



# *St. Gregory's Episcopal Church*

## *Narrative Budget 2007*

**Mission:** to receive and share God's love  
through worship and fellowship  
so we may seek and serve Christ in others.

**Vision:** to build a community of God's love where  
spiritual journeys are discovered and nurtured.

**Identity:** "We are ambassadors for Christ,  
God appealing to the world through us."

*2 Corinthians 5:20*

## **Foreword**

We are the Diocese of Chicago in Deerfield.  
We are the Episcopal Church USA in Deerfield.  
We are the Anglican Communion in Deerfield.

We are St. Gregory's— 373 baptized members, including 73 members under 16 years of age, living in 194 households.

Less than half of us live in Deerfield—  
and of the rest, some travel from as far south as Chicago, as far north as Gurnee,  
and as far west as Barrington.

And, in this year of our Lord 2006 we are supporting a budget of \$472,725, funded primarily by generous gifts totaling about \$448,000. Another \$24,225 comes from the Spraker Fund, enabling us to have a full-time Youth Minister.

But we— and our budget— are much more than just the numbers. Our annual operating budget is the means by which we carry out our mission and ministry together— the way we fulfill our Baptismal Covenant, the way we represent Jesus Christ in the world, and the way we reach out to make a difference in the lives of people in our several communities, our diocese, our nation, and our world.

The programs and ministries you will read about in these pages tell the rest of our story: the difference we are making together this year, and will continue to make in 2007, as Ambassadors for Christ.

And to tell our story, we need a Narrative Budget.

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## Messages

*From Tom Mauro, for the Standing Committee on Stewardship Ministry*

**Intentional Stewardship . . . a Life of Consciousness.** That's the theme we've chosen for year-round stewardship. Consciousness about who each of us is, the circumstances of our lives, and the blessings we, uniquely and individually, have been given.

We achieve intentional stewardship through observation, evaluation and action. We observe how we use our time, talent and financial resources, and then we evaluate whether those gifts are being used wisely, in accordance with Christ's teachings. *None of this is effective, though, until we take action to focus, or refocus, those blessings in the right direction.*

Intentional Stewardship impacts the way we live our lives. *How do we orient ourselves in a spiritually healthy and constructive way that brings meaningful value to our lives and the world about us?*

St. Gregory's offers the opportunity to create and sustain a base for making Intentional Stewardship a reality in our lives. **We are asked to observe, evaluate and act, to be generous and intentional with our precious God given gifts.**

*From Sarah Snyder and David Schaper, Wardens*

This narrative budget shows the great contribution that the people of the St. Gregory's Parish family make in time and talent to the many missions that serve our parish family and the community. While St. Gregory's employs the equivalent of four full-time paid employees, the members of this parish contribute time and talent to our parish exceeding twice that. This year's stewardship campaign focuses on building on this achievement by asking each of you where you can help. If you aren't sure how you can help, ask any one of the clergy, wardens, Vestry or ministry group leaders.

The second part of any Stewardship campaign seeks money needed to support these ministries. We have two major financial challenges this year in addition to the usual increases needed to maintain our many programs and fund things like rising utility and insurance costs. The first challenge is funding an additional quarter of our youth ministry cost (as the Spraker Fund declines), in order to continue the outstanding youth program we now have. The second is to increase our buildings and grounds budget to meet the needs of maintaining our aging building. *Altogether this will require an increase of pledges of \$44,500 over last year, an almost 12% increase.* (This does not include anything for the Preschool, which is funded separately.) This means that those parishioners who can increase their pledges (namely those who aren't on fixed or declining incomes) need to make *at least* a tithing increase in order to maintain the fine ministries which we together have built for our St. Gregory's Parish family.

*From Bill Roberts, Rector*

There are two bedrock sources for Christian giving. One is St. Paul: "On the first day of the week, let each of you put aside a sum in proportion to what you have earned" (1 Corinthians 16:2). The Biblical proportion is the tithe, or 10%, but that is a daunting proposition! At St. Gregory's, we ask you to calculate some percentage of your income, like 3% or 5%, and then make an intentional stewardship commitment to increase your gift each year by 10%— a tithing increase.

Again from St. Paul: "Each of you must make up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 8-9). The second source is Jesus: "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). But don't we expect Jesus to say, "Where you *heart* is, **there** is your treasure? Jesus knows a secret: investing in him creates spiritual wealth. This year, please consider a **cheerful** tithing increase in your St. Gregory's portfolio!

## What is a *Narrative Budget*, Anyway?

Well, to start with, it's not a *Line Item Budget*. Not that Line Item Budgets are bad.

Line Item Budgets are good for focusing on specific expenditures—  
what does it cost to heat the building?  
what does it cost to print our Sunday bulletins?  
what does it cost to compensate our staff?

Line Item Budgets are also good for promoting financial control and comparing year-to-year budgets.

In short, Line Item Budgets are an essential tool for any organization, and your Vestry relies on them and will continue to rely on them.

Line Item Budgets are good for one more thing— they are the foundation for Narrative Budgets.

So what's good about Narrative Budgets?

For one thing, Narrative Budgets remind us that we don't give money *TO* the church but *THROUGH* the church to touch the lives of people.

For another, Narrative Budgets remind us that we **also** don't give our time and talent *TO* the church but *THROUGH* the church to touch the lives of people. Narrative Budgets are not just about the money— they tell the story of our parish's mission and ministry.

In short, Narrative Budgets show us the interrelationships among our gifts of time, talent, and treasure, and our mission and ministry as Ambassadors for Christ.

So then, how does Narrative Budgeting work?

We begin by recognizing that there are six key components of "The St. Gregory's Experience":

Worship and Music— *everything from Altar Guild to The Gregorlys*

Hospitality and Evangelism— *everything from Coffee Hours to Visitor Cards*

Pastoral Care— *everything from Family Support to Prayer Blankets*

Christian Formation— *everything from Adult Forum to Vacation Bible School*

Parish Life— *everything from Better-Than-Evers to Youth Ministry*

Outreach— *everything from Community Meals to Troop Care Packages*

All parish expenditures are then assigned to one of these six areas.

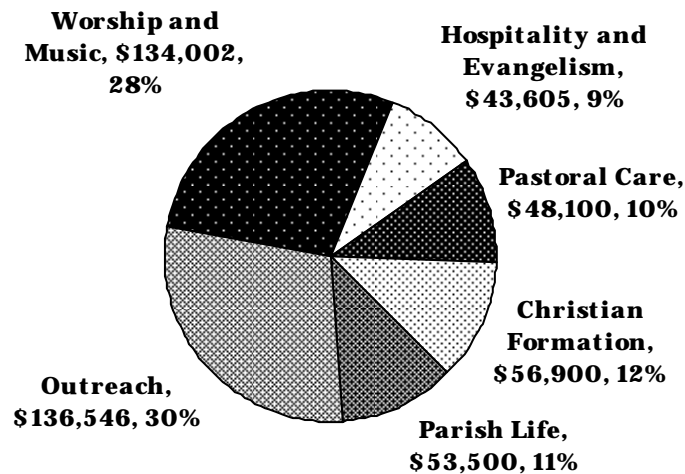
So instead of showing what it costs to heat the building, we allocate that cost among Worship and Music, Hospitality and Evangelism, Pastoral Care, Christian Formation, Parish Life, and Outreach.

And if we allocate all of our aggregate Staff, Program, Administrative, and Property costs among these six areas of our common life, we can develop the Table on the next page.



	Worship & Music	Hospitality & Evangelism	Pastoral Care	Christian Formation	Parish Life	Outreach
Clergy Staff Compensation	\$45,000	\$14,000	\$22,000	\$18,000	\$14,000	\$10,279
Program Staff Compensation	44,702	11,005	5,000	8,000	14,000	4,000
Office Staff Compensation	11,000	6,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	4,067
Program Expenses	3,050	2,500	100	5,600	3,250	110,250
Administrative Expenses	10,000	2,000	1,000	2,000	1,000	1,150
Property and Sexton Expenses	<u>20,250</u>	<u>8,100</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>18,300</u>	<u>11,250</u>	<u>6,800</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$134,002</b>	<b>\$43,605</b>	<b>\$48,100</b>	<b>\$56,900</b>	<b>\$53,500</b>	<b>\$136,546</b>

In turn, we can convert this Table into a Pie Chart:



This Pie Chart helps us see that we don't give TO the church to cover its heating bills, or print service booklets, or pay our Vicar, but THROUGH the church to keep our Sunday School children warm, to help people who are worshipping with us for the first time, and to take the Sacraments of Healing and Holy Communion to the sick. We can see at a glance how our giving is making a difference now, in our own lives, and in the lives of people in our communities, in our diocese, and in such far away places as the Philippines where Kermit Titrud translates the Bible, Iraq where a Marine unwraps her Care Package, and the Sudan where John and Julia Harris are expecting their first child.

This Pie Chart also helps us imagine how every dollar we give THROUGH the church is used for mission and ministry:

30 ¢ for Outreach, for the hungry in Waukegan, ex-offenders at St. Leonard's House, and children confirmed by our Bishop.

28 ¢ for Worship and Music, to "give thanks and praise" to our God, to gladden and comfort our hearts, to challenge us to lead more faithful lives, and to empower us in our several ministries.

12 ¢ for Christian Formation, from developing our children's faith to teaching Centering Prayer.

11 ¢ for Parish Life, to provide fellowship for fun and support, and opportunities for leadership.

10 ¢ for Pastoral Care, to "mourn with those who mourn and rejoice with those who rejoice."

And 9 ¢ for Hospitality and Evangelism, to welcome new members, provide meeting places for people in recovery, and invite seekers to discover the love of God in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now we take a closer look at each of these areas, at the generous gifts of our time and talent as well as of treasure, and how those gifts are making a difference in many lives through our mission and ministry.

## *Worship and Music*

### **Acolytes**

1. Purpose: to assist the priest and provide a youth presence at services.
2. Highlight: Starting last July, the Senior Acolytes make weekly reminder calls to acolytes.
3. Time and Talent: Fifteen acolyte hours per week plus Christmas and Easter services. Senior Acolytes make weekly phone calls prepare acolyte schedules and conduct four or more training sessions per year. Acolyte Mothers and Director clean acolyte cassocks and cottas four times a year. **750 hours.**
4. Contact: Marina Best, Matthew Schaper; Barbara Schaper, Damaris Boutros, and Tracy Webster-Babcock.

### **Altar Guild**

1. Mission statement: To serve the Lord by creating an atmosphere for each church service that will enable the congregation and clergy to have a more meaningful Eucharistic and worship experience.
2. Highlights: The Easter experience from Palm Sunday through Easter— to see the number of people that contributed and their willingness to do so was overwhelming. The Spring Luncheon and meeting— the fellowship, camaraderie, and good food shared at this meeting is always enjoyable.
3. Time and Talent: 3 Sunday, 1 Wednesday service weekly, funerals and weddings. **700 hours.**
4. Contact: Fran Cook, Debbie Welker.

### **Archive**

1. Purpose: to maintain living records of St. Gregory's history.
2. Time and Talent: **70 hours.**
3. Contact: Lyle Ten Eyck.

### **Choir**

1. Purpose: to provide a quality choral experience that will identify, nurture, and develop the singing and musical talent of members of the parish, and to lead the musical parts of the service.
2. Highlights: Cleaning our choir loft from top to bottom on Clean Up Sundays, and sponsoring a Cathedral Shelter Christmas basket; see also inset.
3. Time and Talent: Fifteen choir members contribute two to three hours of rehearsal each week and an hour on Sunday mornings. Choir members also wash or dry clean their own robes, and assist with the music library. **550 hours.**
4. Contact: Jim Collins.

"Singing on Sunday: an hour each week.

Rehearsing: 2-3 hours each week.

Privilege of using and developing a gift I didn't ask for: priceless!

When I am asked to fill in for the professional alto at the 11:00 service, it is so thrilling to sing with the pros! Christmas Eve is such a joy when I am able to sing both services. I especially love Easter— the Palm Sunday music makes me feel hopeful, then Maundy Thursday and Good Friday profoundly stricken, and so triumphant on Easter Sunday!"

### **Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors**

1. Purpose: to assist the priest in the administration of the Sacraments.
2. Time and Talent: Twenty parishioners provide two Lay Ministers at each service. **318 hours.**
3. Contact: Dennis Lietz.

**Junior Ushers**

1. Purpose: to give our young children a way to participate in our family-oriented Nine O'Clock Service. Our Junior Ushers feel involved and welcomed at our church, rather than just sit in the pew.
2. Highlight: After several years of low participation, many younger children and their parents are getting involved. They greet children at the door and help with the Offering.
3. Time and Talent: On average, Junior Ushers (and sometimes their parents) give an hour each Sunday. Other parishioners help with administering the program. **234 hours.**
4. Contact: Jaine Peterson

**Nine O'Clock Bread Ministry**

1. Purpose: to provide homemade bread for our wonderful contemporary 9:00 worship service.
2. Highlights: It has been an honor and a spiritual experience to prepare the bread for communion. While preparing the bread, I pray, mostly thanking God for the opportunity to prepare the bread for the sacrament of the Eucharist. It is quite often one of my times closest to Christ.
3. Time and Talent: **12 hours.**
4. Contact: Bonnie Travis.

**Nine O'Clock Readers**

1. Purpose: to provide our youth another opportunity to be a part of the service each week.
2. Highlight: Many of our readers were featured for the Palm Sunday Passion Narrative.
3. Time and Talent: Readings, rehearsals, and administration: **33 hours.**
4. Contact: Bill and Janet Foltz.

**The Gregorys**

1. Purpose: to praise God through contemporary music.
2. Highlights: Feedback (non-electrical!) from the congregation has been very positive. The new sound equipment, given in memory of Ed Stanwood, has allowed excellent volume and balance control to improve the musicality of The Gregorys.
3. Time and Talent: 10 services, 5 players, 1 hour performances plus 3 hours for setup and rehearsal; equipment selection and sourcing; music selection and procurement. **252 hours** having fun praising God through music.
4. Contact: Jim Swager.

**Ushers**

1. Purpose: to welcome worshipers and assist them, seating and guiding them for Communion.
2. Time and Talent: Ushers arrive before the services and help collect used bulletins afterward. **510 hours.**
3. Contact: Carol Hirsheimer.

*Hospitality and Evangelism*

**Sunday Coffee Hour**

1. Purpose: to physically nourish the people we love and in return for the spiritual nourishment St. Gregory's provides.
2. Time and Talent: **90 hours**
3. Contact: Robin Raimondi.

**Visitors' Bread Ministry**

1. Purpose: to extend St. Gregory's welcome to prospective new members by bringing them a fresh loaf of bread and a note of thanks for attending.
2. Time and Talent: about 12 bread deliveries. **12 hours.**
3. Contact: Jalaine Peterson.

## *Pastoral Care*

### **Birthday Card Ministry**

1. Purpose: to help children in the parish feel that they are special.
2. Highlight: adding new names to the list, indicating more families are joining our church.
3. Time and Talent: 1 hour per month updating and maintaining the list and printing the labels for the envelopes provided by the church. **12 hours.**
4. Contact: Eushelia Wilson.

### **Funeral Reception Committee**

1. Purpose: to provide coffee, tea, and cookies following funerals for the bereaved.
2. Highlight: see inset.
3. Time and Talent: 4-6 hours setting up, serving, and cleaning up, plus phone calls to volunteers and shopping for supplies. **40 hours.**
4. Contact: Barbara Schaper, Nancy Nichols.

I'm not a leader in this one any more, but it is one of the most satisfying committees I've ever worked on, which is why I won't give it up even though I am working full time now. There is so little any of us can say or do to ease anyone's grief, and this is something small that we can take from the family's shoulders at a time when they need to be together and remembering happier times. I usually figure on 4-6 hours for a funeral, and I try to work the entire process from set-up to clean up, since those of us with physical limitations can't give as much in the way of time and movement. I think I worked two funerals this year, but the one I really remember was for Deborah Scott –I was there for about 6 hours from start to finish. It was a real pleasure to get to know so many people who loved her.

### **Karin Howard Family Support Ministry**

1. Purpose: to provide assistance to St. Gregory's parishioners by providing meals and/or transportation services during particularly stressful times, whether joyful, like welcoming a new baby, or difficult, like dealing with sickness or grief.
2. Highlights: We have served more than 25 meals over the past year and provided driving assistance for more than 10 families for medical appointments and school activities.
3. Time and Talent: The three coordinators work with the parish staff and parishioners to schedule and make deliveries of food or other needs, and for transportation. At least **100 hours.**
4. Contact: Brooke Fogt, Nancy Nichols, Ishani Sinnaduray.

### **Prayer Chain**

1. Purpose: to let people know there are others praying for them in their need of love, comfort, and God's help.
2. Highlights: Reports received, for example: from Toledo, "We have noticed the difference in my husband"; from Deerfield, "We found a retirement home that is pleasant and affordable for my aunt and uncle"; from Fox Lake, where a divorced man had been ugly to his three children, "The atmosphere is much better." Another expressed thanks for prayers and a condolence card for her mother's death.
3. Time and Talent: excluding prayer time, co-chairs volunteer **106 hours.**
4. For email contacts: Jim Collins; for telephone contacts: Genevieve Ten Eyck.

**Stephen Ministry**

1. Purpose: to take Christ's love and healing to hurting people.
2. Highlight: from the loved one of a recipient of this ministry: "I can't begin to tell you how comforting it is to have her Stephen Minister tell me each week how he got my mother to smile, or say something to him. I am really proud to be associated with a group that can look a very grim morbidity in the face and come away with something positive to say."
3. Time and Talent: We make weekly calls and visits to over 12 parishioners, and Stephen Ministers attend monthly meetings. We also have a card ministry to 16 parishioners. **1,440 hours.**
4. Contact: Pat Auch, Larry Johnson, Dennis Lietz.

***Christian Formation***

**Brotherhood of St. Andrew**

1. Purpose: Prayer, study, and service, and membership in the worldwide International Brotherhood of St. Andrew, with a key point to be supportive and dedicated to St. Gregory's.
2. Highlights: We finished Rick Warren's *The Purpose-Driven Life*; and the decision to open our monthly dinner meetings to women as well as men.
3. Time and Talent: Our Brotherhood Chapter has a half dozen members who come to our 90-minute monthly meetings which are devotional, spiritual, and exciting. We study the Bible and read books recommended by members. We also offer a parish fellowship dinner on third Tuesdays at a local restaurant with a speaker; these dinners average about 25 participants. Members also assist individuals of the parish who need assistance in coming to church. **60 hours.**
4. Contact: Butler Sharpe.

**Centering Prayer Group**

1. Purpose: to provide support, guidance and fellowship for those who want to pray in silence, in community. Centering Prayer is a form of Contemplative Prayer, or "resting in God."
2. Highlights: Our group (about 12) has been blessed with new souls who were seeking a community devoted to Centering Prayer and the guidance of Thomas Keating's wisdom.
3. Time and Talent: We meet for prayer (30 min), followed by discussion and sharing (1 hour). Preparation and set-up time brings the total to **183 hours.**
4. Contact: Mary Maraist

**Christians@Play**

1. Purpose: to study Scripture and Theology for fun and profit.
2. Highlight: that the study group attracted six men, including one non-parishioner, and one new woman parishioner.
3. Time and Talent: **84 hours.**
4. Contact: Bill Roberts.

**Church School**

1. Purpose: to provide all of our children of all ages the opportunity to learn and experience God by participating in curricula designed to foster learning about the Bible and the Episcopal faith.
2. Highlights: St. Gregory's has 2 active Atriums with 3 dedicated catechists for children from 3 years old through the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. A lectionary-based curriculum is used for the 4th through 8th grade. High school offers an opportunity to discuss important topics about values and morals.
3. Time and Talent: Team teaching requires 3 volunteers for each age group, and gives the teachers flexibility in their Sunday morning commitment. Currently there are 5 separate age groups (3-6 year olds, 1st thru 3rd grade, 4th thru 6th grade, 7th & 8th grade, and high school). The school year begins the Sunday after Labor Day and ends the Sunday before Memorial Day (approximately 30 Sundays). Preparation and meeting times would equate to about a 40 hour time commitment for a full year. Teachers: 640 hours; Church School Coordinator: 160 hours. **800 hours.**
4. Contact: Sharon Henley-Gramer

**Cursillo**

1. Purpose: to help Christians "Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ."
2. Highlights: sponsored an evening song-fest and our first couple for a Cursillo Weekend in several years.
3. Time and Talent: **15 hours.**
4. Contact: Meredith Potter.

**Daughters of the King**

1. Purpose: Prayer, study, and service, and membership in the worldwide International Daughters of the King, with a key point to be supportive and dedicated to St. Gregory's Rector.
2. Highlights: Prayerful production and distribution of 28 Prayer Blankets.
3. Time and Talent: **186 hours.**
4. Contact: Helen Lietz.

**Labyrinth**

1. To provide a kinesthetic form of centering prayer for parishioners and the community.
2. Highlights: restoration of the labyrinth and hosting visiting church groups.
3. Time and Talent: **90 hours.**
4. Contact: Dori Carlson.

**Sally Craig Memorial Library**

1. Purpose: to help parishioners live their lives in Christ and define and perform their ministries by providing information and inspiration in the form of books, magazines, videos and other kinds of media.
2. Highlights: after being used for many months by other parish groups needing work and storage space, the room is now being restored to full time use as a Library. We are on the road to using the computer for processing books to a much greater extent than was possible in the past.
3. Time and Talent: the Librarian and an assistant have contributed about **120 hours.**
4. Contact: Sue Koy.

**Thursday Morning Bible Study**

1. Purpose: to study and discuss selected passages from the Bible.
2. Last year we studied the book of Ecclesiastes. This year we are reading First Corinthians, guided by a study booklet which contains comments and questions that help focus our discussions.
3. Time and Talent: Two members volunteer their time over the course of the year to review and select a study book, order and distribute the books to members, and occasionally write announcements about group meetings to be published in the parish letter. **4 hours.**
4. Contact: Dori Carlson, Dot Elliott.

**Vacation Bible School**

1. Purpose: to provide the children of St. Gregory's and the greater community the opportunity to experience God's love in a fun-filled, creative environment.
2. Highlight: We have many repeat children year after year which leads us to believe we're doing something right! We serve about 35 children each summer. A little more than half are non-parishioners.
3. Time and Talent: 32 volunteers (youth and adults): **315 hours.**
4. Contact: Lauren Hill.

## *Parish Life*

### **Afternoon Bridge**

1. Purpose: Women who enjoy playing bridge and developing friendships with their fellow players. Dues of \$15 support church youth activities, except for small cash prizes for the yearly winners.
2. Time and Talent: Two co-chairmen are selected each year to schedule matches, keep records of all the scores, arrange the final luncheon in May, and award the winners. **14 hours.**
3. Contact: Sybil Ten Eyck, Dot Elliott.

### **Better Than Evers**

1. Purpose: A social group for those of us who are at least 50 years old.
2. Highlights: A dinner and a show at the Marriott, and a cookout at two members' home.
3. Contact: David Ingram, Bob Kimberlin.

### **St. Gregory's Book Club**

1. Purpose: to informally discuss a work of contemporary fiction with a spiritual theme.
2. Highlight: We had four non-St. Gregory's people join us to discuss *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*, which was great fun!
3. Time and Talent: 12 parishioners regularly participate, and the leader volunteers **25 hours.**
4. Contact: Leigh Stewart.

### **Buildings and Grounds Management Team**

1. Purpose: to maintain and update our buildings and grounds to pass on to future generations without saddling their future with debts to pay off.
2. Highlights: Readying Marian House for new Youth Minister; resurfacing the Parking Lot; new window in Youth Minister's Office to comply with "Keeping God's Children Safe" policies.
3. Time and Talent: by individuals: 647 hours, at our Fall and Spring Clean-Ups: 200 hours, for a total of **847 hours.**
4. Contact: Jean Schwarz, Dori Carlson.

### **Evening Bridge**

1. Purpose: A social organization open to anyone (men and women) who wishes to play bridge.
2. Highlights: used fees through St. Agnes Guild to pay for Senior High School Acolyte crosses.
3. Time and Talent: **2 hours.**
4. Contact: Carol Hirsheimer.

### **Finance Committee**

1. Purpose: to prepare the annual budget, review actual income and expenses through the monthly financial reports, and present quarterly and annual financial reports to the parish. The committee also reviews the work of the Treasury Team, and studies and makes recommendations to the Vestry regarding financial matters and policies.
2. Time and talent: **220 hours.**
3. Contact: Larry Johnson.

### **Golf Outing**

1. Purpose: to provide an annual opportunity for fellowship and story-telling.
2. Time and Talent: **12 hours.**
3. Contact: Bill Ober.

### **Investment Committee**

1. Purpose: to monitor and supervise investments in the Endowment Fund.
2. Time and Talent: This Committee of six parishioners volunteers **24 hours.**
3. Contact: Howard Hush.

**Stewardship Ministry**

1. Purpose: to assist the Vestry and Clergy in providing a sound financial and volunteer base for the fulfillment of the mission and ministry of St. Gregory's parish; to educate our congregants on the various aspects of stewardship (time, talent and treasure); to create a year-round presence of the stewardship message; and to initiate or coordinate stewardship activities in conjunction with other organizations in the church.

2. Highlights: Coordinating with the youth's Pancake Brunch and Pumpkin Patch fundraising activities, and the Preschool's Auction; and working on our first Annual Stewardship Campaign.

3. The Committee's current members have participated in 60 hours of meetings, 20 hours of auction gift solicitation, 30 hours of work at the auction, 20 hours preparing and delivering messages for the fall operating fund campaign, and 20 hours of stewardship training. **150 hours.**

4. Contact: Tom Mauro.

**The Treasury Team**

1. Purpose: to record and deposit the weekly contributions, verify and pay the expenses, prepare the records of all financial transactions and prepare monthly financial and annual reports for the Vestry and parish regarding the financial condition of the parish.

2. Time and Talent: **800 hours.**

3. Contact: David Schaper.

**Vestry**

1. Purpose: to govern the parish, setting goals and policies, and making financial and personnel decisions for the parish. The Vestry, together with the Clergy, provides leadership by encouraging new parish ministries and initiatives.

2. Time and talent: **720 hours.**

3. Contact: Sarah Snyder, David Schaper.

**Youth Ministry**

1. Purpose: to offer Middle and High School students opportunities to honor God through caring service to others, share God's love with the community, enjoy one another, and to strengthen them in their faith.

2. Highlights: Building the playhouse, and our mission trip to Benton Harbor, Michigan.

3. Time and Talent: **1,298 hours**, including regular youth group meetings, the pumpkin patch (unloading, set up, and sales), the pancake brunch, the mission trip, and youth commission meetings.

4. Contact: Erica Jeglum.

*Outreach*

**African Team Ministry**

1. Purpose: Sell African-made Crafts and Jewelry to support this East African ministry.

2. Time and Talent: **30 hours.**

3. Contact: Carol Hirsheimer.

**Boy Scout Troop 50**

1. Purpose: to teach outdoor and life skills to young men through the ideals and traditions of Scouting. Troop 50 has been a part of St. Gregory's church for 49 years.

2. Highlights: The troop has over 80 Eagle Scouts, with 4 already advancing to the Eagle rank this year. The troop has contributed to St. Gregory's and the local community through its Eagle service projects, Scouting for Food, helping the Optimist Club Christmas tree set up, the Haunted House food drive for the West Deerfield Food Pantry, spring and fall clean up at St. Gregory's and other special set-ups and moving help, and adoption of families for the Cathedral Shelter Christmas Basket program.

3. Time and Talent: The troop donates over **1000 hours** towards doing a good turn.

(As always, we appreciate the support and the basement home that St. Gregory's offers.)

4. Contact: Jim Millsbaugh.

**Career Renewal**

1. Purpose: To provide free group and individualized counseling for those in job transition.
2. Highlights: Celebrated our 20th year as co-sponsor of this non-denominational ministry with Holy Cross Church. CRM coached 90 job seekers during the year with 20 volunteer advisors, three of whom were members of St Gregory's Church.
3. Time and Talent: St. Gregory's provided three advisors, each coaching an average of four participants, totaling 72 hours. In addition, advisors attend six 3-hour group sessions during the year, totaling 54 hours. A member of our parish also serves as co-chair of CRM, spending 20 hours a year. **146 hours.** Number of job seekers helped: 12.
4. Contact: Tom Mauro.

**Cathedral Shelter**

1. Purpose: to provide presents for Christmas and food for Christmas dinner for poor senior citizens and families who live in Chicago. Many are single parent families or grandparents who have custody of grandchildren.
2. Highlights: For the 2005 Christmas basket season, Cathedral Shelter serves almost 1800 families and will serve almost as many again in 2006. We are continually finding more sponsors as they tell their friends about the program and then the friends tell their friends.
3. Time and Talent: Six parishioners contribute significant time throughout the year and then during the collection period. **600 hours.**
4. Contact: Marilyn Knilans, Carol Hirsheimer.

**Community Meals Program at Christ Church, Waukegan**

1. Purpose: to give a welcome change to those having a difficult time in Waukegan by feeding homeless families and individuals.
2. Highlights: By the end of 2006 we will have served approximately 425 meals, sending leftover food to a Waukegan shelter for battered women.
3. Time and Talent: Parishioners of all ages prepared and served soup, entrees, vegetables, salads, bread, desserts, and beverages, and cleaned up afterward, on five Sundays. **400 hours.**
4. Sue Koy, Paul Maraist.

**Lake County United**

1. Purpose: to encourage conversation across religious, ethnic, economic, generational, and political lines, developing a shared vision to address the common needs of the people of Lake County.
2. Highlights: parishioners helped with the New Americans Initiative, working one on one with immigrants to help them fill out the paperwork to apply for citizenship; 2600 immigrants benefited. Another parishioner negotiated successfully so a landlord would keep a portion of his rentals affordable.
3. Time and Talent: 13 parishioners contributed a total of **192 hours.**
4. Contact: Meredith Potter.

**Missions Board**

1. Purpose: to promote, stimulate, and assist the outreach of St. Gregory's parish to those who are in need.
2. Highlights: Support for St. Thomas, our companion parish in Diamondhead, MS; Mission churches in our own diocese: the Church of the Incarnation, Bloomingdale, and Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Waukegan; missionaries in the Sudan, Kenya, and the Philippines; and our Iraq war veterans, injured and recuperating in hospitals in Germany.
3. Time and Talent: Nine members of the Missions Board give approximately **245 hours.**
4. Contact: Sarah Snyder.

**Troop Care Packages**

1. Purpose: to provide support through cards, letters, and care packages to troops currently deployed. We support troops not only within our parish family but to many others deployed from all parts of the country.

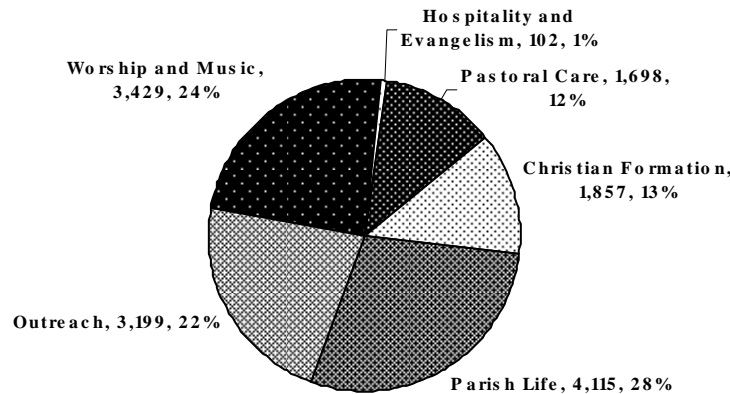
2. Highlights: We sent 350+ packages and 125 phone cards to bring joy to and uplift the spirit of the recipients. We received dozens of heartfelt thank you letters to share with the parish and find for some, this is the only mail that they receive.

3. Time and Talent: over 100 volunteers have contributed a total of **586 hours**, including setting up for each event and mailing, but not including shopping for care package items.

4. Contact: Cissy Singleton, Nuala Kurokawa.

*Summary*

The following chart shows the impressive amounts of hours our parishioners give, not *TO* the church but *THROUGH* the church to make a difference in people's lives. We should all feel the greatest pride and joy in what individually and together we are doing for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ and his people.



This has been our first effort at a Narrative Budget. We have learned a lot in the process of putting it Together, and next year we hope for several enhancements. Among them, we hope to have more stories like those in the two insets, personal Emmanuel Moments or Points of Pentecost that illustrate God's presence and ministry to us and through us.

And we also hope to expand on our descriptions by asking each ministry to provide us with their

1. Purpose
2. Highlights
3. Time and Talents— the number of hours we have served
4. Persons served— the number of *people* we have served
5. Contact

In the meantime, may God continue to bless you richly as you seek to be an Ambassadors of Christ through the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!