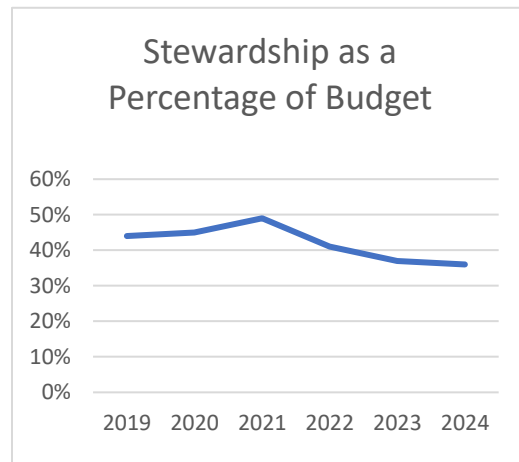
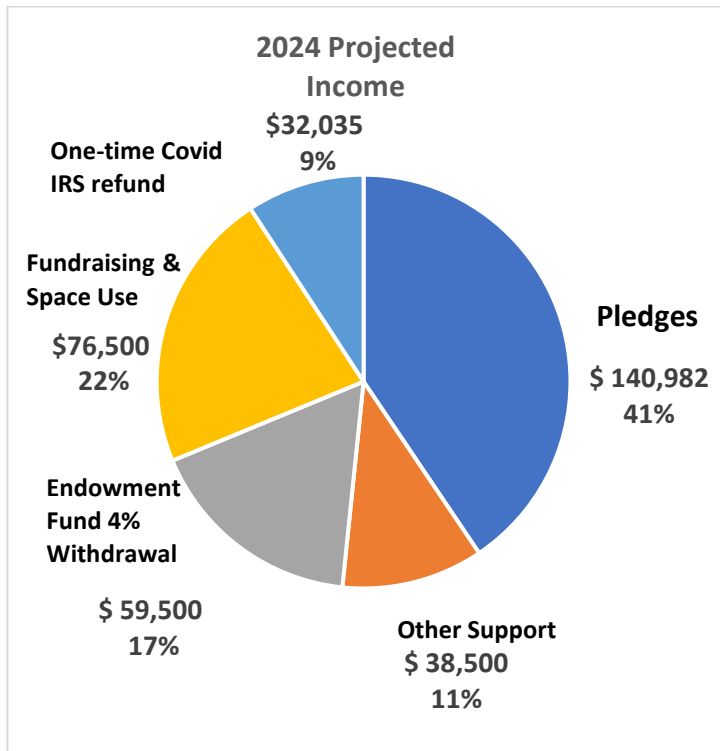


From the Treasurer...

As Treasurer, I want to explain how your pledge contributes to our overall financial picture. Did you know that we have a history of operating with a deficit budget? Ultimately, this is unsustainable. Pledges only cover 41% of our budget. The graph shows the decline in the power of our stewardship over the past few years.



Long term financial health requires pledges to cover 70-90% of a parish's annual expenses. Our stewardship goal this year of **\$200,000** would get us to a more sustainable position. We have taken a leap of faith by committing to a full time Priest-In-Collaboration for these three years, seeing this as a financial investment in our future. But this also requires a financial investment from members of the parish. We invite you to pledge if you haven't. We encourage current pledgers to increase their pledge by between \$10 and \$40 a week. This kind of giving would nurture our longevity and positively impact our budget.

There are many ways to give besides using traditional pledge envelopes. We accept Paypal and credit cards though the church does incur some expense with them. We are also looking to setup a Venmo account at St. John's. Another pledging option is through gifting stocks or using an IRA charitable rollover. Consult your tax or financial advisor for more information.

As stewards, or caretakers, of all of God's gifts, we are blessed by God's trust in us to manage these gifts, to share what we have with others, and to always show gratitude. Stewardship presents that opportunity to share with others while giving thanks.

Thank you,
Sue Lupo, Treasurer