

# **St. George's Memorial Church**

## ***Oshawa***

### ***Our Parish Story - 2014***

#### ***Our Mission***

The parish community of St George's Oshawa exists to worship God and proclaim Christ, to minister and to help people grow in fellowship and faith.

# **St. George's Memorial Church**

## ***Our Parish Story***

The dollar amounts for the year 2013 are from the Vestry Financial Report and have been re-distributed to the new categories. Obviously, some budget items cross over to several categories, in which case the cost was distributed proportionately across those categories.

The volunteer hours do not include paid employees' hours. The dollar amounts are not reconcilable to the volunteer hours. The volunteer hours represent only the total gifts of time and talent freely given.

## **St. George's Memorial Church**

### ***Our Parish Story***

#### **Our Vision**

St. George's Memorial Church is a caring, Christian community welcoming church that provides Christian learning for life, an inclusive, participatory style of worship, an inviting church environment and a vibrant outreach ministry on a solid base of expanded financial resources.

Our Vision is supported by six strategic directions....

1. Developing a culture of participation
2. Encouraging growth in financial commitment
3. Developing a continuing Christian education program
4. Gathering regularly for spiritual learning and socialization
5. Inviting the community to God's open house
6. Creating an accepting environment for change

We live out our Mission and Vision through four distinct areas of ministry:

1. Outreach
2. Worship
3. Christian Education & Spiritual Growth
4. Fellowship and Pastoral Care

# St. George's Memorial Church

## *Our Parish Story*

### Outreach

#### **Matthew 25:35-36**

***"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me."***

St Georges reaches out to our own parishioners, newcomers, the local and wider community and the wider church. Our location as a downtown church acts as a catalyst for St. George's to fulfill its mission. We support our local and wider community through:

FaithWorks	Meals on Wheels,
Meal Tickets	Christmas Gift Hampers
Gate 316	St Vincent's Kitchen
Food Bank	Chimer's Guild
Youth Ministry	Open Door Program
World Vision	Mary Street Community School Breakfast Program
The Refuge	Seventh Oshawa Boy Scout Group
	Outreach Community Dinners

Over 9,000 hours of our parishioners time is used in supporting our various outreach programs. This is in addition to time that many of our parishioners spend on beneficial community activities that are not closely associated with St. George's

Here is what the principal of Mary Street School has to say about our support.

*"Many of our children live below the poverty line...the Breakfast Club is a vital part of a good school experience for most of our needy students and we would like to thank the daily volunteers ....the support that St. George's volunteers give us is critical."*

**Outreach** – 28% of our Budget supports Outreach

2013 Actual	2014 Budget	Volunteer Hours
\$108,970	\$107,000	2,992

# Our Parish Story

## Worship

### **Psalm 95**

***"Come let us sing unto the Lord and with our hearts rejoice in our salvation."***

We come together to worship. Worship is vital to the life of our church and it is something that we can do together as we gather as a community. The worship of God comes out of our values as a church and as followers of Christ. We want to worship God with our whole lives. We come together as a community of believers to express together our love for the living God and say that we worship Him with our whole lives.

The talents of our parishioners and clergy support a varied and powerful worship program at St. George's that includes traditional and contemporary formats.

The Chimer's Guild uses the great bells of the "Carswell Memorial Chimes" to reach out into the surrounding community for all services, weddings, funerals and special occasions including community events.

Our regular worship times:

<b>Sunday</b>	8:15 am	Service of Holy Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer)
	10:00 am	Service of Holy Eucharist with Music (Book of Alternative Services)
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:30 pm	Lay lead service of Evening Prayer
<b>Thursday</b>	10:00 am	Service of Holy Eucharist

Special Liturgies include: blessing of animals, blessing of graves, healing services, evensong, advent and Christmas lessons and carols, All Souls' Requiem

We also come together to share and to learn: In addition to regular Sunday and weekday worship in our beautiful church, God's name is praised by a multitude of faithful parishioners participating in:

Prayer Groups	Intercessors
Chimers Guild	Choir and Praise Team
Servers Guild	Altar Guild
Lectors	Lay Readers
Sides Persons	Chalice Administrators

**Worship** – 32% of our budget supports Worship

2013 Actual	2014 Budget	Volunteer Hours
\$116,739	\$121,750	6,994

# ***Our Parish Story***

## **Christian Education and Spiritual Growth**

### ***1 Peter 2:2***

***“Like newborn babes, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation.”***

Our Christian Education programs at St. George’s provide for the spiritual education of our adult members through the use of bible studies, prayer workshops and conferences. The wedding preparation programs help the new couple establish a spiritual base for their future together and our baptismal program welcomes new members into the Body of Christ. Periodic sessions are provided for young adults who are wrestling with issues of faith in a modern society.

Our Christian nurture of children begins in the nursery and depends on the volunteer assistance of parents. From cradle to college, we provide a number of opportunities for children. The Church School program on Sundays runs concurrent with church service and provides a number of activities to bring out the importance of a relationship with God through Jesus. When parents and clergy feel children are ready, they are offered an opportunity to make a personal commitment to Christ through Confirmation.

Our Archivist records our past achievements and keeps the displays of photographs and notices around the church current. These displays mark special days and occasions in the life of our church.

We come together to share and learn through

Baptism Preparation	Sunday School
Confirmation Preparation	Interactive Liturgies with Children
Wedding Preparation	Vignettes of the Passion
Church Archives	Bible Study
Seasonal book reviews	Seminars on Spirituality
Spring Conferences	

***Christian Education and Spiritual Growth:*** 17% of our budget supports Education and Spiritual Growth

2013 Actual	2014 Budget	Volunteer Hours
\$58,411	\$64,375	1,622

## ***Our Parish Story***

### **Fellowship and Pastoral Care**

#### ***Hebrews 13:16***

***“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have for such sacrifices are pleasing to God”***

St. George’s provides emotional and spiritual support during joyful and challenging times in life. Our clergy ministers to the spiritual needs of our parishioners and those in the Oshawa area. Counselling for bereavement, marital and family issues and other pastoral care matters are offered. It is always possible to meet for one-on-one meetings at mutually agreeable times and places.

We also have an active lay visitation program. The Christian Companions program provides trained visitors for fellowship and support among our seniors and house bound parishioners. Our lay leaders continue to be a major support in pastoral care and support our ministry in a variety of areas

The parish has a number of social activities that are planned and spaced throughout the year to provide times of fun as well as funds for the parish.

The Intercessory Prayer Group and the Men’s Fellowship Group meet on alternate Saturday mornings. St. Bede’s and the Craft Group meet for fellowship and support of various church or community projects.

We care for the spiritual needs of ourselves and each other through:

Counselling	Lay Ministry
Special Services	Health Cabinet
St Bede’s Group	Coffee Hour Fellowship
Christian Companions	Services at Retirement and Seniors residences
New Comers Ministry	Theme Socials (Caribbean Dinner, British Tea)

***Fellowship and Pastoral Care*** – 24% of our Budget supports Fellowship and Pastoral care

2013 Actual	2014 Budget	Volunteer Hours
\$85,338	\$91,875	5,363

## ***Our Parish Story***

### **Support for the Mission and Ministries**

At St. Georges there are many dedicated volunteers who fulfill various roles supporting the mission and ministries of the church with regard to finance and administration, Property maintenance, and stewardship education and development.

Volunteers assist the Chief Administrative Officer with the Church office and administrative activities.

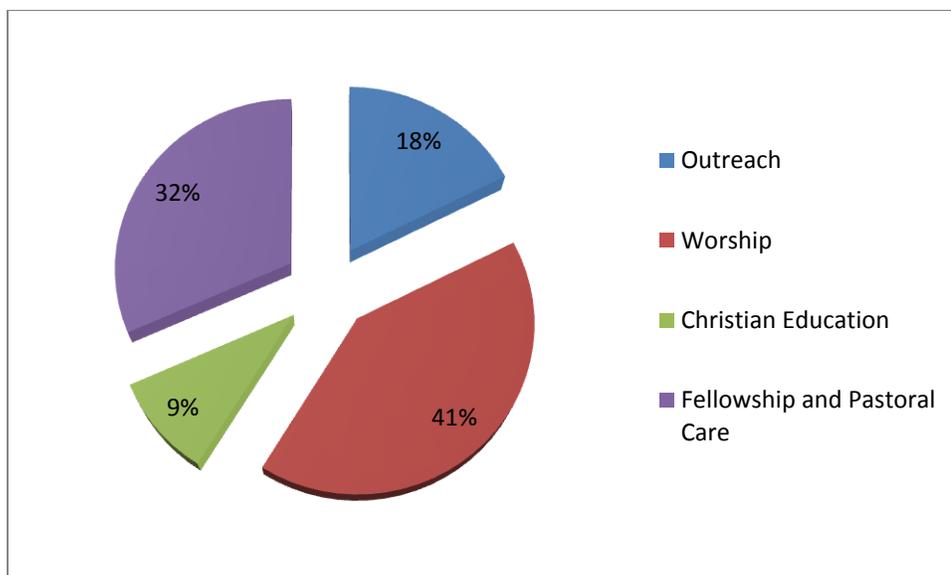
The Treasurer keeps the Parish financial books and performs financial activities in accordance with the annual Vestry budget.

The Property Manager, Property Committee, and the Sexton maintain and upgrade our buildings and grounds to provide an attractive and welcoming environment. Our facilities provide a location for meetings, discussions, education, worship, and use by outside organizations. Since 2004, our Property Committee has facilitated an open door program, where the church is open daily for prayer and meditation. The costs of property maintenance are allocated to the various programs that make use of these facilities at St. George's.

The Parish Stewardship Committee is responsible for the planning, review, and execution of the annual plan for stewardship education and development (Growing Healthy Stewards).

### **Investment of Time and Talent**

At St. George's, we give of our time and talent in the following ways



## ***Our Parish Story***

### What members of our parish family have to say about St George's

*We believe Christian Stewardship begins in the heart.  
It means saying "thank you" for all the blessings of this life as well as promoting  
Christian ideals and beliefs. Hearing God's word, sharing in the sacraments and  
fellowship with friends...strengthens us to do God's work*

*I believe that stewardship should be an integral factor in the life of committed  
Christians. As members of a faith community  
it is our responsibility to make sure we have  
the resources necessary to carry out and grow the ministry we proclaim.*

*This is God's house. I really feel his presence here.  
I need to support it and the work done here with my money, time and prayers.  
In all of our human relationships it is said "you get what you give".  
I believe this is also true in our relationship with God.*

*When I come through the doors of St George's,  
I get a refreshing feeling of calm and peace. I believe this comes with an  
obligation to give back our time, talent and treasure.*

### Financial Stewardship

As we grow in our Christian lives, we come to a deeper realization that every good thing we receive, is given to us by God. Christians should live their lives – acknowledging that they are merely stewards of God's

#### ***Luke 12:48***

***Much is required of the person to whom much is given; much more is required from the person to whom more is given" (Luke 12:48).***

Christian giving should be in accordance with New Testament guidelines:

- Cheerfully (2Corinthians 9:7)
- Consistently (1Corinthians 16:2)
- Proportionally to one's income (1Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 8:12)
- Sacrificially (Mark 12:43-44; 2Corinthians 8:2-3)

## ***Our Parish Story***

### Proportionate Giving

In the Old Testament, the tithe (ten percent of one’s income) was the obligatory proportionate gift. In the New Testament Jesus never advocates tithing. Instead, Jesus challenges us to be generous in all that we do and to love our neighbour as ourselves. No set amount or percentage of income is dictated, rather:

***“If you are eager to give, God will accept your gift on the basis of what you have to give, not on what you don’t have” (2 Corinthians 8:12).***

We should give in proportion to what God has given us. Some people use the “modern-day” tithe, 5% of all income, as a guide for their giving (2.5% to church and 2.5% to charity). Others use an hour’s earnings per week as their contribution. Each person must determine what is appropriate.

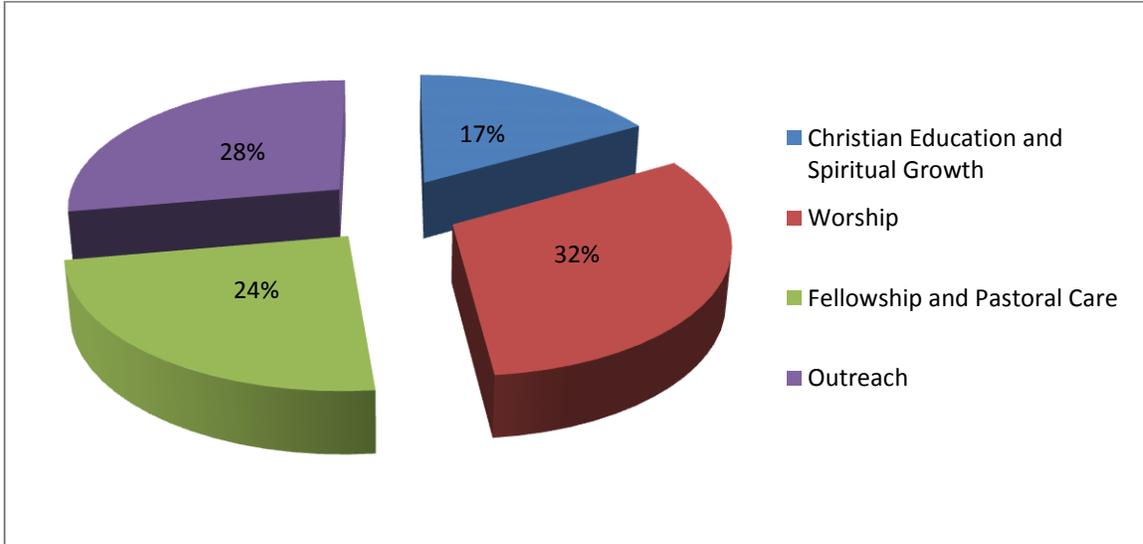
The Proportional Giving Worksheet Guide offers a means of determining one’s present percentage level of pledged financial support to St. George’s church and establishing a commitment for the coming year. It is intended for personal use with prayerful consideration in the privacy of your home.

Annual Income	Annual Giving at 1% of Annual Income	Annual Giving at 2% of Annual Income	Annual Giving at 3% of Annual Income	Annual Giving at 4% of Annual Income	Annual Giving at 5% of Annual Income	Annual Giving at 10% of Annual Income
\$10,000	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
\$25,000	\$250.00	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$2,500.00
\$50,000	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
\$75,000	\$750.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,250.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,750.00	\$7,500.00
\$100,000	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
\$125,000	\$1,250.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,750.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,250.00	\$12,500.00
\$150,000	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00
\$175,000	\$1,750.00	\$3,500.00	\$5,250.00	\$7,000.00	\$8,750.00	\$17,500.00
\$200,000	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00

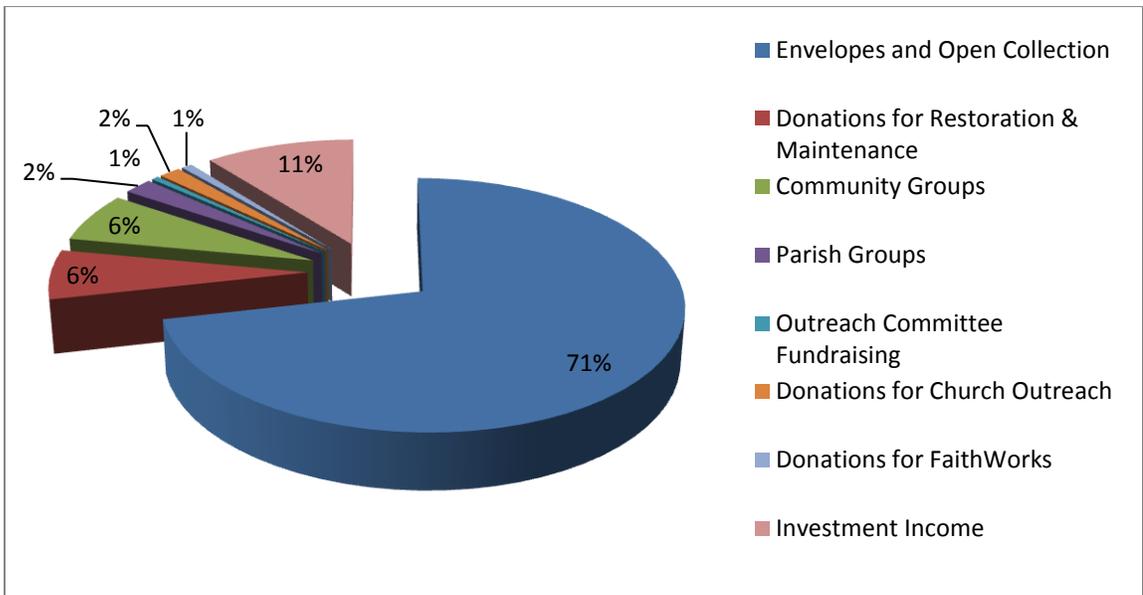
## ***Our Parish Story***

### **Financial Resources \$\$**

The financial resources of our Church are distributed in the following way:



These financial resources are obtained from the following sources:



## ***Our Parish Story***

We ask that you prayerfully consider enriching our Parish Story and the lives of those we serve by giving of your

Time, Talent, and \$Treasure.

Your commitment of financial support as well as personal involvement in the life of the parish is part of your grateful response to God for your blessings. It is only through the generosity of our parishioners that we can provide the loving and caring community that supports each member of our parish family, our community and those in need throughout the world.

We ask you to consider giving by Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). PAR is encouraged as a simple way to make planned and consistent offerings through your chequing account.

Advantages to you, the contributor include:

1. Enables you to budget your support of the ministry of St. George's along with your other household expenses and commitments.
2. Gives you peace of mind, knowing that your support will continue on a consistent basis regardless of your attendance each Sunday.
3. Eliminates "catch up" if you are absent for extended periods of time.
4. Removes the worry of having to find your Offertory Envelopes or remembering to make your offering.

Advantages to St. George's include:

1. Facilitates a consistent and dependable flow of contributions
2. Helps the Corporation better manage the cash flow and administration of the budget
3. Reduces the time the counters spend on bookkeeping and paperwork after each service.

PAR brochures can be obtained at the back of the church or by calling the church office 905-723-7875.