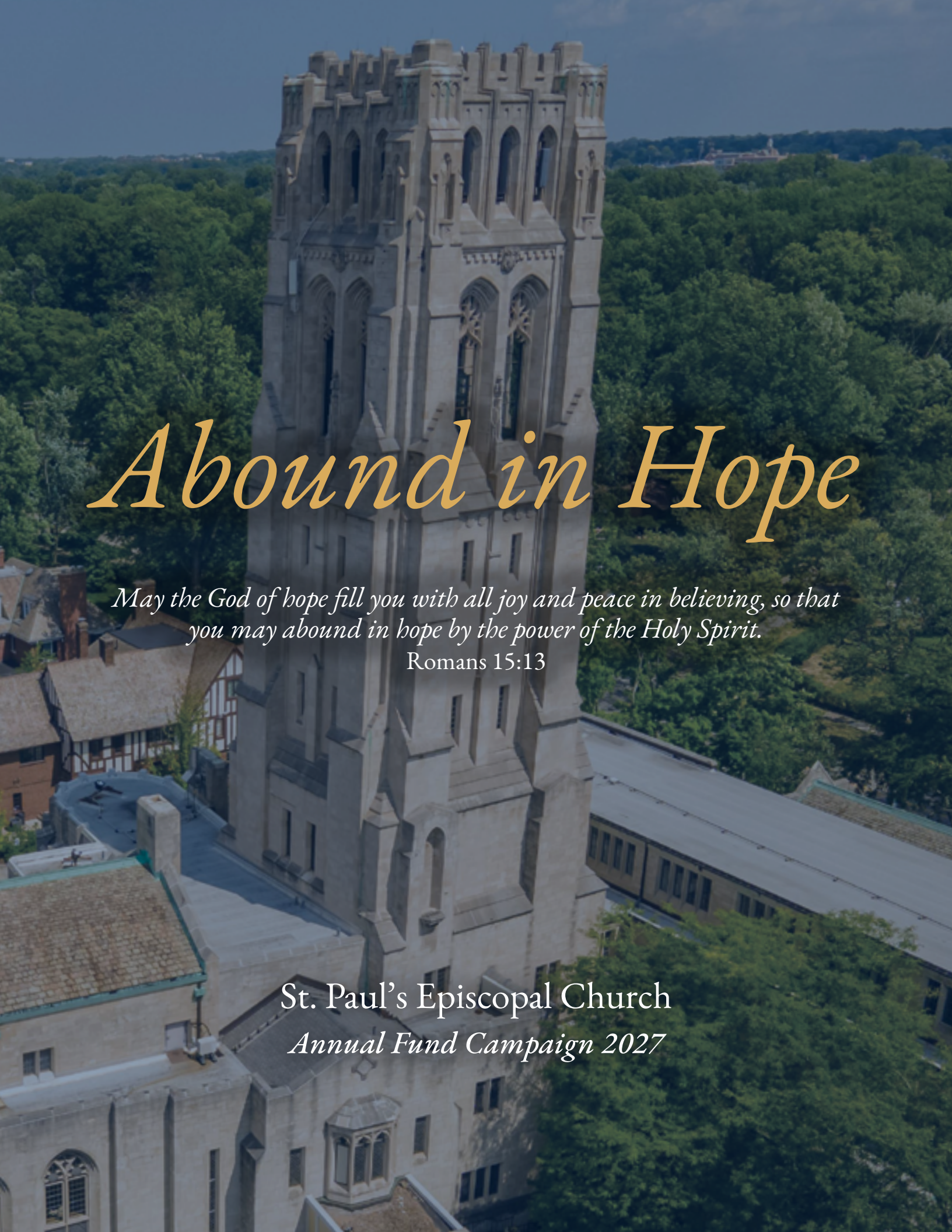


Abound in Hope

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Annual Fund Campaign 2027

Abound in Hope



Near the end of his letter to the Church in Rome, Saint Paul writes, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

For nearly 180 years, Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church has been abounding in hope. Through times of joy and sorrow, struggle and thriving, we have been a community of hope.

When 46 families first gathered at the American House to found our parish, they did so while abounding in hope. When Bishop McIlvaine recruited an ardent abolitionist to be our rector in 1863, he did so while abounding in hope. When the Reverend Chave McCracken invited Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to speak in the nave, he did so while abounding in hope.

Each pledge to our 2027 *Abound in Hope* stewardship campaign joins together to ensure that Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church continues to be a community that is grounded in, sustained by, and thrust forward by hope. We cannot know what opportunities and challenges we will face in the next 180 years, or even in the next year, but what we do know is that we will face them together and with hope.

If you have made a pledge to our parish in the past, thank you. If you are just considering making one for the first time, thank you. We are grateful for every gift to our campaign and grateful for all that you do for our community that is Saint Paul’s. Thank you.

Every blessing,

T.J. +

The Reverend T.J. Freeman *SMMS*
17th Rector, Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church



WORSHIP

Our rich, traditional liturgies and wide range of services offer a message of hope that comforts and empowers us for daily living in a broken world.







HIGHLIGHTS

241 Worship services in the last year

18 Baptisms were celebrated

19 Average weekly attendance of the livestream at Judson Park

135 Volunteers supported worship services in the last year













MUSIC

The glorious music of St. Paul's inspires and uplifts us,
drawing us ever closer to the abundant love and grace of God.







Bishop Anne B. Jolly taking her signature "selfie" with the Youth and St. Cecilia & St. David Choirs on Confirmation Sunday



HIGHLIGHTS

29 Adults in the Senior Choir, including three choral scholars & sacred music intern gaining professional experience

35 Young people in our children & youth choirs

80 Anthems prepared by each the chorister program & Senior Choir

4+5+47+5+1

Organs, pianos, carillon bells, handbell octaves and harpsichord lovingly maintained for the adoration of God through music



"The St. Paul's chorister program has provided a way for our kids to actively participate in church as they get a great music educational experience and form deep bonds of friendship with other choristers." -Sonja Rajki

ADULT FORMATION

Our adult formation programs and spirituality groups provide opportunities for exploration, inquiry, and the deepening of our faith.







Sunday morning Forum about the Senior Choir's Pilgrimage



Parenting as a Spiritual Practice families continue to meet and share life together

HIGHLIGHTS

22 Sunday morning Forums with an average attendance of 35 adults from various life stages

200 Hours of Contemplative Prayer gatherings

14 Families met to share and learn during five *Parenting as a Spiritual Practice* gatherings









CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Our children and youth programs abound in hope and joy as they instill and strengthen the knowledge of God's love through sacred stories, exploration of faith, and the nurturing of innate spirituality.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

14 Trees planted by *TotalChaos* at Church of the Redeemer, Lorain

39 Weekly average of children & youth at the 9 a.m. service

29 Kids participated in C.A.S.T. shows, 14 of whom were in *both* the fall and spring shows

8 High schoolers confirmed by Bishop Jolly

50+ Students from Pre-K to grade six attended church school

All-time high attendance at family-focused Holy Week services








COMMUNITY WELCOME

Through the Art Gallery, Act II Resale Shop, 12-step groups, Boy and Girl Scout troops, Apollo's Fire concerts, Open Doors Academy, and numerous other organizations, St. Paul's shares its message of hope with the broader community.




OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Our many outreach volunteers abound in hope as they faithfully prepare or serve meals, tutor a child, mentor the formerly incarcerated, provide Christmas gifts, or build a house—seeking to be Christ's hands in the world.

HIGHLIGHTS

3,983 Hot meals prepared and/or served by the Casserole Crew and Loaves & Fishes volunteers

773 Pairs of warm winter socks collected and distributed at the Loaves & Fishes Christmas Dinner

67 Scholars supported by 19 St. Paul's Volunteers at Open Doors Academy Summer Reading Camp

59 EDWINS graduates honored at celebratory brunches sponsored by St. Paul's







As a founding member of Greater Cleveland Congregations, St. Paul's has been part of GCC's 15 years of growth, a powerful force for positive change, creating justice and opportunity for our community.





PASTORAL CARE

It is in life's most difficult moments that our connection to community—especially our faith community — is most essential. The support and compassion we receive from our clergy and from one another guide us through our hardest times.





> *"When I bring the Eucharist to our homebound parishioners, I'm reminded that the church doesn't end at the altar. Carrying Christ's healing presence directly to those who need comfort, hope, and connection has transformed my own faith. In those quiet, sacred moments of sharing, the distance between us disappears—and I find that my own heart is just as nourished as theirs."* - St. Paul's Lay Eucharistic Visitor





FELLOWSHIP

Our many fellowship opportunities enable us to strengthen the bonds of community with one another. In these moments—sharing a meal, celebrating a milestone, or simply having a conversation—we come to know one another not simply as fellow parishioners, but as family.















HIGHLIGHTS

240 Hot dogs and brats grilled at the Parish Picnic

16 Chefs competed in the Fifth Annual Chili Cook-Off

162 Ice cream cones scooped at the Pentecost party

30 Attended the Women's Fellowship Retreat at Bellwether Farm

MAKING A PLEDGE

WHAT IS A STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE?

An annual stewardship pledge is an estimate of your giving intentions to the church for the coming year. These gifts cover the costs of operating the church each year, including clergy and staff salaries, building maintenance, outreach ministries, and programming. By sharing your 2027 giving intentions this fall, parish leadership can budget responsibly for the year ahead.

WHY DO WE PLEDGE?

We make a pledge as an act of faith—a spiritual practice that demonstrates an understanding that all we have comes from God. Through our pledge, we recognize that everything we have—our time, our talent, our treasure—was received as a gift.

Pledging for the coming year gives us an opportunity to respond to those gifts freely and joyfully rather than out of obligation. And as we pledge, we join with our fellow parishioners in saying that St. Paul's matters.

Our combined pledges ensure our shared ministries can continue to serve this congregation and the wider world with the same generosity we have received.

HOW TO PLEDGE

PLEDGE ONLINE



Access the secure, online pledge form on StPaulsCLE.org by clicking the **Giving** link in the top right.



Scan this QR code with your phone or tablet for the secure, online pledge form.

PLEDGE CARD



Complete the enclosed pledge card and return it by mail or in person to the parish office.



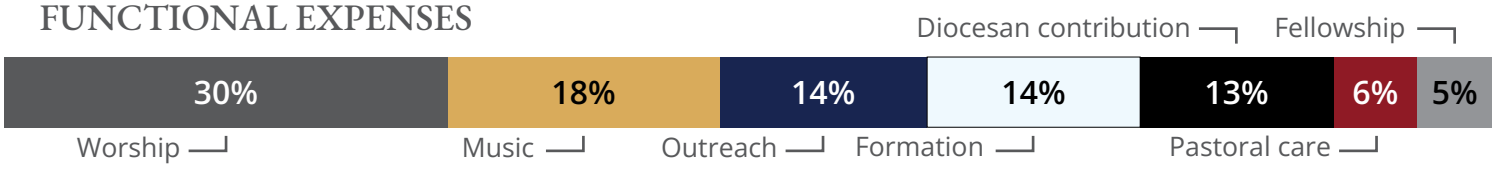
Fill out a pledge card at church. Put it in the offering plate, parish office, or "Donations" slot in the Foyer by the office.

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

REVENUE



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES









ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Seeking. Serving. Loving. *Together.*

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