

October, 2011

Dear Friends,

Each autumn we make commitments of time, talent, and treasure to Christ Church for the coming year. This year our parish life is full of change, as we welcome Francis Hubbard as our Interim Rector and prepare to mount a search for our new Rector. In September we installed a gifted and caring Director of Music, John Sheridan, to lead our thriving music program; our children and youth formation classes are reinvigorated and growing; and we have preserved and updated our splendid buildings to the benefit of current and future parishioners.

Although change can bring uncertainty, God's love and grace are abundantly and constantly present. Acts of stewardship are a way that we, as Christians, acknowledge this abundance by offering up a portion of what we have received from God. How large a portion? C.S. Lewis reminds us that "the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare." When we give more than we think we can spare — when we give sacrificially — we open ourselves to the joy that comes from knowing that we are taking part in advancing God's work in the world.

Hence, we invite you build the future of Christ Church by participating in this year's stewardship campaign. Every pledge, regardless of size, will be needed to sustain our growing menu of programs and ministries. For those of you who have pledged in the past, we thank you for your generous support and ask that you consider increasing your pledge by 10%, or some other proportional amount. And if you have never pledged, we challenge you to take that leap of faith. Inside this brochure we've included "Pledging 101" guidelines to aid those new to the practice of pledging. You'll also find a ministries brochure detailing the many opportunities for serving Christ Church's mission through gifts of time and talent, and a pledge card on which you may indicate interest in joining a new ministry.

With best wishes,

Beth Angell, Chair, Stewardship Committee

Don Edwards and Paul Ambros, Wardens

**Every generous act of giving,  
with every perfect gift, is from  
above, coming down from the  
Creator of lights, with whom  
there is no variation or shadow  
due to change.**

**James 1:17**

**Historic Christ Church is a  
mutually supportive Christian  
community worshipping in the liv-  
ing Anglican tradition of beauty  
in liturgy and music.  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE**

## Stewardship 2012



CHRIST CHURCH IN NEW BRUNSWICK  
*in the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey*  
5 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
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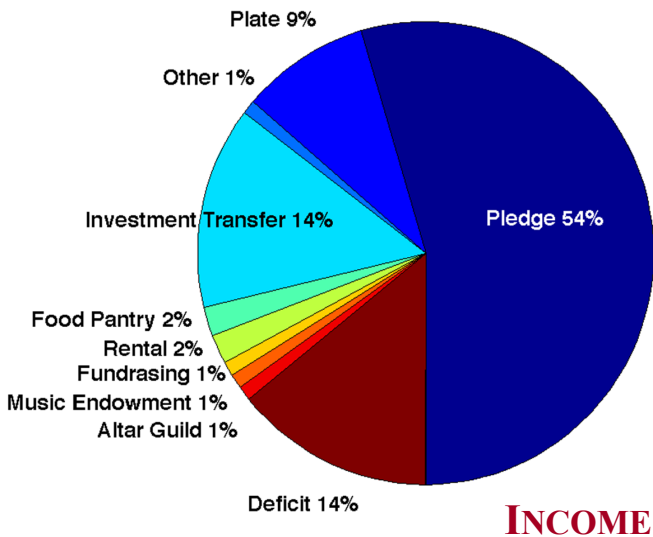
# BUILDING OUR FUTURE



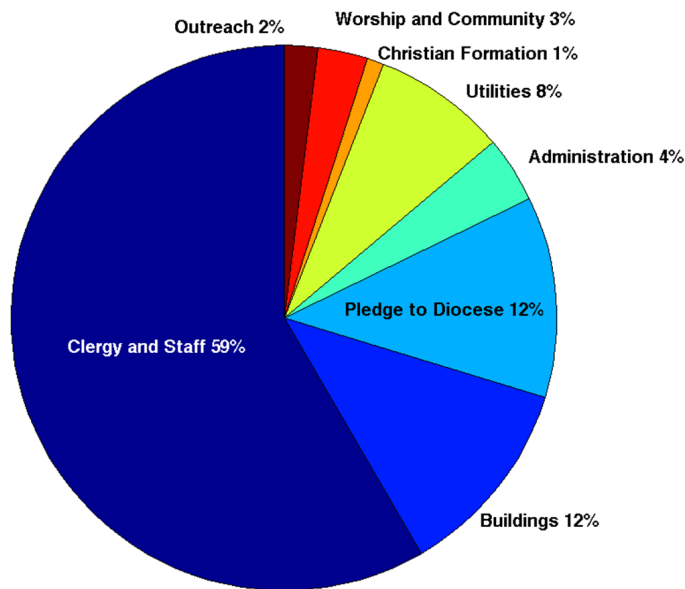
**CHRIST CHURCH  
NEW BRUNSWICK**

**STEWARDSHIP 2012**

## SUMMARY OF 2011 INCOME AND EXPENDITURES



**INCOME**



**EXPENDITURES**

## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

<b>Clergy and Staff</b> Compensation, salaries, pensions, health/dental insurance, bookkeeping	\$285,491
<b>Buildings</b> Maintenance, repairs, security, property/liability insurance	\$55,312
<b>Pledge to Diocese</b> Administration, mission programs, Episcopal Church	\$56,252
<b>Administration</b> Office supplies, printing, postage, technology, stewardship program, marketing	\$18,150
<b>Utilities</b> Gas and electric, telephone, water, internet	\$37,300
<b>Christian Formation</b> Church school, adult education, youth groups, nursery	\$1,850
<b>Worship and Community</b> Altar guild, music, hospitality	\$13,000
<b>Outreach</b> Food pantry, rector's discretionary fund	\$11,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$478,555

### A NOTE ON THE 2012 BUDGET

Pledge and plate contributions provide more than half of the church's income, but even sustaining an austere budget causes us to run a deficit. To reduce this problem, the Vestry has adopted a five-year deficit reduction plan to reduce the annual draw on our investment funds to 5% by 2014. To make this happen, we need to increase pledge income by 10% each year.

## PLEDGING 101

**Relax and pray.** Thank God for your many blessings and ask for God's guidance. Your pledge is a spiritual commitment between you and God.

**Write down your estimated 2012 income.** Before taxes or after taxes, it is your decision.

**Ask yourself some questions.** Does my standard of giving to God reflect my standard of living? Have I prayerfully considered raising my pledge? Is my giving in proportion to all that I am thankful to for God and to Christ Church?

**Consider an increase in your pledge.** Proportional giving challenges us to be intentional about our support of God's work in the world. Tithing (giving at least 10% of one's income) is the Biblical standard, but for many of us, it is a goal we need to work toward over time. Consider increasing your *pledging amount* by 10% each year as you work toward *your* proportional giving goal. For the average pledge of \$2206 a year, that amounts to \$4.25 a week. Is there something you could do without in order to raise your pledge 10%?

**Make the Commitment.** Submit your pledge card by mail, through our website link, or put it in the offering basket at church on or before our in-gathering service on November 6. Indicate on the card whether you would like pledging envelopes (not necessary if you pay your pledge by check).