



# Christ's Church! Renewal!

Stewardship 2024



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## A Letter from the Stewardship Chair,

Jon and I are honored to lead Christ's Church's joyful stewardship journey to **Renewal** this year. Christ's Church is our family's spiritual home and faith community. Our two children are in confirmation class and active in choir, scouts and the acolyte program, and we are committed to helping our church thrive.



Our theme of **Renewal** resonates deeply with our faith. I think of Saul in the Book of Acts, who was trapped in a cycle of negativity before hearing the voice of Jesus while on a journey. After this encounter, he is renamed Paul and charged with spreading the loving news of the Gospel. Like Paul's spiritual awakening, **Renewal** is part of our Christian identity.

Renewal allows us to find our authentic selves. It allows our spirits to shine as we become more present in our daily lives, fully embracing each moment with a sense of gratitude and purpose. It's about being spontaneous and responsive to the needs of our congregation, community and world.

In this spirit of **Renewal**, let us come together and inspire each other to be the best versions of ourselves. Together, we can harness a new energy for this vibrant community that reflects the love and grace of God. We invite you to join us in this journey to **Renewal** with a financial commitment in support of the good works of Christ's Church Rye.

- Nicole Ball, Stewardship Chair



## Dear Christ's Church Rye Community,

“The Holy Spirit moves at ground level.”  
We begin our 2024 Stewardship Campaign,  
“Renewal,” inspired by these words from our  
newly elected bishop, the Rt. Rev. Matthew Heyd.

Christ's Church celebrates the success of last  
year's capital campaign with renewed energy and  
creativity.



From Blue Skies summer camp and afterschool  
program, to robust adult classes and prayer groups, church school and youth  
groups, the relaunch of our local outreach efforts, all-parish fellowship, our  
extraordinary music program, and community partnerships including Boy  
Scouts, AA and of course the Christ's Church Nursery School, our church is  
bustling and busy nearly every day of the week, all year long.

The Holy Spirit is moving at ground level right here at the corner of Milton  
and Rectory. We are newly invested in our mission to grow spiritually, love  
actively, serve locally with a talented and hard-working staff and devoted lay  
leadership.

Please join us by making a pledge to support the operating budget of Christ's  
Church in 2024.

Our costs go up every single year and we depend on our members to pay for  
the church we love.

Please read on to learn more about stewardship and make your pledge by  
Dedication Sunday, November 19.

Thank you!  
Kate+



# RENEWAL

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St. Paul implores us: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds.”

The prophet Isaiah places these words in the mouth of the Lord: “I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”

To be a living, thriving church today means embracing renewal as something new springing forth from the reality of who we are.

**Renewal** is the focus of our community of faith in 2024.

**Renewal** is rooted in our tradition and teaching.

**Renewal** builds on the foundation established by leaders and benefactors throughout our long history.

We are a multi-generational 21st century parish alive to the opportunities and challenges of being church in this moment. Our beautiful 19th century buildings are in the process of being restored and reimagined to meet the needs of a modern congregation. We are being renewed as a safe, sacred, welcoming, and accessible house of prayer for all.

Renewal is a sign of life! We embody God’s call to renewal as we *grow spiritually, love actively, and serve locally.*



# REAL

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In our increasingly virtual world, Christ's Church celebrates what is REAL. Community is number one. It is the sure foundation on which we build the future of our church.



# NEW

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The NEW at Christ's Church is our leaning out to build community across boundaries through worship and programs of formation for all ages. Our outreach has grown beyond local financial grants to provide over 60 hours per week of space and staffing, free of charge, to empower community partnerships!



# Financial

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## Our Expenses:

We spend around 60% of our budget on our staff and programs, which make Christ's Church the vibrant and wonderful place it is. About 30% goes to the operation of our facilities, including cleaning, repairs, insurance and utilities. 13% is our apportioned share to the Diocese. The bottom line is that most of our expenses directly support our community and services.



## Our Budget:

Our total expected budget for 2024 is around \$1.4 million, which is up about 15% due to inflation and staff.

## Our Revenue:

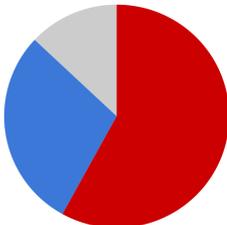
We expect \$275 K of non-pledge income, which includes the Nursery School, Endowment Draw, Christmas Tree Sale and other income. **80% of our budget comes from annual parishioner contributions.** Presently, 20 families represent 53% of the giving.

## Our Goal:

Annual Stewardship is the lifeblood of our church. Our goal this year is \$1,125,000, which is an increase of 15% over last year.

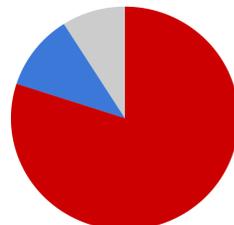
### What Expenses Comprise Our Annual Budget?

- Investment in our People
- Operation of Facility
- Assessment



### How Do We Fund The Annual Budget?

- Parishoner Contributions
- CCNS Contribution
- Endowment/Other



# Q&A

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## ***What is stewardship?***

Stewardship is the responsible, joyful use of God's gifts for God's purpose. It refers to the time we spend and the gifts we give to ensure the future vitality of God's mission at Christ's Church. Stewardship is a spiritual practice for each individual and critically important to our church's well-being.

## ***What is a pledge? Who is asked to pledge?***

A pledge is your promise of financial commitment to Christ's Church for the coming year. Everyone who regularly attends or considers themselves a member of Christ's Church is asked to pledge.

## ***Why is pledging important?***

Your pledge allows us to budget responsibly. Our operating budget is almost entirely fixed costs, so your pledge is essential when planning for the coming year.

## ***How much should I pledge?***

If you are new to pledging, consider a percentage of 2% or 3 % of your family income. If you've been pledging the same amount for years, please consider an increase of 15% as our operating costs rise each year.

THANK YOU for your faithful support of Christ's Church!

