



STALBANSWACO.ORG/STEWARDSHIP

“The whole earth is filled
with awe at your wonders;
you call forth **songs of joy.**”
Psalm 65:7, 9

Reflections on Stewardship

THE BASICS

Q. What is Stewardship?

A. Stewardship means wisely caring for something that belongs to someone else. The Bible calls us stewards of God's creation. Everything belongs to God, not us.

Q. What is Annual Stewardship?

A. Each fall, we have a four-week stewardship campaign to invite members to make a financial pledge for the next year's annual operating budget.

Q. When do I start giving?

A. The church is asking you to make a pledge or commitment for 2023. In other words, let the church know what you plan to give during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023.

Q. What is a pledge?

A. An annual pledge is a commitment made in faith on what you will give to the church's annual operating budget in the coming year.

Q. What are the Church's Financial Goals for the year?

A. Our budget is designed to fund our ongoing ministries while allowing us to keep up with the rapid growth we are experiencing. We need expanded funding to address cost increases from inflation, serving our growing church family, and additional ministry to those in need.

UNDERSTANDING GIVING

Q. Why is the church leadership asking members to increase their pledge?

A. We estimate that our 2023 ministry budget will increase by approximately 20%. It is amazing to see God doing great things in our church, but it also means we need to act in faith with our finances.

Q. When I make a pledge, what will the money be used for?

A. These gifts go towards the church's operating budget. This includes all the expenses of day-to-day ministry at St. Alban's including worship expenses, livestreaming costs, local outreach, utilities, maintenance of our four-acre campus, and staff salaries.

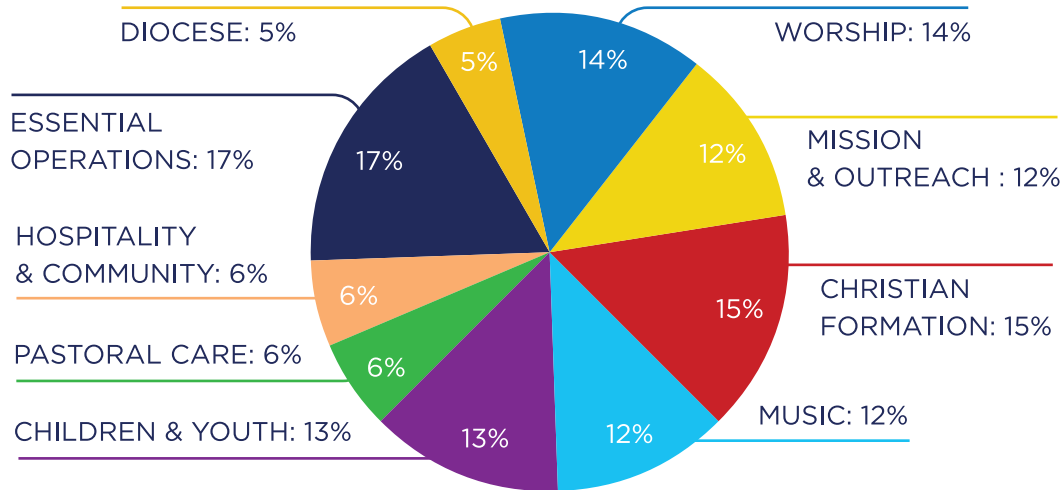
Q. How much should I give?

A. St. Alban's encourages our members to use the biblical standard of the tithe (10% of annual income) which is found in Numbers 18:21. Of course, this is a decision for each household to reach prayerfully. Our goal is to see each member giving in faith and in love.

Q. Why does St. Alban's talk about money so much?

A. It may feel that way due to the ongoing capital campaign. We address Stewardship annually for 4 weeks a year. For Christians, money is not secret or "off limits." It belongs to God. Jesus talked about it a lot. We don't do high-pressure talks but we want to be always willing to talk about it.

2022 Budget: \$1.2M
2023 Budget Goal: \$1.4M



THE DETAILS OF GIVING

Q. How can I submit my pledge?

A. Online at stalbandswaco.org/stewardship or via a physical pledge card available from the church. Pledge cards may be returned in the offering plate, via mail, or at the church office.

Q. How do I make my gifts?

- A.** There are several ways:
- (1) Give securely online. Go to www.stalbandswaco.org and click the blue "Give" circle.
 - (2) Set up a recurring gift using your bank's online bill pay service.
 - (3) Mail or drop off a check to the church office with "Annual Stewardship" on the memo line.
 - (4) Place a check or cash (using a GIVING envelope) in the offering plate at any of our services.
 - (5) Prepay for the entire year by contacting Jesse Lee in the church office

Q. Can I give by transferring stock or other securities?

A. Yes. Contact our Director of Finance and Operations, Jesse Lee, at jesse@stalbandswaco.org.

CONTACT US

Q. I've got other questions. Whom can I contact?

A. You can reach out to your Stewardship Committee members; the vestry; our Director of Finance and Operations, Jesse Lee; or the clergy. You should always feel free to call the church or send us an email. We're glad to talk stewardship!

2023 Stewardship Committee: stewardship@stalbandswaco.org

Angela Tekell
 Stewardship Chair
atekell@me.com
 (254) 744-3033

Robert Brown, Victor Galvan, Daniel Greer, Karen Greer, Jason MacGregor
 Jason Milam
 Senior Warden, *ex officio*
 The Rev. Aaron M. G. Zimmerman
 Rector, *ex officio*

SONGS OF JOY AND FINISHING THE WORK

Q. What's the difference between Songs of Joy and Finishing the Work?

| | Songs of Joy Annual Stewardship | Finishing the Work Capital Campaign |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| PURPOSE | Day-to-day ministry expenses for 2023 | Pay off remaining debt from church renovation, finish courtyard & playground |
| PLEDGE LENGTH | 1 year (pledge now, give in 2023) | 5 years (pledge now, give 2023-2028) |
| TIMELINE | Pledge now | Pledge by end of Dec 2022 |

Q. Should I decrease my annual stewardship pledge for 2023 so that I can give to the Finishing the Work capital campaign?

A. No. We ask members to maintain their annual giving. The ongoing ministry and programs of the church are not possible without your annual giving. A capital campaign pledge, no matter the amount, should be a sacrificial "over and above" gift for this special building project to the glory of God and the service of God's people.

Make a
 Pledge by
 Oct 30

