

Promise and Purpose

A Narrative Budget for 2022



**Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
Tequesta, Florida**

GoodShepOnline.org

We exist to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love!



Generosity Leads to Living with Purpose

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Generosity and gratitude turn what we have into enough! Here at Good Shepherd, we are committed to loving and serving one another by sharing ourselves and our gifts from God. This narrative budget gives you a glimpse into the ways your generosity is making a difference within the life of our congregation and throughout our local community. Our goal this year is to reach an annual pledge total of \$675,000, which is approximately a 10% increase over last year. Reaching this goal will enable us to sustain the current growth of our staff and expand our engagement with our community and beyond.

Our Vision:

We are called to be a vibrant spiritual and educational community resource, radiating God's love for everyone, everywhere!



Please take some time to review this narrative budget and then consider how God is calling you to respond. I remain deeply grateful for the generosity and faithfulness of our congregation. You are each a blessing from God! Thank you!

In Christ,

Doug +

“All we are and all we have come from God.”

That’s what we believe. We learn it in Sunday School, we hear it during worship, and we see it play out day after day in our interactions with the community and with each other. Every happiness, every sorrow. Birth, death, joy and pain. A perfect sunset. A tearful shared memory. They are all conditions of our humanity and gifts from God, *every single one of them*. And we are richer for having them.

Good Shepherd is a caring and committed parish that has embraced this truth. We offer comfort and support that often cannot be found anywhere else — even, at times, from our own families. We provide opportunities to grow in the faith and love of Jesus’ powerful message. Through worship we are affirmed and redeemed. We reach out to help others. We are guided by ancient truths. We encourage faith in God. And we know we aren’t alone. This is the unique role of the church today. It is Good Shepherd’s mission to live into this role with confidence and with purpose.

Good Shepherd is here because of generations past who saw the value of the church in society. They made financial promises to ensure that people would be married and babies would be baptized for decades to come. They gave to secure the ability of Good Shepherd to not just survive, but grow to meet people wherever they are. Stewardship and careful planning have enabled us to expand our reach through a combination of financial resources and the dedicated service of parishioners. This narrative budget is a snapshot of where we are today, looking ahead to where we need to be tomorrow. It bears witness to our adaptability, our imagination, and our commitment to proclaim the Word of the Lord. The 2022 budget year is a grace-filled promise to be the church, a demonstration of our priorities, driven by gratitude.

Because all we are and all we have come from God.

“The 2022 budget year is a grace-filled promise to be the Church. It is a demonstration of our priorities, driven by gratitude.”

Proposed Operating
Budget for 2022:
\$1,116,470

Pandemic Disruption

In March 2020 the Covid-19 pandemic changed the world and the way Good Shepherd could do Christ’s work in the community. We could no longer worship, gather, or serve in person. So, in a matter of days we figured out a way to do it online. We established connections through various ministries to keep in touch with our parishioners, and we were able to provide church services, fellowship meetings, video content, and continuing services our own neighbors in need. Amazingly, a year and a half later we are still doing it.

Our strategic planning team pivoted from our master plan to develop an interim strategy to get us through the pandemic. The **BRIDGE** plan addresses what we need to do to be the Church in a changed world.

Through BRIDGE we have been Building Relationships, Reevaluating Priorities, Imagining Change, Developing Disciples, Growing Leaders, and Engaging Community. New programs for children and youth have emerged. Learning opportunities have become regular year-round bible studies, forums, roundtables, and podcasts. 2022 promises robust education offerings.

Through quarterly leadership meetings we are empowering and equipping laity for ministry. We are actively serving community through expanded ministries like Food Pantry and Pennies For Heaven Thrift Shop. Ministry is alive and well during the pandemic but there is still much to do.



Visit our website
GoodShepOnline.org to
view or download the full
BRIDGE plan.

*“We have been developing
staff for a solid foundation on
which we will grow,
including the calling of a
second priest.”*

Did You Know?

Pledge estimates make up about 61% of our operating budget. The balance comes from other income sources like:

Non-pledge offerings	10%
Thrift Shop revenue	14%
Investments and Endowment	4%
Other Income	11%

Defining Ministry

Good Shepherd is blessed to have committed volunteers, staff, and clergy to coordinate and grow dozens of ministries that make a huge impact in people’s lives every single day. We may worship on Sunday, but the work of the Lord takes place every day of the week, on campus and off.

Because everything we do is directed toward our mission to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love, we organize ministry in four major areas: Worship, Connect, Grow, and Serve. Your generosity

through gifts and offerings provides for all of these areas and allows us to not just exist, but expand and grow as disciples of Christ.

Your gifts ensure that people who are hungry receive food, that there is a safe place for youth to meet, and that clergy can administer last rites. You allow us to support people in recovery, and connect online when an in-person experience isn’t possible. Your generosity — an expression of your gratitude for God’s blessings — *matters*.

SERVE \$200,962

- Pennies For Heaven
- Pastoral Care Ministries
- GriefShare
- 12-Step Groups
- Administrative Groups
- Space for Outreach Ministries

WORSHIP \$346,101

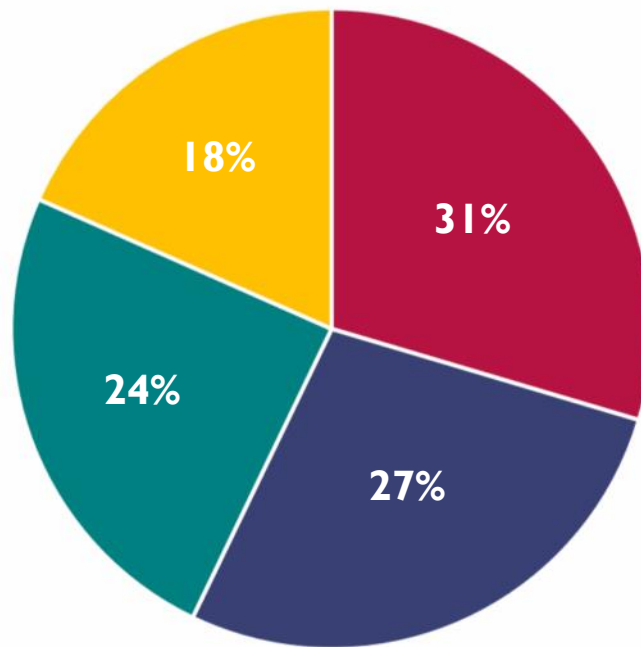
- Music
- Sermons
- Planning
- Bulletins
- Training
- Technology
- Worship Facilities

GROW \$267,949

- Sunday School
- Youth Ministry
- Family Ministry
- Adult Education
- Baptism
- Confirmation
- Labyrinth
- Professional Development

CONNECT \$301,442

- Communications
- Fellowship
- Hospitality
- Small Groups
- Facility Spaces
- Newcomers’ & Greeters Ministry



2022 Projected Operating Budget — \$1,116,454

2022 Pledge Goal — \$675,000

Other Income — \$441,454

Ministry categories reflect associated costs including competent and qualified leadership, planning and development, insurances, physical plant costs, and other canonically required expenses. Committed Outreach has moved from the operating budget to restricted accounts. See page 10.

Worship

Programs and ministries of the church are successful because of competent and caring leaders. Meaningful worship depends on clergy that is equipped with proper education and training along with support and facilities that inspire and enable faithful worship. In 2021 we hired a much-needed second priest as a minister for community and school, and overall assistance with pastoral duties.

Music during the pandemic has adapted to what we are able to do while ensuring a safe experience for everyone. Through recordings, video presentations, and limited live musical offerings by our music ensemble we have been able to fill the church with song. As we move out of this phase and return to full singing in church, we expect 2022 to have fuller opportunities for musical expression.

Technology has allowed us to be seen and heard, not only in our worship space but anywhere in the world where there is an internet connection. Livestream, direct Sunday email, real-time social media management, educational podcasts, and video conferencing have kept us connected and will continue in 2022. Families from afar have been able to be “in the room” with loved-ones for memorial services. We have connected with people in other states and countries. These are all possible because of our ongoing commitment to digital ministry.

Other elements of our Worship ministries include:

- Worship Planning of preaching and server scheduling
- Providing a safe and inviting sanctuary that inspires faith and respects ancient tradition.
- Printed programs and other materials to enhance worship
- Sunday Ready Podcast, bringing scripture into focus for many each week.
- Training to ensure that those who serve are able to do so confidently — Lectors, Vergers, Acolytes, Ushers, Greeters, and volunteer technicians
- Church on the Green, outdoors on the second and fourth Sundays
- 5th Sunday Contemporary Worship — A youth led worship service



We are truly blessed to have such intelligent and insightful leaders for Bible study and the new Sunday Ready podcast. - Gayle C.

DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, our by-laws allow us to draw 3% of our Endowment Fund balance to apply toward Operating expenses which contributed \$12,555 of income in 2021.

Connect

How we connect with the community and the world has become vital to our ability to serve Christ. One of the most impactful resources during the past eighteen months has been the adoption of our digital livestreaming and meeting technologies. After the installation of the cameras and infrastructure, we hired a dedicated livestream technician to develop a team to bring worship to everyone. We have also added a digital media assistant to help with sharing news and information about church and thrift shop happenings.

But not all communication is digital. Our quarterly newsletter, Tidings, continues to engage and inspire through meaningful and well written articles and photos that tell the story of Good Shepherd's ministries.

We have a wonderful greeting card ministry that connects with parishioners who are suffering, struggling, or celebrating. We reach out to people by phone to see how they're doing. And we deliver

altar flowers after the services when there is a special occasion, or no occasion at all.

In 2022 we will be providing more fellowship opportunities in a hybrid model of in-person and online. We expect to offer many events in both models. We have already established a "zoom room" conferencing setup for hybrid meetings.

Other ways we Connect include:

- Good Shepherd School event participation
- Hospitality — like a warm cup of coffee!
- Fellowship gatherings
- Small Group meetings like OWLS & Good Guys
- Newcomer's and Greeters Ministries
- Website and blog development and maintenance
- Advertising communications
- Computer and hardware maintenance
- Memberships and Associations
- Recognitions
- Printing

"We have been in so many churches in which the spoken word was difficult to hear or the lighting was a distraction, that Cathy and I felt we wanted to support the improvements already underway at Good Shep!" - Phil H.



Did You Know?

40% of regular online donors now do so with a preset recurring gift. No checks to write or forgotten offerings! If you would like to set up a recurring gift, visit our website at GoodShepOnline.org/Giving

Grow

Growing and encouraging disciples of Jesus is a primary part of our wider vision to be a “vibrant spiritual and educational community resource.”

Family Ministries has developed an updated Youth meeting area where teens can meet for fellowship and formation in a safe and welcoming atmosphere. A new program for children, Adventure Kingdom, offers intergenerational participation through music, age-appropriate activities for children, and even a new puppet ministry that is a big hit. Youth have been charged with leadership roles in our 5th Sunday Contemporary worship where they offer lively music and perspective.

GROW Sundays have become a morning of “formation for everyone” as there are education components for every age group. Adults meet for Rector’s Forum, teens gather for Youth and Doughnuts, and children meet for GS Kids Storytime. Nursery is also back with professional, adult staffing for babes age 0-2.

With the addition of a second priest, we are able to provide more Bible Study sessions throughout the year. These are offered in series format and have an in-person component and then an online version which is posted for later viewing at any time.

Our beautiful outdoor Labyrinth Garden has received some needed attention and is now in full bloom for your next walk. Regularly scheduled for the fourth Sunday of each month, these are guided walks with facilitators present to assist or answer questions.

More areas in which we GROW disciples:

- Faith Formation through Baptism and Confirmation classes
- Professional Development
- Chapel for Good Shepherd School
- Community Engagement through ministries like Vacation Bible School
- Youth Ministry events
- Curriculum for Adult and Children’s Christian Education



Did You Know?
Good Shepherd School is an important part of outreach and connection with our community. Our church and school are coordinated in both events and vision like Chapel on Wednesdays and the Fall Festival and Panther Classic. The school operates on an independent budget and is not included in our day-to-day church financial operations.

Serve

Pastoral Care ministries are essential to our serving those in need of spiritual and emotional support. We offer guidance, comfort, and often a shoulder to cry on (even if it's been a virtual shoulder). Eucharistic visits by clergy and trained laity are beginning again and remain an essential component to service in the name of the Lord. Altar and Flower Guilds are supported by operating funds even though the committed expenses for these ministries are held in a restricted account.

Pennies for Heaven is Good Shepherd's popular thrift shop and a community presence for over 50 years. Since the hiring of a dedicated retail manager and assistant, the shop has nearly tripled its annual income. All proceeds directly support Good Shepherd's annual operating budget. We are grateful for the service and time of our committed volunteers. The shop offers resources to schools, homeless individuals, shelters, and others. Pennies For Heaven lives into Love Thy Neighbor in everything it does.

Other ways we SERVE include:

- GriefShare, a bereavement ministry that offers weekly meetings in two sessions throughout the year, along with special meetings for particular situations like the loss of a spouse or coping with holidays after a loss
- We support recovery by providing meeting space for multiple 12-step groups weekly
- We take the Eucharist on the road to local assisted living residences
- We provide space for a weekly Food Pantry which keeps food on the tables of families in need
- We take calls for help and make recommendations for obtaining assistance with anything we can't do
- We ensure that when people come to us, we are able to greet them in a safe and welcoming place.

"A Eucharistic Visitor (EV) is a member that takes the Eucharist to an individual unable to be present for community worship. St Augustine said a sacrament is a visible, outward sign of an inward, invisible grace. It is a gift from God to a loving and caring community. Participating in this exchange, it is difficult to tell who receives the greater blessing, the recipient, or the EV. Blessings abound."

- Meredith S.



TODAY TOMORROW FOREVER

How we ensure ministry is working now and for years to come

TODAY:

Operating Budget

The financial resources of our Operating Budget support our day-to-day expenses including salaries, benefits, canonically required expenses like the Diocesan assessment, insurance, building maintenance, utilities, office administration costs and program expenses. Other income such as facility usage income, fundraisers, Pennies For Heaven proceeds, non-pledge and undesignated gifts, seasonal offerings, and regularly scheduled endowment income make up the difference.

The proposed operating budget for 2022 is \$1,116,454.

We seek estimates of giving (pledge offerings) in the amount of \$675,000 to meet program and ministry goals.

TOMORROW:

Restricted Accounts and Designated Offerings

New in 2021 and going forward is the transition of Outreach and Missions committed funding from operating to restricted. This adjustment allows us to account for donations specific to a list of roughly 20 other ministries that we support locally, regionally, and globally. This also streamlines our communications and messaging for fundraising through events like Artie's Party, the Lenten Fundraiser, and specific appeals and campaigns. The Artie's Party online event of 2021 raised \$29,072 for Outreach and Missions.

Please note that outreach contributions that we make to budgeted organizations and ministries come from a restricted Outreach account.

Good Shepherd's Operating budget continues to provides staff leadership, facility usage, postage, printing, signage, website, and other necessary support. Outreach and Missions is still reliant on the annual operating budget for day-to-day expenses.

FOREVER:

Investment/Endowment

To ensure the future financial sustainability of our congregation and to provide the resources necessary for the next generation to continue, we look to our "forever funding" which includes investment funds such as Mission and Ministry Development fund and Endowment Fund. These funds are sustained through designated gifts and bequests.

Establishing an Estimate of Giving

Why we give is a personal decision and one that we ask you to consider thoughtfully and prayerfully. Our Generosity Statement is clear about our belief that generosity is directly connected to gratitude. Our commitment to serve one another in Christ is as strong as ever. We invite you to join us in 2022 with a whole-hearted estimate of giving so that we may meaningfully sustain ministry. *Our full Generosity Statement may be found on the back cover of this document and on the Giving page of our website.*

Pledging and Giving

Submitting an Estimate of Giving allows us to confidently plan for the coming year. **Estimate of giving cards** are available on our website GoodShepOnline.org/Giving, in the office, in the church, and in a mailing that will go to our membership database. We encourage everyone to return a card no matter where you estimate may fall on the biblical standard of a tithe.

We also ask you to consider a **prepaid pledge** for 2022. Now is the time to make arrangements for IRA distributions, donations of stock, or any qualified distribution for a tax benefit for 2021. All prepaid contributions must be received by December 31, 2021. You also need to indicate that you are making a prepaid pledge on the estimate of giving card.

Bequests / Heritage Society

By establishing Good Shepherd as a beneficiary in your will, you are ensuring there will be a Good Shepherd in the future. The Heritage Society is a group in our parish who have done just that. They envision the work of Jesus going on for decades to come and have expressed that practically in their will.

Stock Donations

If you would like to make a donation on realized gains from stock, please contact Merike Seely for the trade instructions. If you make a stock gift to the church for memorial gifts, for endowment, or for your pledge, **please let Merike or the clergy know about it** so that we can properly recognize and allocate your gift. Contact us at mseely@goodsheponline.org.

Recurring Gifts, Checks, Credit Card, Bank ACH Transfers, and Text to Give

Find out about all of these easy options for giving on our Giving page at GoodShepOnline.org



All we are and all we have come from God.

**We seek estimates of giving
(pledge offerings) in the amount
of \$675,000 to meet
program and ministry goals.**

**You can submit your estimate of giving
at GoodShepOnline.org/Giving**

Generosity Statement

All we are and all we have come from God.

We believe:

Generosity is our response to God's unconditional love
and an expression of our gratitude.

Generosity requires us to examine what is meaningful in
our lives, where we place our priorities,
and how we nurture those priorities.

Generosity and gratitude turn what we have into enough.

We commit ourselves:

To trust in God's abundant provision.

To love one another and serve others in Christ, by sharing
ourselves and our gifts from God.

To prayerfully discern how God is calling us to use the
financial resources entrusted to our care.

To practice radical generosity, striving toward
the biblical standard of the tithe.

We invite our congregation:

To examine your relationship with God as it
relates to your possessions.

To join us in giving generously and meaningfully
in order to sustain the mission and
ministry of Good Shepherd.



GOOD SHEPHERD

EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

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The Rev. Dr. Douglas F. Scharf, Rector
The Rev. Derek Larson, Assistant Rector