



CHRIST CHURCH
EASTON

— ✦ 2027 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN ✦ —

ONE BODY MANY GIFTS



TIME
THE GIFT OF
OUR LIVES



TALENT
THE GIFTS GOD HAS
ENTRUSTED TO US



TREASURE
WHAT WE POSSESS AND
FREELY OFFER

— ✦ *Prayerfully* make your commitment for 2027! ✦ —



ONE BODY MANY GIFTS

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

Greetings and Blessings of the Season!

This is the time of year that we invite you to begin or renew your participation in the Christ Church, Easton 2027 Stewardship Plan for the benefit of our parish and community. Christians recognize that all we have is given to us from God, Our Creator. Additionally, we all have worked hard and sacrificed for what we have to complement the gift of bounty from God. I was inspired by my father's example that the weekly offertory collection on Sunday service was a way of saying "thank you" to God for all that God provides to us. I will never forget my father's conscientious decision to make sure that he gave to his church out of the moderate income. He worked extremely hard as a machinist to provide for his wife and four children. However, it was never a second thought to hold back in making his offering to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. He was a devout Christian. He inspired me to continue the same practice of "giving back"; I proudly and humbly followed in his footsteps.

Contributions of time, talent, and treasure by our parish members make possible the operation of our church and its services to the community. Treasure, in the form of financial pledges, makes up the largest source of funding for our parish. The success of this church lies in our hands. All pledges at this time of year allow us to plan for the 2027 church year.

For over 334 years Christ Church has been providing a place of worship and spiritual growth. The generous donations of parishioners over the years enable our mission.

"We believe the Holy Spirit is real and inspires us to be the light of Christ in our community as a reflection of God's love." We are all invited to take part, pledge our time, talents and treasures in the service of God for the good of the parish.

We are "One Body" in Jesus Christ, and we all have a part to play. We all have "Many Gifts" that we can share together. I have personally witnessed what can take place here and it is spiritually inspiring and uplifting. Together as a church here in Easton, we project an unmatched spiritual strength.

Thank you for giving prayerful thought about your participation and support for our Church and the positive impacts it will have for generations to come.

Treasurer and Stewardship Chair,

John Itell



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MINISTRY LIST

Christ Church Easton is an active parish whose members, staff, and clergy serve God, each other and the Easton Community

- We worship together each weekend with a variety of services that follow traditional and contemporary rites and music, in person and via Zoom.
- We have a mid-week Healing Service that is powerful and consoling.
- Through committees, parishioners help the clergy and vestry plan liturgy, organize music, manage finances, and steward investments.
- Volunteers complement paid staff and contractors to maintain our beautiful grounds and buildings.
- We offer a devoted and dynamic Youth Group, that champions an annual mission trip.
- Clergy and parishioners lead Bible Studies and educational studies that deepen faith through reading and discussion.
- Our thriving women's group meets monthly in faith and fellowship.
- Parishioners organize and staff our beautiful library of more than 1,000 books.
- Parishioner knitters make shawls for the Prayer Shawl Ministry.
- We aid those who are shut-ins and sick through a Meals Ministry and visits by Lay Eucharist Ministers.
- Volunteer Stephens Ministers, after 50 hours of training, support parishioners one-on-one in times of need.
- Our many Outreach Ministries reflect the final words of each service "to go and serve the Lord and one another" in Easton and across the world.
- We help build houses for Habitat of Humanity.
- Members provide staff and make meals for the Talbot Interfaith Shelter.
- More than 100 volunteers participate each Fall by preparing crabcakes and selling food at the Waterfowl Festival, that in turn raises funds to be distributed in the Community.

We make a commitment to strengthen our faith in prayer and service. Your pledges of time, talent and treasure is an offering to God to allow us to continue our good works here at Christ Church Easton.



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HOW OUR RESOURCES ARE APPLIED

Category	Actual		Budget	
	2025	%	2026	%
Worship	\$129,637	11.2	\$145,663	11.5
Outreach & Evangelism	177,561	15.4	179,552	14.1
Education & Fellowship	34,149	3.0	45,755	3.6
Buildings & Grounds	166,214	14.3	161,050	12.8
Office	61,060	5.3	54,482	4.4
Clergy Salaries & Benefits	351,244	30.4	403,952	32.0
Lay Salaries & Benefits	235,557	20.4	272,713	21.6
Total Expenses	\$1,155,422	100.0	\$1,263,167	100.0



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2026 PLEDGED GIVING LADDER

Dollars	Donors
\$7,500-\$10,000+	18
\$4,000-\$7,499	22
\$2,500-\$3,999	22
\$1,500-\$2,499	29
\$500-\$1,449	30
\$1-\$499	4
Total	125

In prayerful thought, we invite you to join the parish offerings to God.

Our Vision is to be a Parish that:

Joyfully proclaims the Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit
in companionship with Christ and each other.

Make disciples of Christ through lifelong Christian education.

Is a loving family in Christ.

Has a call-driven ministry that transforms people's lives.

Has passionate servant leaders effectively supporting all we do.



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REFLECTIVE PRAYERS

- Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to thee, so guide our minds, so fill our imagination, so control our wills, that we may be wholly thine, utterly dedicated unto thee; and then use us, we pray thee, as thou wilt, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. (BCP Collect)
- *Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life and bring us all to be one heart and mind within your holy Church: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP -page 817)*
- Almighty God, we thank you for the gifts You have given us: in our lives, our loved ones, all that we have and all that we are. Most of all, we thank you for Jesus, your Son and our redeemer, who came among us to show us the way to eternal life. Jesus was the perfect steward of your gifts, showing that complete trust in You is necessary, and that giving of self is a most important part of following Him. May the offerings of our time, our talents, and our material resources be made in the same spirit of sacrifice that Jesus taught us by His life and death for us. Amen. (Thomas Merton)
- *O God, you have called us to be workers together with you: Make us now of one heart and mind to pray and work and give for the building and strengthening of your church at home and abroad. Bless our annual campaign and stir up the wills of all our people to do according to their ability as good stewards in your service. Amen. (Washington Diocese)*
- Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make this earthly pilgrimage with us. So be swift to love, make haste to do kindness... Shower abundant hospitality on friend and stranger – walk in justice, that you may follow the path of mercy and love.



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Why does this matter? God has blessed each of us with many gifts. We are called to follow Jesus' teachings by giving generously, loving sacrificially, and caring for those in need. As we grow in faith throughout our earthly journey, we trust that Jesus will welcome us into his heavenly kingdom. Are we worthy? Yes – he says we are.

Daily we remind ourselves to Love and Serve the Lord. One of our duties is to share our time, talents, and treasures in support of the mission of our church. The hope is that we all support our church for its ongoing good ministries and its future success. It's not the responsibility of a few but all of us together hand-in-hand.

As you may know, we only have 35% parishioner participation through our annual pledging. As for the total dollar pledges of \$630,000 plus non-pledged donations of \$170,000, we are still asking for more parishioner participation. Our total goal should be \$1,000,000! Our annual budget is approximately \$1,250,000. The differential is covered by our annual allowable draw on investments of 5%. Without our joint support this is not a sustainable model and we should not keep drawing on investments greater than 4-5%. Our goal is to have a 70% pledging participation rate for 2027.

We are blessed to have three outstanding clergy for our church, and their days are packed serving the needs of our parish. Their direct time spent on liturgical and pastoral care needs is 80% of their time! With three clergy we are positioned to grow our church and welcome new members.

What difference does it make to prayerfully commit your financial support? We believe it matters that we all give something. Our gifts are pleasing to God, and we can continue the good works that he has called us to do. Let's do this together!

We are "One Body" in Christ, and we are all blessed with "Many Gifts" to share in our church.

Thank you for your support!

Blessings,

The Stewardship Committee – Paul Cox, Patti Brennan, Gerri Leder and John Itell



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