions?

Our Rector, Sam, and our Director of Development, Sarah Martin, are always happy to talk about Stewardship and pledging with you. For questions about setting up giving or fulfilling your pledge, our Accountant, Iona, can also help.

The Rev. Samantha R.E. Smith, Rector
samantha@saintpaulswaco.org

Sarah Martin, Director of Communications & Development
sarahm@saintpaulswaco.org

Iona Easterwood, Accountant
iona@saintpaulswaco.org