



2012 Narrative Budget

St. James Episcopal Church, Essex Junction, VT

At St. James, we are committed to...

- + Prayer and Worship
- + Proclaiming the Gospel
- + Promoting Justice, Peace, and Love

Narrative Budget Gatherings

Tues, Sept. 11th

- focusing on Reaching Out in Mission & Serving the Community

Thurs, Sept. 13th

- focusing on Supporting Worship and Music

Wed, Sept. 19th

- focusing on Inviting Others to Share Our Lives

Fri, Sept. 21st

- focusing on Caring for Our Church Family

Sun, Sept. 23rd

- focusing on Teaching and Nurturing Our Members

Sat, Sept. 29th

- focusing on Equipping and Maintaining Our Facilities

All gatherings will take place at the Rectory
and go from 7pm until 9pm.

Please bring this booklet with you.

Please RSVP either to

Ken (999.3697 or therevken@yahoo.com)

or Mary Carlson (879.5258 or mcarlson@uvm.edu)

or by signing up on the sheet outside of the Parish Office.



SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4 St James Place, Essex Junction, Vermont 05452

(802) 878-4014 www.stjamesvt.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at St James,

After picking up this booklet, reading the title, and flipping to this page, you may be asking yourself...

What IS a Narrative Budget?

Well, it is two things. It's part narrative, or story, and part budget, or dollars and percentages. It tells the story of what God is doing at St James, while including the dollars and percentages from our annual operating budget, and how these dollars are being spent in support of God's mission. Often times financial statements alone can leave us looking solely at the "bottom line"; at what is practical. At that same time, story telling alone can leave us gazing upward, focusing on the great beyond, focusing on what is possible, for all things are possible with God. A narrative budget holds these two foci in tension. It calls us to look at both the practical and the possible, together. It calls us to consider the very real resources that God has blessed us with (our finances, our facilities, our time, our talents, ourselves) and how these resources are being used (and perhaps could be better used) for the building up of the mission and ministry of the church.

Within the pages of this booklet, you will find seven sections entitled: Reaching Out in Mission, Serving the Community, Supporting Worship and Music, Inviting Others to Share Our Lives, Caring for Our Church Family, Teaching and Nurturing Our Members, and Equipping and Maintaining Our Facilities. Each section includes the dollar amount and percentage of our operating budget used to support this area of ministry. Both the dollar amount and percentage include a portion of the Rector's salary and benefits for this area. In addition, you will find two sets of bulleted points. The first states those line items in the operating budget which were used to determine the dollar amount and percentage. The second states those additional ways in which we support this area of ministry, apart from the operating budget. Finally, each section is accompanied by a piece of Scripture, along with questions for further reflection and conversation.

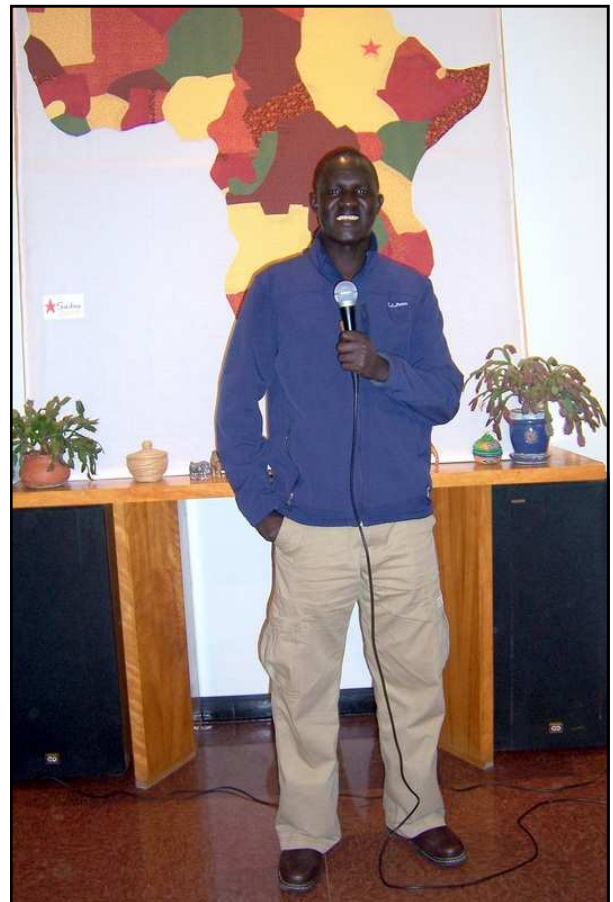
So, given what a Narrative Budget is, HOW is this booklet to be read and used?

Throughout the month of September, the Stewardship Team will be hosting six gatherings at the Rectory, focused on "Telling the St James Story". Each gathering will begin at 7pm, and over coffee and dessert we will discuss one of the sections, reflect on Scripture, and consider some questions, as well as share our own stories.

Our hope is that you will read through this Narrative Budget booklet, attend one of the gatherings at the Rectory in September, and then prayerfully consider how much you will give in support of the mission and ministry of St James. A Commitment Card can be found enclosed. After completing it, please return it to the church by Sunday, October 14th.

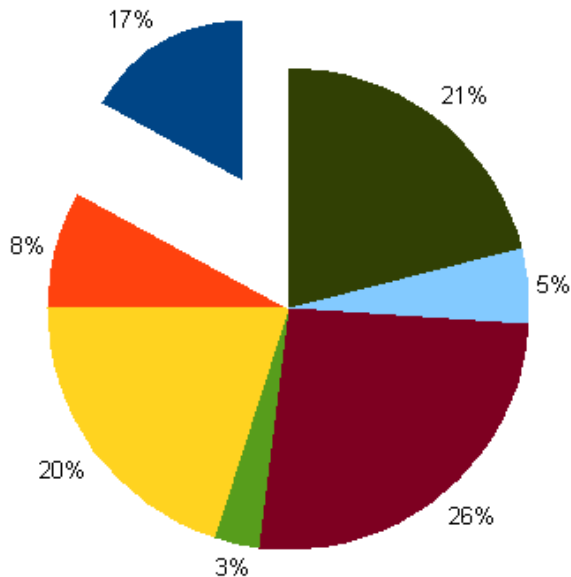
Flipping through this booklet you will come to see how truly blessed we are at St James. We hope that you will continue to share with us in this blessing, as our common story continues to be written.

Faithfully,



Reaching Out in Mission

\$33,754



Matthew 25:35-40: Jesus said, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

St. James reaches out in mission by...

- Joining the larger church and committing to give 0.7% of our operating budget to the Millennium Development Goals, which aim to reduce poverty among the very poorest in the world.
- Supporting the mission work of the larger church by paying in full our annual diocesan assessment, which includes a portion passed on to the National Episcopal Church for the mission work of the whole church.
- Supporting the Rector's salary and benefits, of which \$4,556 is apportioned for this area.

In addition to the costs reflected in our operating budget, St. James also reaches out in mission by...

- Voting to participate in international support projects, like clean water in Haiti.
- Contributing to special Episcopal Relief and Development campaigns dedicated to "healing a hurting world".
- Contributing to twice annual ingatherings for the United Thank Offering.
- Raising funds through "Africa Night" for the Sudanese Development Foundation, which has helped to build community buildings, schools and a health clinic in Southern Sudan.
- Raising funds through our Christmas wreath project to support a student's education in Honduras.
- Giving our time to help with disaster relief work in Honduras, New Orleans, and Vermont.
- Giving our time to partner with refugees in our community; helping to care for and support them in the midst of transition.

Some questions
to consider...

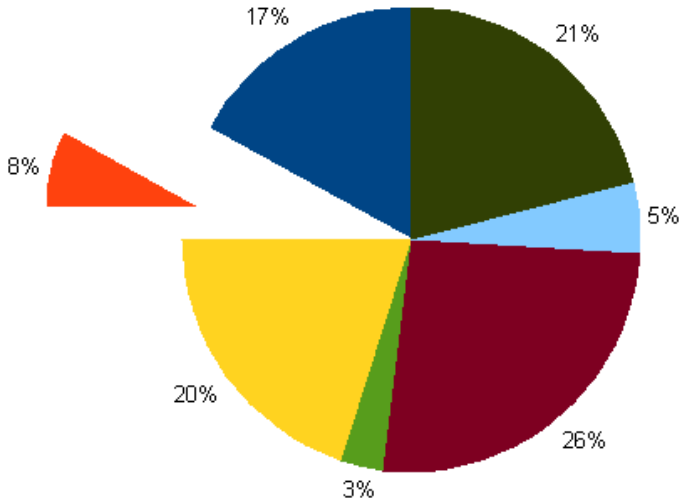
In what new way is God
calling you to help in
"healing a hurting
world"?

Who are "the least of
these" in your life?



Serving the Community

\$15,604



Luke 3:10-11: And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise."

St. James serves the community by...

- Giving 1% of our operating budget to local groups in need.
- Supporting the Rector's salary and benefits, of which \$13,668 is apportioned for this area.

In addition to the costs reflected in our operating budget, St. James also serves the community by...

- Housing Essex Meals on Wheels, which serves Essex and parts adjacent.
- Housing the Ecumenical Lunch Bunch, which provides lunch weekly to 83 low income Essex children during the summer.
- Housing Alcoholics Anonymous.
- Housing the Vermont Choral Union.
- Housing the St. Andrews Society.
- Organizing an annual rummage sale, which, through free vouchers, provides quality used clothing for low income families in the area.
- Distributing thousands of dollars annually to numerous community groups, including but not limited to: JUMP, Camp Agape, Ecumenical Lunch Bunch, Vermont Food Bank, Episcopal Relief & Development, and the Essex school nurses.
- Giving our time in support of the KAIROS prison ministry, the Neighbor Helping Neighbor Christmas Project, Habitat for Humanity, the COTS Walk, JUMP, the Burlington Emergency Shelter, the Essex Junction Heavenly Pantry, the Ecumenical Lunch Bunch, Rock Point Summer Camp and Camp Agape, among others.

Some questions to consider...

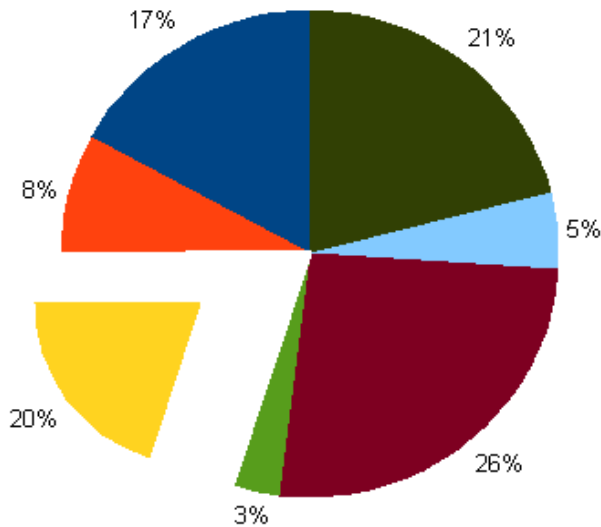
How many tunics do you have, and to whom do they belong?

In what other ways do you see St. James serving the community?



Supporting Worship and Music

\$38,653



*O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
- Psalm 96:1-6*

St. James supports our worship and music by...

- Purchasing and using a large variety of music.
- Maintaining an organ and Clavinova and sound system to enhance our music and worship.
- Purchasing altar flowers when needed.
- Purchasing altar supplies and vestments for worship.
- Purchasing curriculum and supplies for Children's Chapel.
- Supporting supply clergy when needed.
- Supporting the Music Director's salary.
- Supporting the Rector's salary and benefits, of which \$27,336 is apportioned for this area.

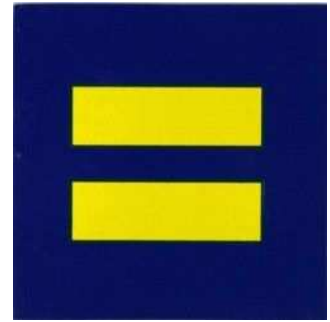
In addition to the costs reflected in our operating budget, St. James also supports our worship and music by...

- Giving our time to serve in a wide variety of ministries, which include but are not limited to: Greeters, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Crucifers, Readers, Counters, leaders of the Prayers of the People, in the Nursery, on the Altar Guild, and on and on.
- Supporting a Deacon.
- Supporting an unpaid Director of the Hand Bell Choir.
- Supporting a larger variety of unpaid musicians from within the parish.
- Supporting many student musicians from outside of the parish.
- Giving our time to serve on the Worship Committee, which meets monthly to support the Rector in all things liturgical.

Some questions
to consider...

In what ways have
worship and music at
St. James fed your soul?

What is the "new song"
that we are singing?

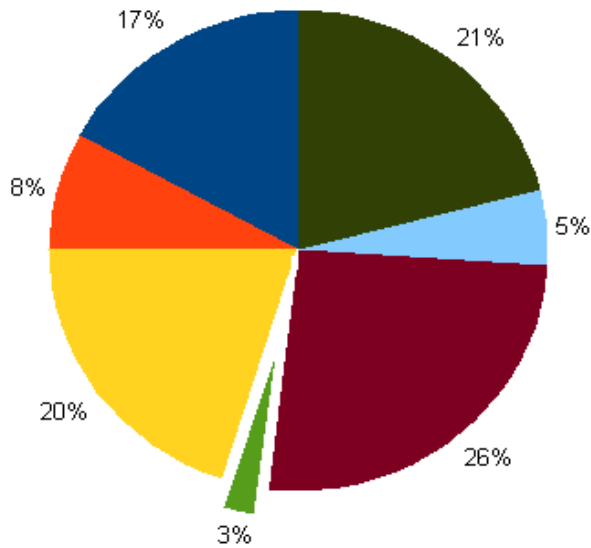


THE ESSEX REPORTER



Inviting Others to Share Our Lives

\$4,856



Matthew 5:7: Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.

St. James invites others to share our lives by...

- Advertising in the local weekly newspaper, The Essex Reporter, our regular schedules as well as our special Christmas and Holy Week schedules.
- Maintaining a website (www.stjamesvt.org) which provides information to those searching for a church.
- Supporting the Rector's salary and benefits, of which \$4,556 is apportioned for this area.

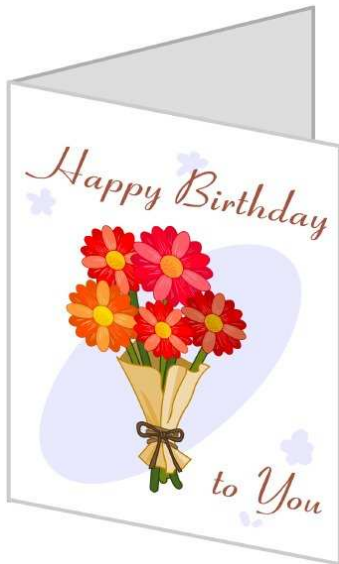
In addition to the costs reflected in our operating budget, St. James also invites others to share our lives by...

- Welcoming all who come to St. James, regardless of age, gender, race, economic means, marital status or sexual orientation.
- Hosting regular events for newcomers, including brunches and wine & cheese parties.
- Maintaining a facebook page (www.facebook.com/stjamesvt), which provides current information about, and pictures from the parish.

Some questions to consider...

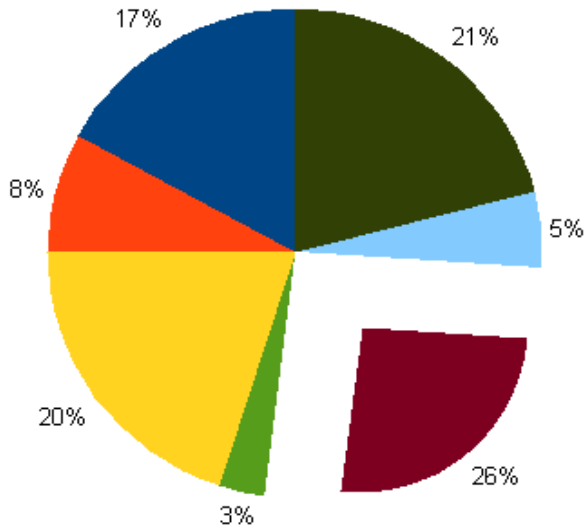
In seeking at St. James, what do you hope you will find?

When others knock, how will you open the door?



Caring for Our Church Family

\$49,567



1 Thessalonians 5:12-13: We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work.

St. James cares for our church family by...

- Covering liability insurance costs.
- Supporting parish life, which includes special receptions, church meals, and Sunday coffee hours.
- Supporting the church office, which includes purchasing postage, office supplies, computer software, internet and phone services, and leasing a copier.
- Supporting the Administrative Assistant's salary.
- Supporting the Rector's salary and benefits, of which \$22,780 is apportioned for this area.

In addition to the costs reflected in our operating budget, St. James also cares for our church family by...

- Providing meals to those who are homebound and are recovering from an illness or surgery.
- Providing transportation to those who are recovering from an illness or surgery and need to get to the store, doctor's appointments, etc.
- Providing prayer shawls for those in need.
- Sending anniversary and birthday cards to parishioners celebrating anniversaries and birthdays.
- Giving our time to serve on the Pastoral Care Committee, which meets monthly to support the Rector in providing pastoral care to parishioners, including taking Holy Communion to them in their homes.

Some questions
to consider...

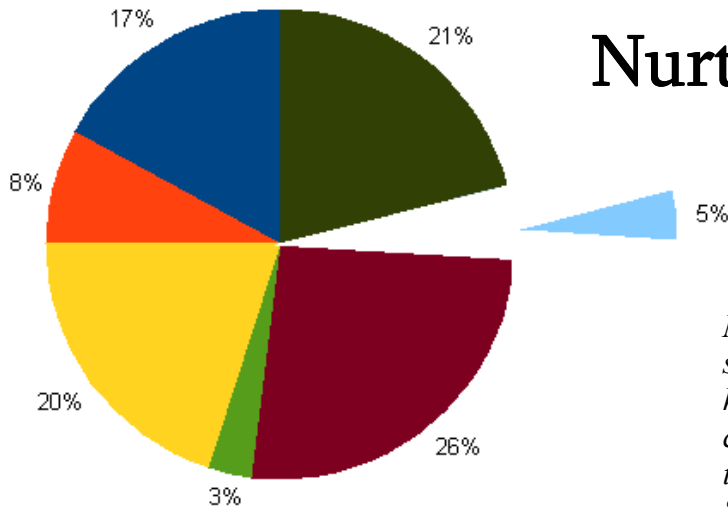
Share a story of a time
when you experienced
first hand the caring
nature of our church
family.

What does it look like to
“respect those who labor
among us”?



Teaching and Nurturing Our Members

\$10,512



Matthew 28:18-20: Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

St. James teaches and nurtures our members by...

- Supporting stewardship development, which includes purchasing and printing stewardship materials.
- Supporting Children's Christian Education, which includes purchasing the Godly Play curriculum and materials, as well as a subscription to the online resource Weaving God's Promises.
- Supporting Adult Christian Education, which includes purchasing videos and resources for adult education.
- Supporting the Rector's salary and benefits, of which \$9,112 is apportioned for this area.

In addition to the costs reflected in our operating budget, St. James also teaches and nurtures our members by...

- Giving our time to serve in the nursery during the late Sunday service and on other special occasions.
- Giving our time to serve as teachers and teachers helpers for Godly Play and Weaving God's Promises.
- Giving our time to serve as chaperons and leaders during Youth Group outings and events.
- Participating in Adult Education programs, and covering the associated costs.
- Giving our time to serve on the Stewardship Committee, which focuses both on the annual pledge drive as well as year-round stewardship.
- Participating in the monthly Parables and Pancakes Bible discussion group.
- Participating in the weekly meditation group which centers on contemplative prayer.

Some questions to consider...

What commitment of your time, energy, and resources are you willing to make in teaching and nurturing the Body of Christ at St. James?

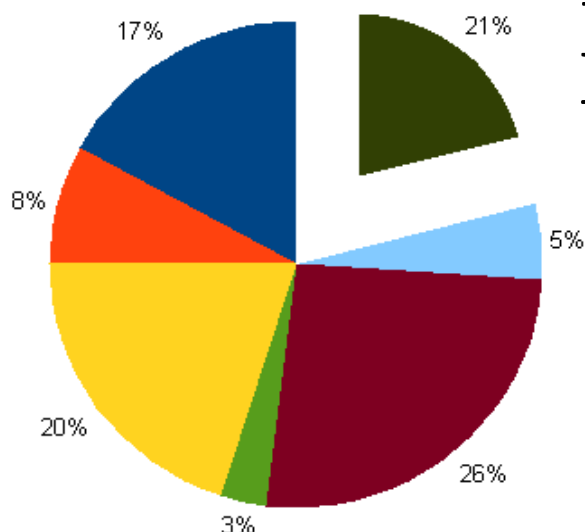
What does it mean for us to "make disciples of all nations"?



Equipping and Maintaining Our Facilities

\$40,659

*The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- Psalm 118:22-23*



St. James equips and maintains our facilities by...

- Covering utility costs at the church and the rectory, including heat, electricity, water and sewer.
- Covering the cost of maintenance at the church and the rectory, including lawn care and snow removal.
- Covering the cost of minor repairs for the church and the rectory.
- Covering payroll service costs.
- Covering workers compensation costs.
- Supporting the Sexton's salary.
- Supporting the Rector's salary and benefits, of which \$9,112 is apportioned for this area.

In addition to the costs reflected in our operating budget, St. James also equips and maintains our facilities by...

- Giving our time to serve in maintaining our many gardens, mowing the lawns, and shoveling our sidewalks.
- Giving our time to help with minor repair work.
- Giving our time to serve on the Buildings & Grounds Committee, which meets monthly to support the work of the Jr. Warden and Vestry by actively collecting bids for, and working on, various projects.
- Giving our time and resources in support of a Capital Campaign, which has enabled us to replace the church roof, repave the drives, and soon, to add an improved handicap access.

Some questions
to consider...

How will we be good
stewards of our facilities
for generations to come?

In what ways is God
calling us to further share
our facilities with our
neighbors?

2012 Financials for Narrative Budget

	\$ of Budget	% of Budget	\$ of Rector in Budget	% of Rector's Time	TOTAL \$ of Budget	TOTAL % of Budget
<u>Reaching Out in Mission</u>	\$29,198	15%	\$4,558	5%	\$33,754	17%
<u>Serving the Community</u>	\$1,936	1%	\$13,668	15%	\$15,604	8%
<u>Supporting Music and Worship</u>	\$11,317	6%	\$27,336	30%	\$38,653	20%
<u>Inviting Other to Share Our Lives</u>	\$300	0%	\$4,558	5%	\$4,858	3%
<u>Caring for Our Church Family</u>	\$26,787	14%	\$22,780	25%	\$48,567	26%
<u>Teaching and Nurturing Our Members</u>	\$1,400	1%	\$9,112	10%	\$10,512	5%
<u>Equipping and Maintaining Our Facilities</u>	\$31,547	16%	\$9,112	10%	\$40,659	21%

\$ of Budget

Reaching Out in Mission = Diocesan Assessment, MDGs .7% from budget, Diocesan Convention.

Serving the Community = Outreach 1% from budget

Supporting Music and Worship = Music Director Salary, Supply Clergy, Altar Guild – Flowers, Altar Supplies, Music.

Inviting Other to Share Our Lives = Evangelism

Caring for Our Church Family = Admin Assist Salary, Parish Life, Parish Administration, Parish Facilities, Insurance.

Teaching and Nurturing Our Members = Christian Education, Stewardship Development.

Equipping and Maintaining Our Facilities = Sexton Salary, Workman's Comp, Payroll services, Snow removal, Rectory expenses, Church heating and electricity and sewer.

% of Budget = \$ of Budget / \$193,603 * 100

\$ of Rector in Budget = % of Rector's Time * \$91,119

TOTAL \$ of Budget = \$ of Budget + \$ of Rector in Budget

TOTAL % of Budget = TOTAL \$ of Budget / \$193,603 * 100

