



Feeding Hearts, Minds, Bodies and Souls

Narrative Budget 2020

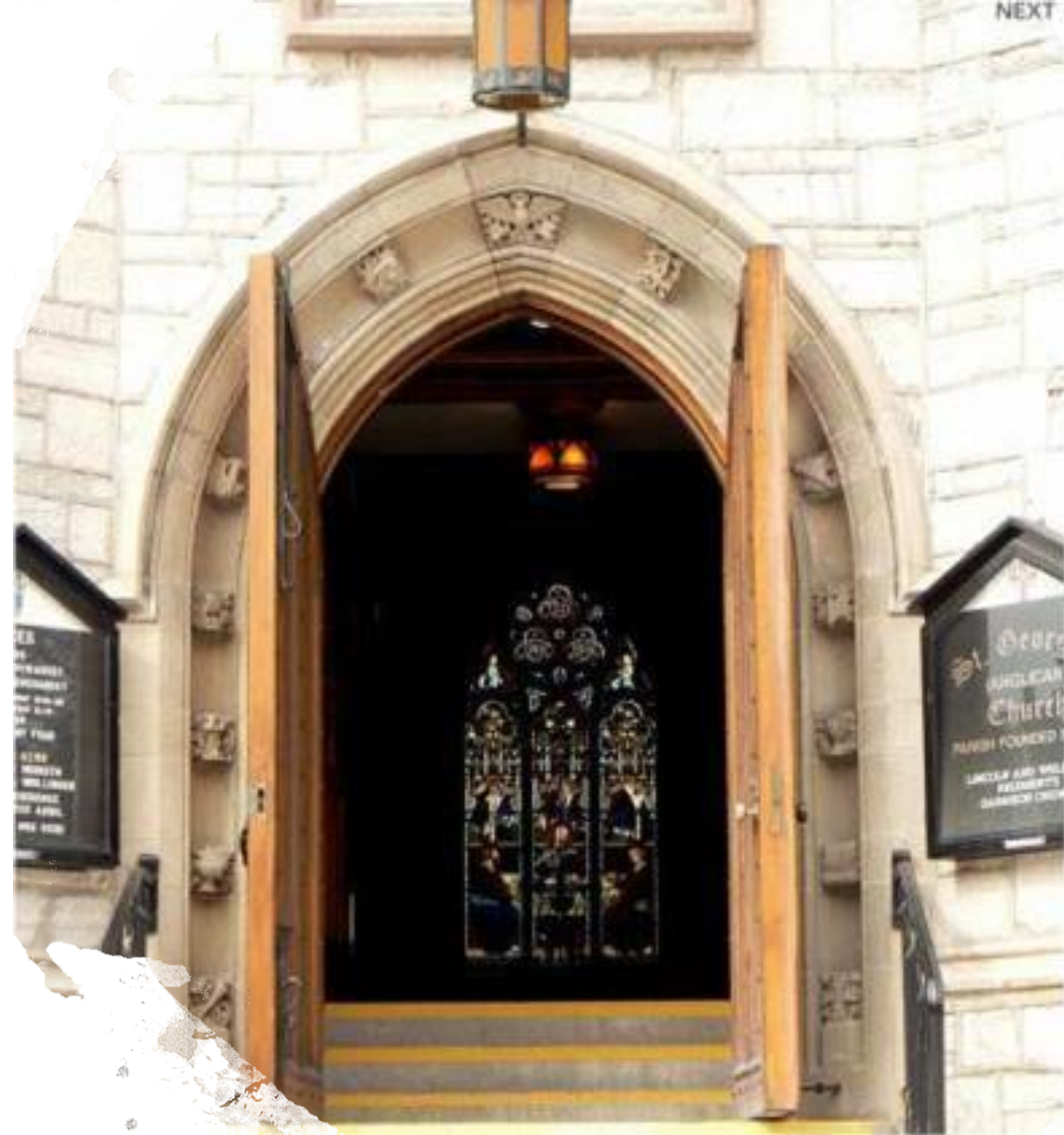
Food & A Faith-Filled Future

"And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward." (Matthew 10:42)

I believe in the future of St. George's. In a world where church membership is declining, I nonetheless look at our beloved church and am filled with hope for our future.

I feel this sense of hope for one simple reason: every single day, this faith community opens its doors and people of all ages and stages are fed. We feed people physically, emotionally and spiritually. As we prepare breakfasts, community dinners and neighbourhood barbeques; as we offer worship, studies and choirs; as this place is alive with prayer, music and friendship; we get to learn once again that to allow our gifts to be a blessing to others is to find ourselves richly and generously blessed. Jesus used bread to communicate his identity as God's loving presence; whenever he really wanted to tell people something, he showed up just in time to eat.

St. George's has a long and faith-filled history of feeding people, right in the heart of St. Catharines. The spiritual needs in our world today, not to mention the material needs of those living in poverty in our city, are growing exponentially. God calling us as a faith community—clearly and urgently—to continue to find in our many gifts the capacity to respond, to offer, and to make a real difference in the lives of others.



It matters more than ever that we provide for our work today and lay the strongest possible foundation for the future into which God is calling us. In order to do this, the leadership of St. George's is asking you to prayerfully consider three things:

- 1) **Your Offering of Time, Talent and Treasure** to the every day work of St. George's. We need each household to consider how they can faithfully, consistently and generously contribute to our shared life in faith.
- 2) **"Home for Hope" Building Fund** – we have major renovations in the next couple of years at St. George's. If you are able to contribute financial resources to this work, you can do so knowing that you are caring for a building that supports incredible outreach, welcoming worship, and a vital and life-giving community.
- 3) **Legacy Gift** – We have this Home for Hope because God's goodness was made known in the generosity of past generations. We pray that those currently supporting our church will consider the many available options for leaving a legacy gift which will keep this ministry alive and thriving indefinitely.

I want to end with a personal word. I am not only the rector of St. George's. I and my family are members of this congregation. We serve here with grateful hearts, and our souls and spirits are fed by the blessings of this community. I look forward to considering my own gifts to our church in the coming year and pray that you, too, will receive this invitation with a similar spirit of gratitude.

- -Revered Martha



Food as our Theme

"For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." (John 6:33)

2019 has been an extremely busy and productive year at St George's, and 2020 looks to be equally exciting and hope-filled. Our building has been bustling with activity:

- some programs are new and designed to fill the growing needs of our church family and those in need in our city
- and others, like our Breakfast Program, tried and tested over many years.

Our theme for our Narrative Budget this year was inspired by Martha's recent publication, *The Living Diet*, which was launched to great acclaim last spring. Food has been always been a theme in our faith, our friendship and our service. We eat together and we are blessed. We eat together, and God's love enables us to be a blessing to others!

-St. George's Joyful Giving Committee



Food for Children and Youth

"Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation." (1 Peter 2:2)

We have been blessed for many years now in seeing our children and youth programs growing and flourishing.

In addition to our regular Church School programs and Nursery for our children and young people, PA Day programming and Vacation Bible School will continue to provide an opportunity for many of our young people, both connected to St George's and in the wider community, to learn more about their faith, how that faith can be lived out, and to develop friendships that can last a lifetime.

"There is an energy and enthusiasm from the youth that is very infectious" - Gary



Food for Faith

But seek first God's kingdom and righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Matthew 6:33)

Worship has always been at the heart of the St George's experience, and in addition to the still well-attended regular Sunday offerings, our Advent Café service has really taken off in its new home in the Bears' Den (or, in the summer, on the front lawn of the church). This means that we have many leaders, of all ages, taking part in worship, and across our different services, we offer a full range of prayer, music, and sermons styles!

- Revive: Our leaders are growing as spiritual leaders. This pilot program was offered to 12 leaders this past year (to rave reviews) and a new group is poised to begin this fall.

- Anglicanism 101 / Christian Basics / Adult Bible Study: We have been developing a variety of ways for new, and seasoned, Christians to grow in, and learn about, their faith.

- Confirmation: Offered to both youth and adult cohorts seeking to deepen their connection with our Church in the modern world. In the coming year, the intent is to deepen the connection between long-standing parishioners and our newer adherents so that the faith of those who have long shared this place can be better shared with our newer members.





Food for Congregational Growth

St George's is fortunate to have many opportunities to welcome new members and to share our Holy Space with those who are seeking shelter from the crazy world they inhabit.

Welcoming: Many congregations assert that they are welcoming to all, but St George's has worked very hard at making this assertion a reality. Our congregation has taken to heart the message that "All Are Welcome" and many of our newer members have told us that it was the warm and genuine welcome that they received when they first showed up at St George's that kept them coming back.

- New Journeys: To that end, we have been developing a new program to introduce new people to our community and invite them to this spiritual journey with us.
- STEP Program: In partnership with the RPC Foundation, we have opened a youth support centre to help building positive relationships and offer hope to our community. Our welcome goes far beyond just the walls of our church!
- Community Dinners: And what better way to really share God's welcome than to break bread together? Once a month, April to October, we offer a free and healthy community dinner for all.
- On-line presence – Services are now live-streamed on Facebook allowing greater access to the church for the larger community

Food for Making Joyful Music

"Sing a new song unto the Lord!" – Psalm 96

St George's has always loved to lift a joyful song to God! John Butler's leadership has blessed us for many years, with the senior choir's musical gifts particularly shining at times of Christian festival. Because of some generous legacy gifts, we have also developed new music programs to make sure we are sharing this gift with our younger generations:

Advent Café has always enjoyed a rich variety of talent on Wednesdays. This coming year, you can expect to hear more of our youthful talent offering leadership regularly.

· A Christmas Musical set in downtown St Catharines will be offered in December. Written and directed by our very creative Mari Schantz, the participants will be drawn from all ages of our congregation, including the members of The George Express who have delighted us for a number of years. And, the Spring Musical will return in 2020 with a slight twist on former offerings but equally entertaining and inspiring.

"I feel very strongly that the Youth Choir is a huge asset to St. George's. I am tremendously impressed ...Let us value our youth and let them know we appreciate them." - Betty





Food for the Oldest Church with the Youngest Ideas

It is clear to all of us at St. George's that this church is alive with God's blessings and looking toward a faith-filled future, loving and serving God in St. Catharines.

Our building, located in the heart of our city, has been a big part of how we receive and share God's love.

Like all buildings, however, ours needs ongoing maintenance to remain safe, serviceable and beautiful.


The 'Home for Hope' Building Fund

Upcoming building maintenance projects which will require our support:

- The painting of all exterior woodwork (2020 – 2021) at an expected cost of \$75,000 (cost includes scaffolding for the project).
- The replacing of the eaves troughs on the church building (2020 – 2021) at an expected cost of \$75-\$100,000.
- The removal and replacement of all nine heating and cooling units throughout the church buildings (2023 –2024) at an expected cost of \$150,000.

Please prayerfully consider making an additional pledge this year to the Building Fund. If all church families would pledge the equivalent of **one** year's offerings over the next **five** years to this fund, we would be able to arrange the structural work that is needed to preserve our Home for Hope. One-time over-and-above gifts are always welcome!





A Legacy Gift: Hope for our Future

“They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.” (Timothy 6:18-19)

We are recipients of the legacy gifts of past generations, which have built and supported this church for almost 230 years.

You can be part of creating a legacy of faith and hope for future generations.

Our Finance Committee has identified Four Pillars for St. George’s future: Leadership, Outreach, Music and Community, and has estimated the need to add approximately \$2.5 million to our endowments for coming years. This will provide for our future generations, for the maintenance and care of this building, which is such an exquisite and welcoming venue for worship, teaching, healing, nourishing and sheltering, and for St. George’s vital ministry in the heart of St. Catharines. We are grateful to report that almost \$600 000 has already been received towards these pillars.

Please prayerfully consider the **Legacy Giving booklet** included in the Relay Package. (It is also available through our office and online). You can then make an appointment through our office to discuss how you can plan to make your gift for our church’s future.

Food for Thought...

Please prayerfully consider YOUR part

"Whoever refreshes others will be refreshed!" (Proverbs 11:25)

Every household is asked to:

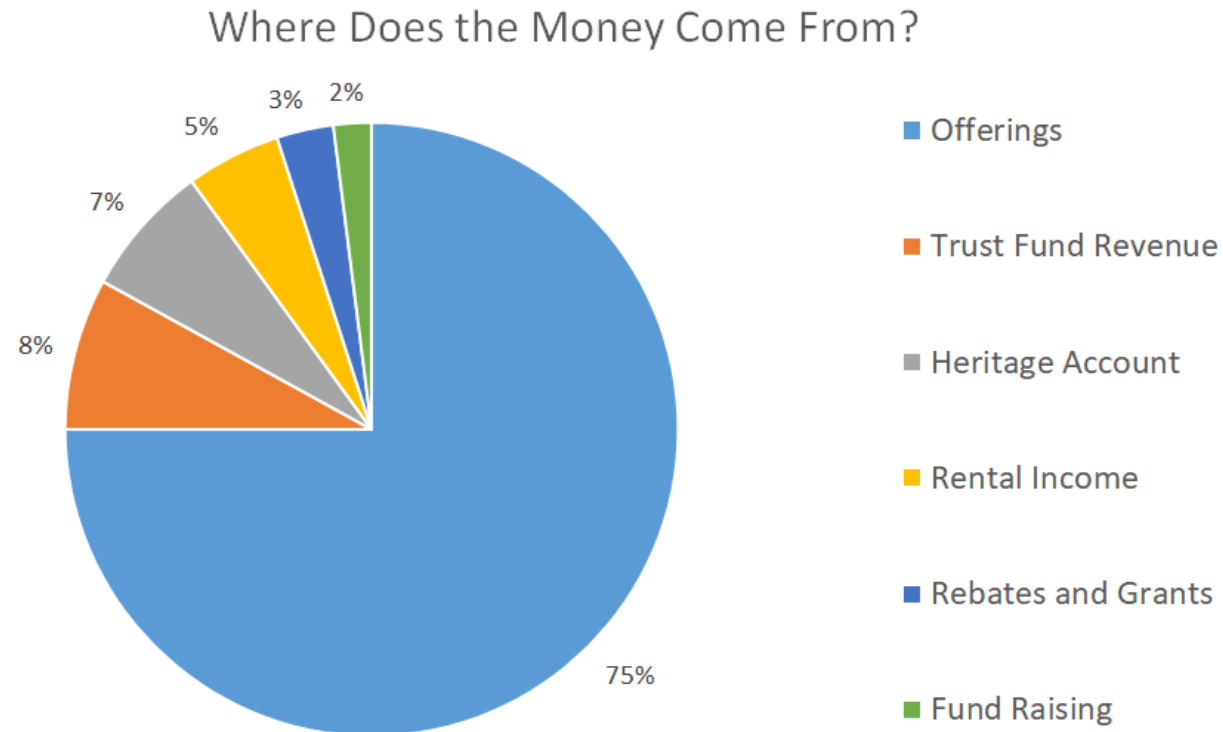
- Assess their annual income.
- Decide what percentage of that income God is asking them to give to the church and its ministries.
- The Biblical tithe is 10%; many households find that giving 5% of their money to the life of the church is an appropriate goal.
- Whatever percentage you choose, be faithful in giving. Our pre-authorized giving program allows your gift to come out of your bank account automatically once a month.

St. George's and all who are blessed by its ministries are glad for your generosity and pray that your offering brings you joy!

"St. George's is a different sort of church. Not many places have an outreach program that makes such a big impact. We can see where our money is going and what it is doing." - Kim



Food for Joyful Giving



At St. George's, we are blessed with sources of income that complement our regular offerings. However, our endowments have restrictions on how they may be used and would be depleted rapidly if we relied upon them to support our current ministry.

We as a church family must provide hope for today and for future generations by being faithful in supporting our ministry through our own financial gifts.

Explanation of Terms

St. George's is blessed with several different funds which help to finance our ministry. Occasionally, this creates some confusion, as parishioners question which money may be accessed for certain purposes. The guide below explains our primary giving streams:

Foundation Fund – Established in 2008, the principal held in this trust fund cannot be spent. Income generated by this principal is intended to fund new ministry initiatives which develop and expand the faith offering of St. George's.

Endowment Fund – These are the legacy gifts with which former generations of St. George's parishioners have blessed us. Please see the Legacy Giving booklet included in the Relay Package for information on planning your own perpetual gift.

Heritage Fund – This money is used for two main purposes:

As a line of credit to St. George's, covering expenses when income is reduced and being replenished when income is abundant. It is our goal as a congregation to reduce our use of the Heritage Fund for regular operations, as this is not a sustainable long-term practice.

As part of our annual operational budget to pay for building maintenance projects.

Offerings – This is the most important portion of the St. George's budget, and is the direct reflection of the priorities, health and commitment of our congregation. Regular, proportional gifts, given either through pre-authorized giving or in offering envelopes, sustain our church community.

Fundraising – Activities such as the Christmas Bazaar, Golf Day, Trivia Night and the Spring Frolic, which generate additional revenue for the church.

A Glimpse into the Year's Joyful Giving Package

Joyful Giving Reley

The Instructions

*Please leave this sheet in the package

1. Remove the envelope with your name and read the contents.
(A Narrative Budget is provided for your review. Please leave it in the package for the next household)
2. Complete the enclose Intention Form
3. Place the completed Intention Form into the return envelope and seal it
4. Place the sealed envelope back into the package OR place it on the collection plate before **November 19th**
5. Deliver the package to the next household on the list
 - a. Make sure to **hand the package directly to the home owner (Do not leave in mailbox!)**
 - b. If you are unable to contact the next household within 24 hours, move to the next name on the list
 - c. Once the package has been handed off, **inform your Route Manager**
6. If you are unable to deliver the package yourself, inform your Route Manager so they can move it forward
7. If you are the final household, let your Route Manager know so they can pick up the package
8. If you have questions, call your Route Manager:

a. Name: _____

b. Number: _____

St. George's Stewardship Intention – Time & Talent

Name(s): _____ Telephone: (h) _____

E-Mail: _____ (mobile) _____

Yes, in the name of Jesus Christ and to the Glory of God, I/we intend to support the ministries and programs of St. George's Church in 2019.

Groups, Time & Talent: ☐ No Change (from last year)

If you are interested in receiving information about or currently involved in any of the following areas, please insert your name in the appropriate column and the coordinator will contact you. For more information see the Glossary of Terms on the back.

Some of the areas may require some training and in addition some areas may require a police check.

Groups & Activities	Currently Belong	Wish Information	Worship Opportunities	Currently Belong	Wish Information
Bishop Beattie			Lay Reader		
Knolly Corner			Servier		
Bridge			Communion Chalice Bearer		
Prayer Sheet			Scripture reader		
Dinner Club			Sidesperson		
TAQ			Greeter		
A.C.W. Dorcas			Advent Cate – Hospitality		
Ladies Guild			Advent Cate – Reader		
Bereavement			Advent Cate – Music		
Parents Group			Advent Cate – Bread baker		
Prayer Chain			Advent Cate – Presider		
Pastoral Visits			Prayer Disciples		
Soup Sunday			Altar Guild		
Coffee Hour			Courting Team		
Community Dinners			Chimes		
Funeral Receptions			Senior Choir		
Community Breakfast Program			Special Services Choir		
Christmas Bazaar			Krebel Choral Choir		
Neighborhood BBQ			Sound System		
Gift Tournament			Video Services		
Spring Frolic			Tuesday Bible Study		
Baby Shower Community Care					
Property Maintenance					
Gardening					
Office Help					
Communication					
Trunk Night					
Scott Street Soup					
Stewardship Committee					

Is there an additional group or activity which would interest you? _____

You may return your Stewardship Intention Form in the sealed envelope by placing it in the package, returning it by mail, or placing it on the offering plate at worship by November 19, 2018.

St. George's Stewardship Intention

Name(s): _____ Telephone: (h) _____

Address: _____ (mobile) _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

E-mail: _____

My/Our Gift of Money: I/we intend to financially support the ministries and programs of St. George's Church in 2019. My/our Gift for 2019 will be \$ _____ ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Yearly

I/we will pledge an additional \$ _____ over _____ years to the Building Fund.

☐ Continue with Preauthorized Giving (PAG) ☐ Start Preauthorized Giving (PAG) (recommended)

☐ Continue with envelopes ☐ Would like envelopes

Coming Soon to Your Door!

- Please read and follow the instruction sheet.
- Prayerfully consider your gifts of Time and Talent.
- Prayerfully consider your financial gifts.
- Return your completed forms to the church either by placing it in a sealed envelope in the package or by placing it on the offering plate.
- Ensure that the Joyful Giving Package goes to the next parishioner on the list.



"For a very long time, I was searching for a church that I could call home. I was looking for a church that was welcoming but, most importantly "walked the walk" with people living in poverty. A friend suggested I give St. George's a try. Without hesitation, I can honestly say that I have found a home. Starting from my first visit to this day, I have been overwhelmed with the welcome I received the very first Sunday and every Sunday following; the numerous initiatives I could participate in to look after ALL of God's children; and the amazing services and sense of community that I feel every time I walk into the church. I cannot thank all of you enough for filling my heart, soul and mind with love and compassion." – Deb





"Ever since I started coming here, I've felt right at home. It's very welcoming and I really like the outreach to the community." – Linda



"We have to make sure there is a future for St. George's, not just a past." - Paul