

October 5, 2025

Dear Siblings in Christ,

"Step Out in Prophetic Faith During Troubling Times"

Two years ago, St. Michael's named three core values that guide our life together: **welcome, action, and spiritual grounding**. As we've reflected on our history, we've come to believe these values have been shaping us for decades — even before we had the words for them.

This fall, we're inviting you to take a meaningful step into that mission by making a pledge. If you've never pledged before, now is the time. Pledging is a decision to commit to a goal of giving a portion of our resources and sticking to it. A pledge is disciplined giving, a commitment with a purpose. Those who pledge may receive offering envelopes by which they can give their donation spaced out over the year. You can also set up an automatic gift with your credit card, or through ACH on our website.

If you have questions about pledging, we invite you to reach out to us. Speak to a member of the Stewardship team at the table before or after worship. Set up a time to talk with either one of us.

We know budgets are tight. That's exactly why pledging matters. A pledge is more than a financial gift. It's a decision to invest in what you believe in. It's a way to say, "This community matters. These values matter. I want to be part of building something hopeful."

Your pledge supports worship that speaks to the soul, outreach that feeds and advocates with our neighbors, programs that nurture kids and families, and a space where everyone is welcome.

Even a small pledge makes a big impact. It helps us plan wisely, act boldly, and stay rooted in love. Talk with your family. Pray about it. Make giving a part of your spiritual practice.

Ingathering Sunday is November 1, 2025 — All Saints Sunday. We invite you to join the whole vestry, and the Stewardship committee in making your pledge for St. Michael's.

Join us in making a prophetic act of faith. Let's invest in our values and build the kind of community the world needs right now.

Yours in Christ's Love,

Cathy Bailey, Stewardship Chair

The Rev. Mike Angell, Rector

MH AZM+

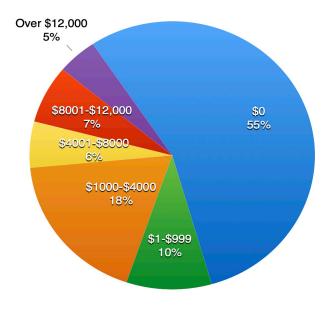
Join us Sunday September 22 at 10:15am for a forum on finances.

VISUAL BUDGET: WHAT DOES PLEDGING LOOK LIKE?

2025 Pledge Participation

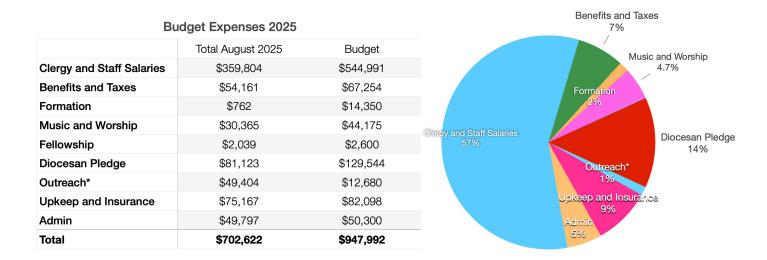
\$0	267
\$1-\$999	47
\$1000-\$4000	89
\$4001-\$8000	27
\$8001-\$12,000	34
Over \$12,000	22
Total Households	486

Average Pledge: \$3234



Every pledge counts. We would like to see every member make a pledge. St. Michael's is an economically diverse parish, and we are grateful for generosity at all levels. Almost ten percent of our members pledge between \$1 and \$999. We also know that for some of our members, increasing their annual gift would not create a financial hardship. We encourage you, if you are able, to reach the "next level" in your annual gift to the church. If even half of the people who regularly worshiped with us became pledgers, we would not only close our budget gap, we would have more resources for ministry and outreach than we've ever hard.

VISUAL BUDGET: WHAT ARE THE CHURCH'S OPERATING EXPENSES?



The generosity of our members accounts for 9/10ths of our budget. We do not receive money from the wider church. Rather, we contribute over \$125,000 annually to the diocese and the Episcopal Church. We aim for financial transparency at St. Michael's. We projected a modest deficit in our budget this year, but with increased staffing and programming, the deficit for 2026 looks significant. We invite you to make a pledge today.