

Expressions of Grace

A Narrative Budget
for 2023



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church Tequesta, Florida



GOOD SHEPHERD

EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

TEQUESTA, FLORIDA

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

Together, we have prayerfully and carefully considered the meaning of generosity and how God is calling us into a pattern of living founded on the belief of abundance. Each time we generously offer to God whatever we have—whether that be our gratitude, our trust, our vulnerability, or our possessions—it is a response to the generosity of God first bestowed upon us. *Living generously is not simply about sharing our monetary wealth, but offering the wholeness of ourselves to God as he has done for us.*

We, the people of Good Shepherd, are a community committed to that idea. Every time we open the doors to our church, whether it be for Eucharist, the food pantry, a school program, a Bible Study, or an AA meeting, we offer ourselves to God in service to the world around us. Our incredible diversity of ministries are not simply services provided, but gifts of ourselves given to the community; and in this time of transition the giving continues more than ever.

Our Mission:

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

Our Vision:

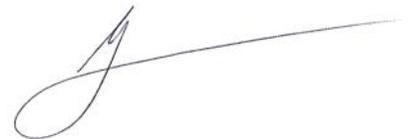
We are called to be a vibrant spiritual and educational

We are blessed to be a part of this caring, nurturing, and unique Church Family. As we approach a new year and the calling of a new rector, we ask that you prayerfully discern how God is calling you to use the abundance of resources with which you have been blessed so that we may continue to grow and support the mission and ministry of Good Shepherd.

Your personal giving supports our communal giving, and every act of generosity is an expression of God's grace.



The Rev. Derek M. Larson
Associate Priest



Heather Graham
Senior Warden

This is a special place

Good Shepherd Church is in a time of transition. Currently, we are entering a new year of social and economic challenges, we are adjusting to ministry after the pandemic, and now, searching for our next rector. We have completed a recent parish survey that revealed a faith community more committed than ever to serve in diverse capacities as we are called by God. We can do this.

Through the Holy Spirit we do good work at Good Shepherd, but we don't do it alone. Every soul transforms us and makes us new. Your special gifts — gifts from God — allow us to support and expand ministries and provide opportunity for genuine fellowship and affirming support.

When you demonstrate gratitude through financial gifts to Good Shepherd, you are there. *You* are helping someone find meaning through faith. *You* are preserving Christian heritage for future generations. *You* are feeding the hungry and clothing the poor. *You* are healing the brokenhearted and ministering to those in need. *You* are doing Christ's work in our community and afar. *You* are there.

Each week we pray to God to *"raise up in our midst the resources and leadership to enable us to act upon what you would have us do in this ministry of love and concern for others."* Stewardship ensures that we maintain our capacity to be effective in mission. Our goal for the coming year is to continue on our path of service and mission, while providing a solid foundation on which our next rector will help us build our future.

For the 2023 budget year, we have not increased our pledge goal from 2022. The Vestry, clergy, wardens, and staff recognize the challenges that transitions pose and we remain committed to being good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. We are not planning major changes until such time as a new rector is called. The good work that Jesus Christ has called us to do will continue.



"Every act of generosity is an expression of God's grace"

Proposed Operating
Budget for 2023:
\$1,127,324

Defining Ministry

The work of the church takes place every day of the week, not just on Sundays at worship services. Many of our budget line items span various ministries, groups, and purposes.

Every dollar donated falls under one of the broad categories of ministry at Good Shepherd: Worship, Connect, Grow, Serve. For example, clergy salary and benefits are divided proportionately among all four categories because our priest provides pastoral care, education planning, sermons, visioning, podcast education, spiritual formation, he baptizes

babies and conducts burial services for those who have departed this life. Technology is now considered integral to worship, connecting with others online, bringing bible study to an individual's living room, and encouraging participation in the life of the parish through announcement emails and web site. Our staff, with four full time employees, and eight part-time employees or contractors, is cross-trained and adaptable to ever-changing ministry needs. We rely on the generous time and talent of many committed volunteers for our important work.



2023 Projected Operating Budget — \$1,127,323

2023 Pledge Goal — \$675,000

Other Income — \$452,323

◇ Pledge giving makes up about 62% of our operating budget. The balance comes from other income sources like:

- Non-pledge offerings 9%
- Thrift Shop revenue 14%
- Investments and Endowment 4%
- Other Income 11%

◇ 31% 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 or call our Business Manager, Lynn Evans, for assistance.

◇ Our proposed budget for 2023 currently has an income deficit of \$49,247 due to recent unexpected and significant increases in the areas of Property & Liability insurance (12%), and Diocesan Assessment (32%) totaling \$42,459.

◇ 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.

◇ Our by-laws allow us to draw 3% of our Endowment Fund balance to apply toward Operating expenses which contributed \$13,700 of income in 2022. In 2022 we received a bequest which was applied to Endowment. Gifts to our Endowment Fund serve the parish today and for generations to come.

◇ Volunteers are a tremendous support to our ability to honor our traditions, embark on new ministries, and manage workload that is integral to living into mission. It is only with our devoted volunteers that we are able to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love. Join us as a volunteer! *We have a place for you.*



TODAY ▶ TOMORROW ▶ FOREVER

How ministry happens now and endures 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.

TOMORROW:

Restricted Accounts and Designated Offerings

Last year, Outreach and Missions funding moved from Operating accounts to Restricted accounts. 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 2022 raised \$38,768 for Outreach and Missions.

FOREVER:

Investment/Endowment

To ensure the future financial sustainability of Good Shepherd Church 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. In 2022 we were able to apply a generous bequest to our Endowment Fund which provides 3% of its value to our operating budget each year. These funds are sustained through designated gifts and bequests.

The proposed operating budget for 2023 is \$1,127,324. We seek estimates of giving (pledge offerings) in the amount of \$675,000 to meet program and ministry goals in 2023. This amount has NOT changed from 2022.

Please note that committed outreach support to ministries within and outside of Good Shepherd comes from Restricted Outreach accounts. Good Shepherd's Operating budget continues to provide 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 operating expenses including meeting space, supplies, and administrative support like bookkeeping and communications.

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 2023 with a gratitude-inspired 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 been mailed 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 2023. Now is the time to make arrangements for IRA distributions, donations of stock, or any qualified distribution for a tax benefit for 2022. All prepaid contributions must be received by December 31, 2022.

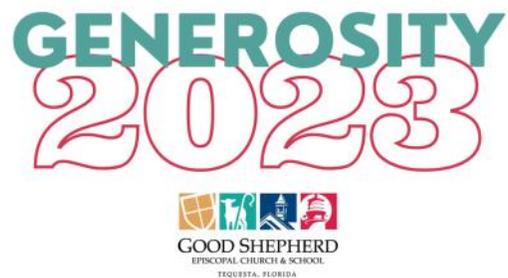
You also need to indicate that you are making a prepaid pledge on the estimate of giving card.

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 Seely or the clergy know about it** so that we can properly recognize and allocate your gift.

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

Find out about all of these easy options for giving at GoodShepOnline.org/giving



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

Pledge online now with this convenient QR code!



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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