



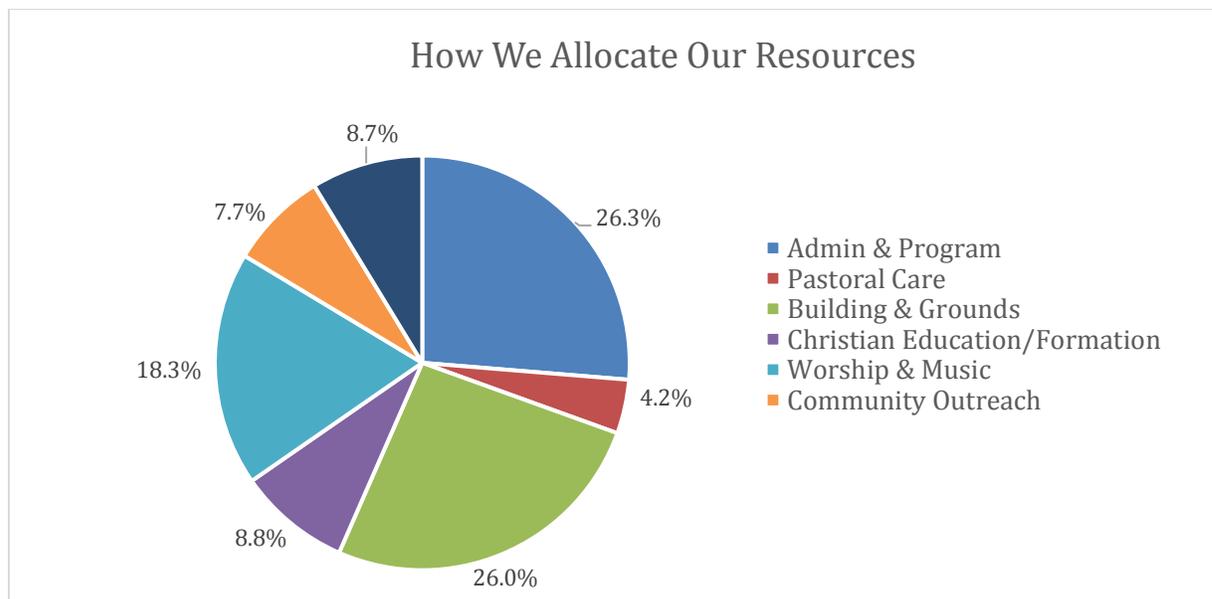
September 25, 2017

Dear fellow parishioners:

In our rector's recent letter to the parish, Susan set forth three key themes for us to consider as we evaluate our individual participation in annual stewardship — *grace, gratitude and generosity*. These themes are appropriate as we consider how our contributions have the power to sustain and transform people's lives in our parish community and the world around us.

As your wardens, we would like to share how we take the gifts of our current and past parishioners and invest them prudently to advance our mission, grow the parish and continue to perform good works as part of God's mission. The clergy, staff and lay leadership of the parish all contribute to strong financial oversight and controls, honoring the gifts of the current parish expressed in pledges and other offerings, as well as the gifts of current and past parishioners expressed in our endowment.

The chart below shows our current 2017 allocation of St. John's \$871,000 budget. Funding this budget is a combination of pledges (\$400,000); gifts, events and other income (\$138,000); and funds drawn from the endowment (\$333,000). This means that we are spending about 6 percent of our endowment's value of \$5.7 million, which is more than the recommended spending of 4 percent or less for long-term church endowments.



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As you can see, the three largest components of our budget are buildings and grounds, parish administration, and worship and music. Taken together with our annual diocesan contribution, these components represent about 80 percent of total expenses, meaning that the majority of our resources fund the fixed costs of keeping the church running. The remaining 20 percent supports pastoral care, outreach and education – the programs and services that extend beyond our walls and touch people beyond Sunday worship.

To fulfill our mission and increase our ministry in both our parish and the surrounding community, we aspire to expand these programs and services that extend our experience with God to others, building bridges to our community and the broader world. The gifts of our parishioners both sustain us and help us to grow collectively. It is our hope that these gifts will grow and enable us to progress toward that aspiration, and that we respond to God's grace with gratitude and generosity as a deeply personal act of faith during our annual appeal this fall.

As wardens, on behalf of our lay leadership, we thank you for reading this letter, thinking about its message, and considering how you can participate meaningfully in this year's appeal – to nurture and grow our parish today and for future generations.

Yours in Christ,

Wes Winterbottom  
Warden

Buffy Ineson  
Warden