Strengthening CONNECTIONS

For over 100 years, St. Paul's Church has provided a spiritual center. For its members, St. Paul's is a place to be grounded in the love of Christ. It has been a place to weather the storms of life and to find inspiration. Here, individuals find support to grow into loving compassionate people.

What does St. Paul's mean to our community? The word cloud below reflects the words most commonly used during our Next Steps reflection process in 2018-19.





GROUNDED IN GRATITUDE for what we have been given. We give thanks for the ways that people are connected to one another and to God, both when we gather and in the work we carry out in Christ's name. A look at our word cross is a celebration of the gifts that God pours out at St. Paul's. The future of St. Paul's is grounded in an appreciation of the blessed gifts we share today. St. Paul's is a vital and loving community, and for that we are grateful.









DEEPENING OUR CONNECTIONS with God and others is why we exist as a church community. Creating real connections with God and others is both a gift and a choice. In knowing and caring for others, the love of Christ takes flesh and becomes real. We deepen those connections by exploring together the way God works in our lives, and in each season of life. We strengthen connections when we work together on projects and tasks that matter and that bring healing to the world. We build connections over time by sharing the challenges of everyday life in the midst of people who know us, accept us and support us. All programs, activities and projects provide "on the ground" opportunities to deepen our relationships with God and



others, and to use our gifts to make a difference.







Strengthening CONNECTIONS

EXPANDING WAYS OF CONNECTING WITH OTHERS presents new challenges in this place

and time. We all can see how life is changing around us. For many, life can seem like an endless series of sprinting from one thing to another. In some ways, social media connects people more than ever, but they are paradoxically less connected in ways that are meaningful. Many find it difficult to connect the good news of Christ with their daily experience. We'll be working to understand the needs of those who are not yet connected to faith or to church, to understand effective ways of making those connections.







INVESTING IN DEEPENING AND EXPANDING CONNECTIONS For 2020, based on

congregation input, the Vestry has decided to restore St. Paul's professional staff to 2018 levels, with both continuing and new direction and priorities. In recent years, unexpected gifts, faithful giving and unfilled staff positions enabled the parish to build prudent reserves and set aside money for ministry development. The Vestry has now decided to invest those reserves to ensure that we have energized staffing for the next three years while we work on ways to deepen and expand connections for all. In addition to the investment of our parish financial reserves, we hope that each St. Paul's household will make an extra investment through gifts and pledges to support these new initiatives and the staffing needed to make them happen.

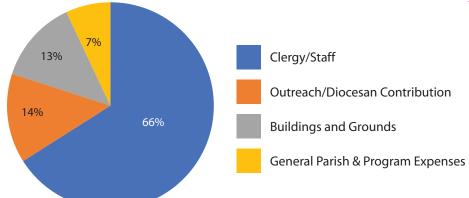






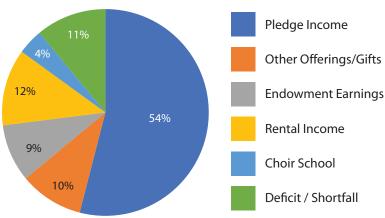


WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO? TOTAL PROJECTED 2020 EXPENSES \$975,000



We anticipate our expenses will increase by 12% in 2020 due to our commitment to restore our 2018 staff levels as well as cost-of-living and benefit increases.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM? CURRENT SOURCES OF INCOME



54% of our projected operating income comes from faithful pledgers. Much of the rest comes from gifts, rental income, and past parishioners who support St. Paul's in perpetuity through endowment gifts. Our total income needs to increase by 12% to cover our projected deficit.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

The amount to give is a personal choice. It might be helpful to know that it will cost \$5,002 per household to keep St. Paul's strong in 2020. It is a long tradition in Christian Stewardship to give in proportion to what we have been given. Each of us, is called upon in 2020 to invest in St. Paul's community to make deeper and new connections.

Proportional Giving Guide						
ONE-TIME GIFTS	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$200,000	\$250,000
3%	1,500	2,250	3,000	4,500	6,000	7,500
5%	2,500	3,750	5,000	7,500	10,000	12,500
7%	3,500	5,250	7,000	10,500	14,000	17,500
10%	5,000	7,500	10,000	15,000	20,000	25,000

What is proportional giving? Proportional giving involves offering a set percentage of one's income to stewardship. The chart above may help you consider your 2020 commitment. Gifts in any amount are appreciated and gratefully received. Thank you!

Pledge Sunday is October 27th – bring your card or pledge online. To pledge online, please go to **www.stpaulsburlingame.org/support**