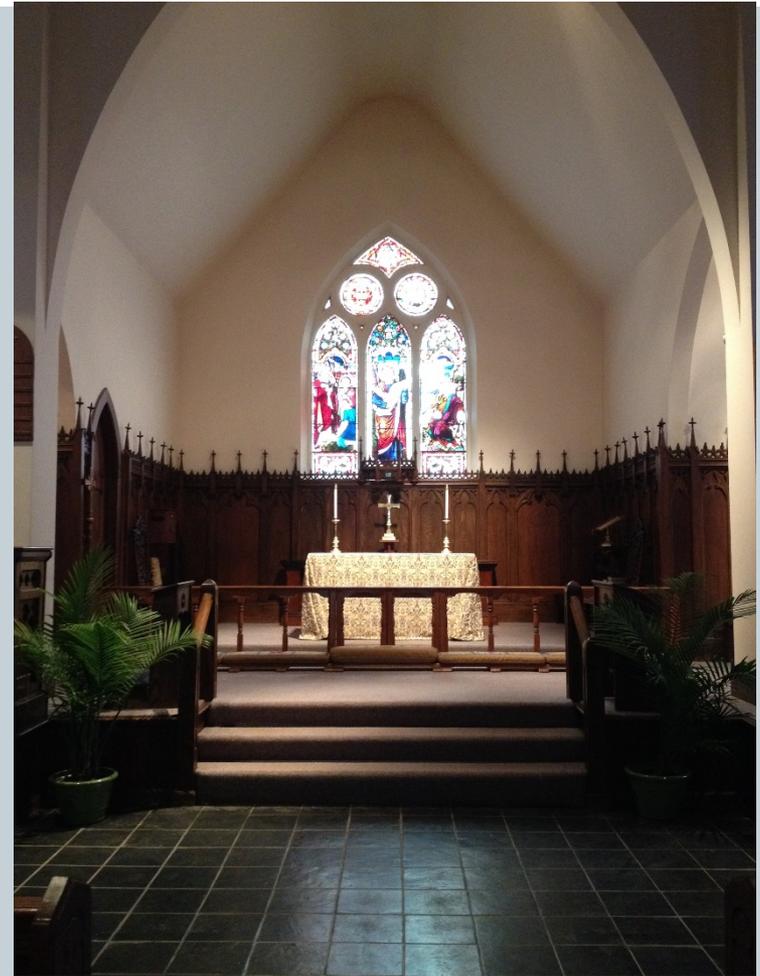


# ***FICTION & FACT***



***ABOUT St. John's Church***

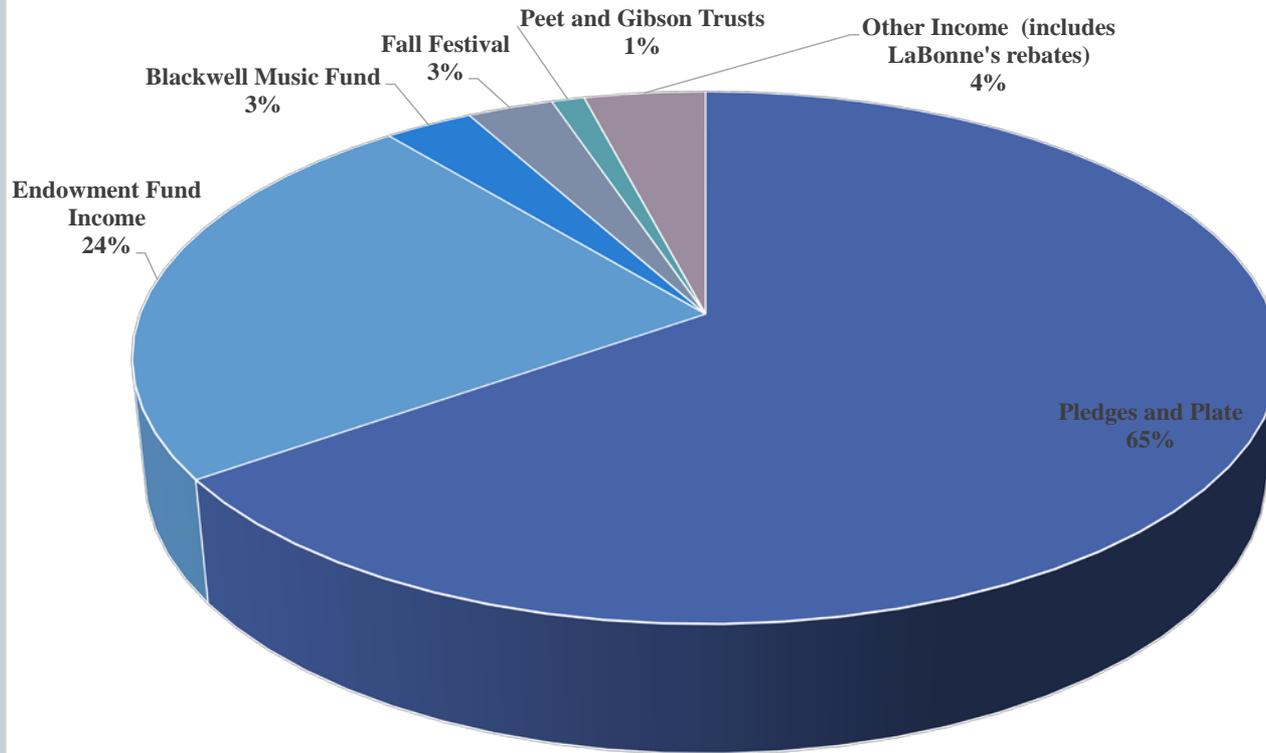
# **Fiction:** *St. John's Church is wealthy*



# FICTION & FACT

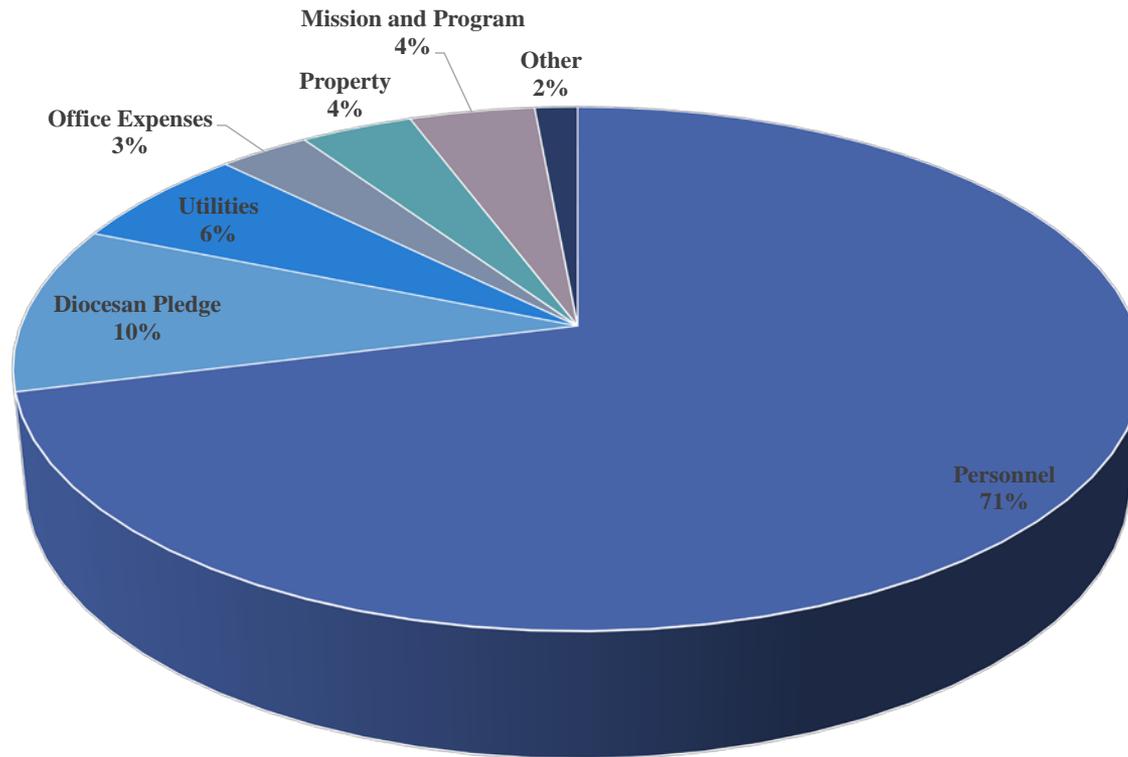


**October 2015 YTD - Source of Funds**





## October 2015 YTD - Use of Funds



# *FICTION & FACT*

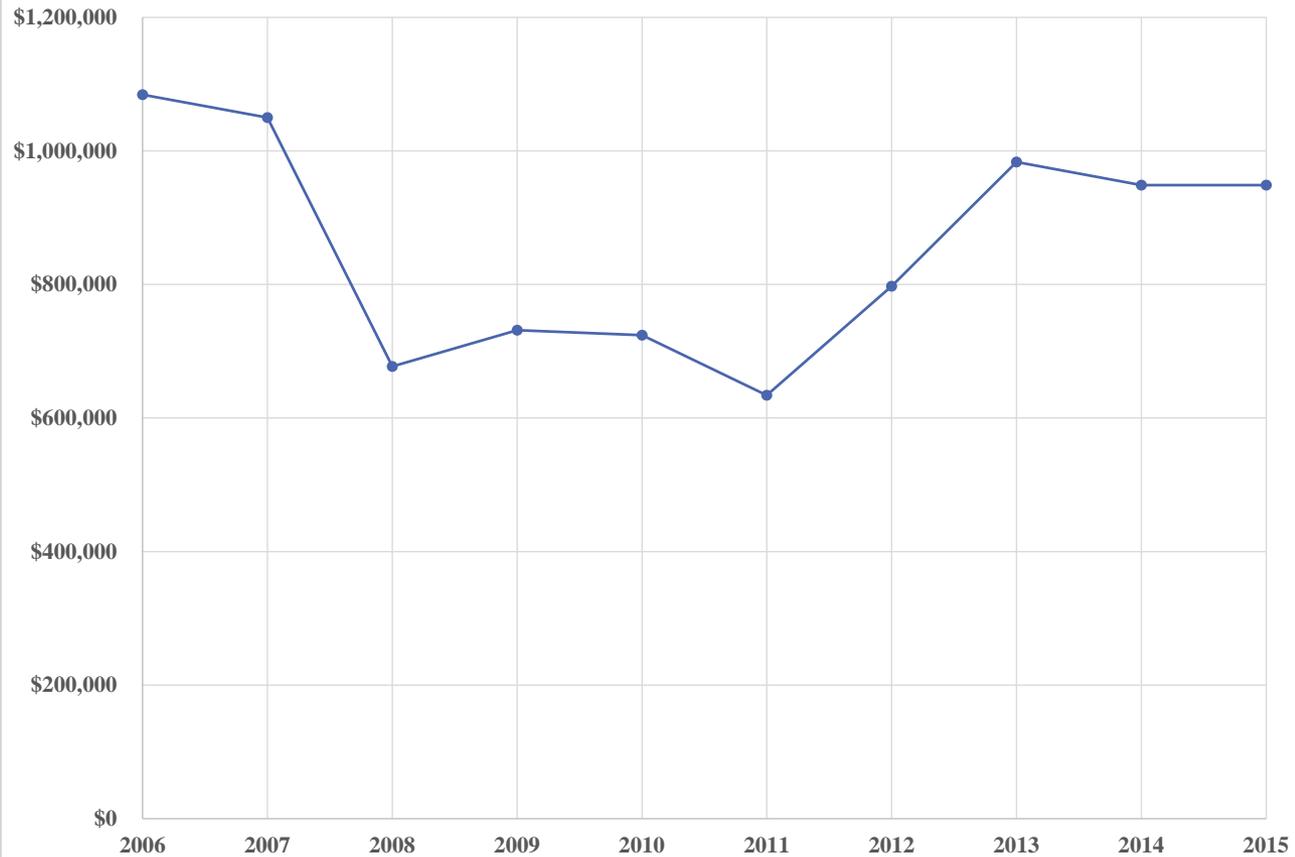


- **Fact: St. John's Church itself is not wealthy. Income generated by our endowment is stretched to cover 24% of our operating and mission expenses.**
- **The endowment is invested in a pool of funds with those of other churches in our Diocese.**
- **The low interest rate environment affects our portfolio returns just as it does your own savings.**

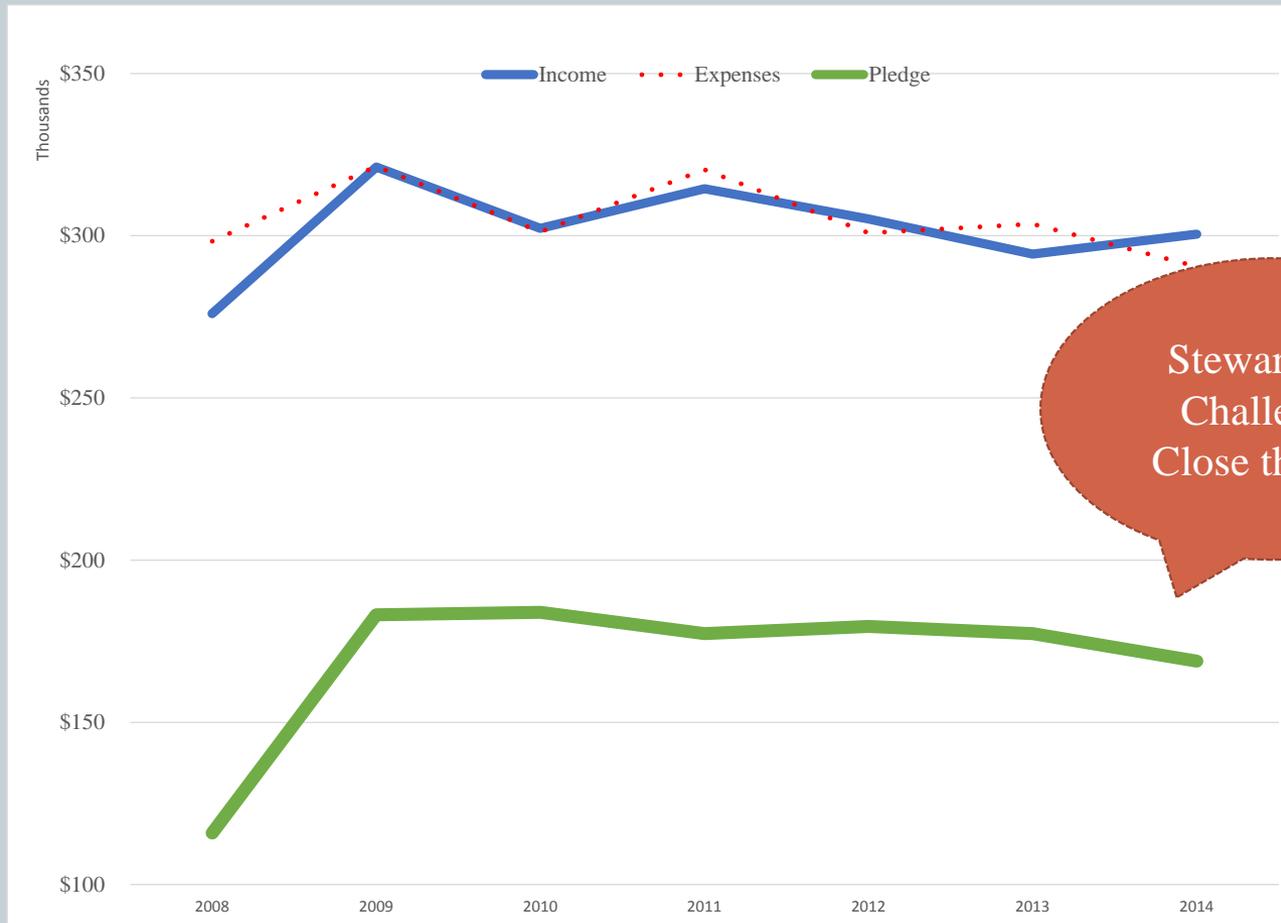
# *FICTION & FACT*



**Endowment Year-End Market Value - 2006-Present**



# FICTION & FACT



Stewardship  
Challenge:  
Close the Gap

**Fiction:** *St. John's Church just cares about its own.*



- **Fact:** St. John's Church has a multitude of outreach ministries. Many in our parish give significant time, talent and money to support parish sponsored outreach activities.

**Fiction:** *Look at all of these people and programs.  
St. John's Church does not need my help.*



- **Fact:** St John's is dependent on each member's participation. It is only through contributions of individual members such as you, that we are a caring congregation. *As we implement our strategic mission, more of us need to make St. John's Church a priority in our lives, through our sharing what is most precious to us: our time and talents. By giving, each of us grows spiritually.*

## **Fiction:** *St. John's Church just cares for themselves*



**Our members are called to give their time and resources to relieve suffering and to be servants of the whole human family, whether overseas or at home. we contribute funds for special efforts:**

- *The CROP Hunger Walk,*
- *the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance,*
- *the Winter Fuel Fund,*
- *Salisbury Family Services*
- *the Corner Food Pantry.*
- *Louise Lindenmeyr's Medical Mission to Haiti.*
- *The Little Guild of St. Francis*
- **Our twice yearly *Angel Tree* provides gifts and school supplies to needy children in the area.**

## **Fiction:** *St. John's Church just cares for themselves*



- *Through our Hispanic Ministry, we support Puentes, English as a Second Language and Spanish to those who speak English and conduct ongoing outreach to area Hispanics.*
- *Our buildings are also a form of outreach and are used by community organizations such as the Taconic Learning Center, A.A. and AL Anon groups, and the Salisbury Hand Drummers.*
- *St. John's provides a home for the Northwest Music Association, which sponsors at least four Baroque Concerts of superb quality every year.*
- *We believe that we are called to increase our service to others locally, and in the nation and world.*

**Fiction:** *My giving will not make a difference in our church*



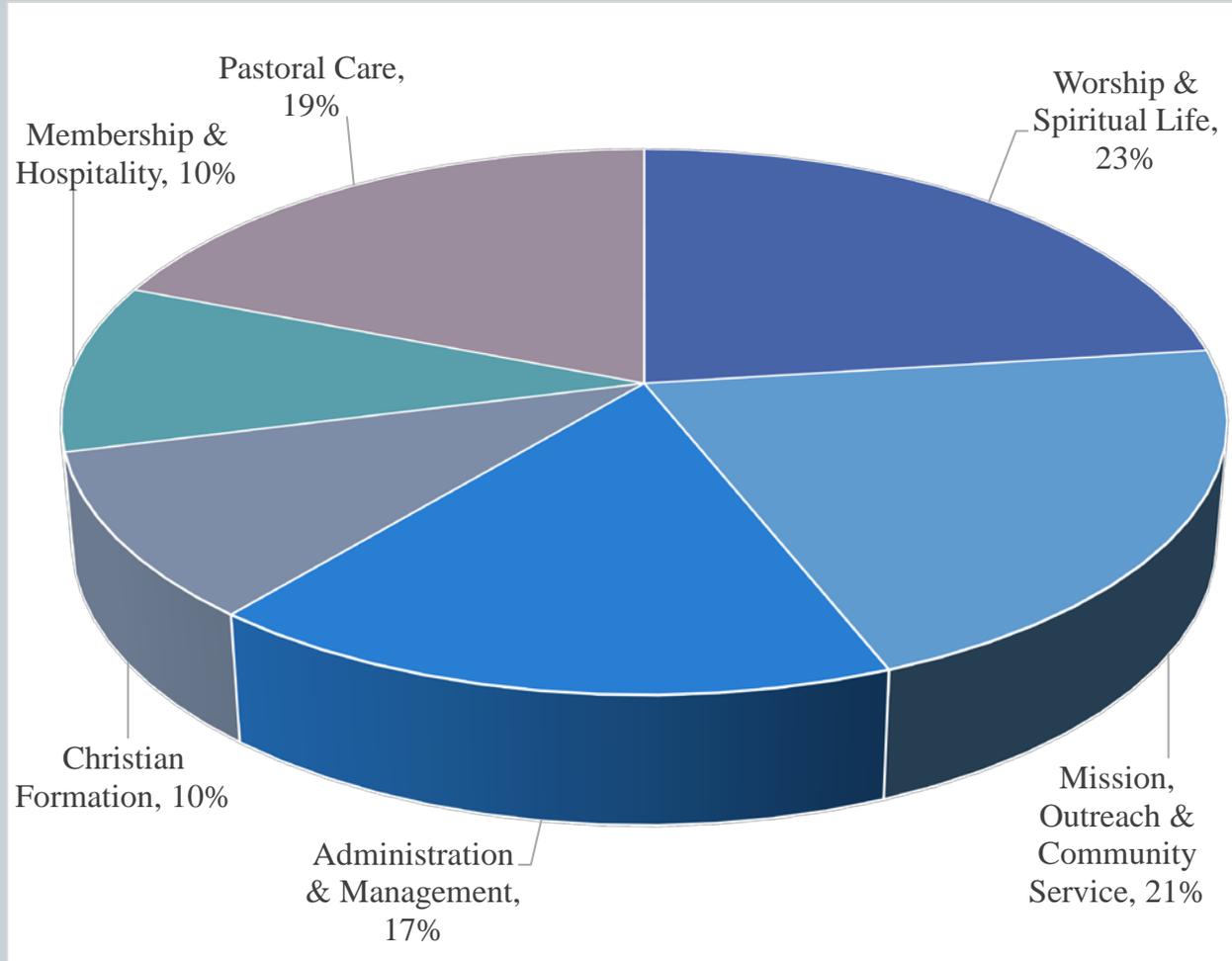
- **Fact:** We have 120 households on our rolls, and yet fewer than 10 families give \$5000 or more each year. And those families are supplying 50% of our pledge income. Every dollar counts. If you are not yet making a contribution, or giving in some planned and committed way, we need your help.

**Fiction:** *Since I don't know exactly what my income will be,  
I can't make an estimate of giving*



- **Fact:** Your estimate of giving helps our Vestry then build a responsible and mission-oriented budget. Of course, if your circumstances change, there is absolutely no problem with modifying the amount pledged.

# Mission-Oriented Budget



# *How are we doing?*



- Our annual budget is approaching \$300,000, with approximately 64% of this coming from those households who make a committed pledge for the year.
- An additional 1% or so is received as cash offerings on Sundays over the course of a year, and we have had to rely on income from our endowment for 24%.
- 11% from other sources.

# Reality check



- **The reality: about 2/3 of the households of our parish provide 64% of the funds needed to carry out our mission as a parish.**

# Next Steps:



- **This year we hope to conduct a parish-wide Strategic Planning Process to determine future direction and to channel our efforts to improve the many ministries offered at St. John's Church.**
- **We have made our worship services a time of joy, nurture and hope.**
- **Our outreach offerings provide a range of opportunities for significant deepening and renewal.**

# Next Steps



- Our outreach ministries continue to build new partnerships locally.
- Pastoral Care, as exemplified by a ministry of compassion and hope, brings our Lord's love and grace to those struggling with illness or crisis.
- We are learning to be more welcoming.

# Next Steps



- All of these ministries are hallmarks of our life as the Body of Christ, living our lives generously, faithfully, and broadly. And we too are increasingly conforming our lives to God's call even as we share the Good News to an increasingly diverse congregation of seekers and believers.

# *Stewardship Challenge*



- **St. John's Church is a gifted and grace-filled community. Jesus teaches that much is expected of those who have much. Jesus' words are a joyful invitation to share and grow our gifts together.**

# *Stewardship Challenge*



- **Please join us, your Vestry, in meeting our increasing financial responsibilities at St. John's Church , by prayerfully considering increasing your pledge.**

# Next Steps – Opportunities and Challenges



- **We have a full-time commitment with Fr. David until July 2017**
- **We need to implement a new strategic mission**
- **We need to come to terms with challenges of sustainability and viability of current ministry configuration**
- **We need to understand if our parish can sustain the ministry of a Full-Time parish priest or do we need to transition to another model**