

Ministry/Worship

Worship is at the heart of all that we do. Our communal prayer and the renewal that comes with receiving Eucharist forms the basis for the strength to do all the good works for which we were created. The preparation for our services done by our staff allows us to focus as we gather as a community of faith. In addition to attending and praying, we can serve as Acolytes, Altar Guild, Choir, Communication/Tech Team, Flower Guild, Liturgy Guild, and Ushers.

Discipleship

Discipleship is the formation of our hearts and spirits, which is essential to our good works. We gather to learn – as children and as adults. We work with other parishes in our diocese – and indeed with the Diocese itself – to do larger and better things that we can do alone. Our

communication with and for each other allows us to share the best of our ideas. Our work with students at the University of Delaware moves our good work out into the community. And our care for one another, as we visit the sick and home-bound, provide meals and rides to those in need, are only some of the ways we show that we are disciples of Christ, formed for good works.

Community Building

Our community is in the heart of our town and our hospitality to each other and to others is a large part of who we are in Newark. The groups who use our space for meetings and events are recipients of our hospitality, even when we are not present to be with them. Our hospitality to one another, as we share prayers and joy both in our space and beyond shows how we are, indeed, a faith family. Our participation in the

Newark Community Days takes us out into the larger world and shows our heart and caring. Providing our Bazaar and the Health Fair to all keeps us connected to those who live around us.

Mission

Much of our mission is funded through investment accounts, and through a LOT of hard work by the people of this faith family. Blue Hen Bounty, Code Purple, Code Orange, Food Bank of Delaware, and Hope Dining Room require participation from us all in order to share our abundance with those around us who are less fortunate. The donation baskets in the Fellowship Hall take our gently used goods and share them. The box for glasses we no longer use is provided by the Lions Club to assist those who need it. All that we can do to help takes our good work out into a world in great need.

What is a Narrative Budget?

Narrating a Budget is a way to tell the story of who we are through the ways we spend our time and money.

We take the paid staff members and divide up their salaries and benefits in proportion to the amount of time they spend on the categories seen inside this brochure. We do the same with utilities, property, and administrative expenses. We look at the many ways our hands share in the work of this faith community and tell the story of who St. Thomas's is to our community and for our community.

Narration gives us a different way to understand the need to share our abundance with and for each other as we do the good works for which we were created in Newark and in Delaware. We hope it will inspire you to support us financially as we move into the 2024 budget cycle



*Created in Christ Jesus
for Good Works*

— Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's
masterpiece.

He has created us anew
in Christ Jesus,
so we can do
the good things
he planned for us
long ago.



St. Thomas's Parish in Newark Delaware



Budget for 2023

Income:

Facility use	1%
Pledges	89%
Plate	3%
Special Gifts	2%
<u>Investments</u>	<u>5%</u>
TOTAL INCOME	100%

Expenses:

Ministry/Worship	40%
Discipleship	36%
Community Bldg.	13%
<u>Mission</u>	<u>12%</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	100%