

Ministries & Organizations You Can Serve

We operate a number of different ministries and programs to enhance our spiritual development and bring comfort to our community. You can participate by sharing your special talent and time.

AA MEETINGS The Twelve-Step Program created in 1935 by Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith that addresses addiction and changes lives through the real transformative power that is the core of the Gospel.

ALTAR GUILD Comprised of 17 members that work in teams of four rotating to set up the altar and Lord's Table weekly. The Guild is responsible for decorating the church for Christmas and Easter. This special servant ministry is one of the ways newcomers are incorporated into the church family.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Age-appropriate scripture lessons and chapel during the adult service for young children.

CHOIR Our music program significantly enhances the St. Margaret's worship experience. Led by Maria Curry, an LSU faculty member, the choir is frequently augmented with professional singers from the LSU School of Music.



DIOCESE COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Parishioners serve on a variety of Diocesan committees and boards. Current assignments include The Executive Board, attendance and representation at Diocesan Convention and service on the Standing Committee.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRIES Our Prayer Shawl Ministry produces shawls to be given to any person who is ill, or has financial or family problems. This ministry brings hope and relief to anyone who needs to feel the arms of God around them and know they are not forgotten.

KAIROS KAIROS is a prison ministry partially based on Cursillo. Our mission statement is "listen listen love love."

LANDSCAPE Maintaining and planning church grounds and upkeep

LEM VISITORS Lay Eucharistic Minister & Visitors serve and administer sacraments during the mass. Eucharistic visitors take the sacraments of Communion, the Day's Readings and Prayers to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, were unable to be present at the Celebration.

MEN'S GROUP Through sharing a meal together once a month with Bible study or listening to an invited guest, to service projects, prayer and attending retreats, we remind ourselves that while we are waiting on God to work for us, He is waiting to work through us.

S.P.I.N. Serving People In Need is a community organization dedicated to outreach and care for the homeless and needy. St. Margaret's SPIN group delivered 840 meals in the downtown area on the 3rd Sunday of each month under the Mississippi River Bridge in 2017.

VESTRY Members are elected at the annual meeting and serve 3 year terms. The Vestry serves as the executive board of the church, oversees finances and aides the Rector in developing and directing special initiatives.

HERE-TODAY-GONE-TOMORROW An outreach and recycling fund-raising operation to catalog and transport donations to our collection boxes at the front of the property. All variety of clothing and household materials are redistributed to low-income families through this program and the church receives commissions from the sales.



LAUNDRY LOVE An outreach to disadvantaged families in our neighborhood to provide the gift of clean clothes and a helping hand. This ministry takes place the fourth Monday of each month at a local Laundromat.

LADIES NIGHT OUT The women of St Margaret's gather each month for fellowship, study, and outreach at the church or at local establishments.



St Margaret's Episcopal Church

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The Rev'd Tommy J. Dillon II, Rector

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church Baton Rouge, Louisiana

2017
JOURNEY TO
GENEROSITY

*Put simply, life is a God-given
opportunity to become who we are,
to affirm our own true spiritual nature,
claim our truth, appropriate and
integrate the reality of our being,
but most of all, to say 'Yes' to the One
who call us the Beloved."*

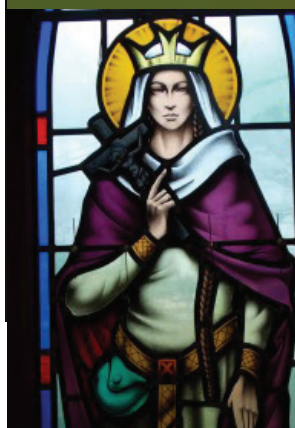
~ Henri J.M. Nouwen

St. Margaret's is entirely dependent on the free-will gifts of its parishioners. We have no endowment, and receive no financial support from the Diocese. Our members pledge support for St. Margaret's out of obedience to scripture, gratitude for the blessings they have received in life, and to invest in the future of our Community. Each gives of their time, treasure and talent.

The generosity of our congregation is the life-blood of St. Margaret's, and the hallmark of our Christian character. We encourage members to make an annual pledge -- a commitment in faith that God will continue to provide the resources we need to continue His ministry. Many members give a standard biblical tithe (10% of their annual income). Some members give more, and others give considerably less. Each gives as they are able. The important thing is the sense of fulfillment that we receive, and the opportunity for spiritual growth that we gain, once we become financially committed to St. Margaret's and participate in our church's programs.

Over the next few pages we will describe how we deploy your financial gifts to fulfill the Ministry needs of St. Margaret's. This is a general narrative document and not a step-by-step blueprint of our financial plan. For those interested in such a plan, a more detailed financial statement is available in the church office.

We build our narrative around 5 main areas:
Worship, Congregational Development, Pastoral Care,
Outreach Ministry and Building & Maintenance.

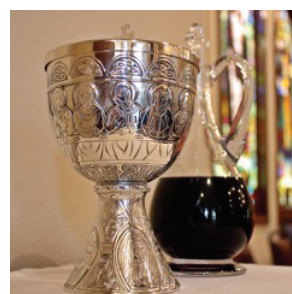


Worship

As Christians, worship is central to our life in the Church. When we gather for the Eucharist, for prayers, or for other sacramental rites, we are reminded of our covenant relationship with God and the saving work of Jesus Christ. As a worshipping community we gather to support one another as well. We gather as a community of faith to praise God and to hear God's word; to renew the bonds that bind us together as the people of God. Worship is central to who we are as a community of faith. What we do on Sunday morning empowers and encourages us to "go forth into the world" to do the work we have been given to do.

Worship involves:

- Giving thanks for our many blessings
- Celebrant & preacher
- Lay ministers
- Altar Supplies
- Admin support
- Music Ministry and Choir
- Worship booklets
- Special services



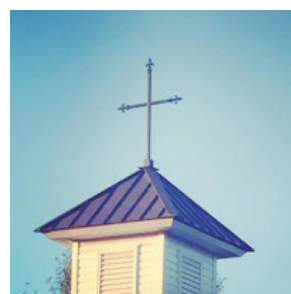
Total allocated to Worship in 2018: \$65,116.00

Congregational Development

To function effectively as a Christian community, we need to communicate with each other, to study and learn together and to join together in fellowship. These activities build the bonds of relationship and enrich our life of faith. In order for us to be an effective faith community we must continually seek to develop and grow; inviting others into the journey of faith with Christ as our guide. Growth involves not only numbers but spiritual growth and a growth in our understanding of how we express our faith.

Congregational Development includes:

- Welcoming newcomers
- Christian Formation
- Social and Fellowship Activities
- Newsletter and email
- Web site
- Training and Education
- Work of the Rector



Total allocated to Congregational Development in 2018: \$54,714.00



Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is the ongoing support by our clergy and lay people for the nurturing of our parish. In this way, we express the meaning of Christian community by sharing with each other our time, talent and treasure. We gather as community to worship but also to "check-in" with each other. Our ongoing care of each other helps us to truly experience Christ in community.

Pastoral Care involves:

- Visiting parishioners in the hospital
- Visiting shut-ins, and telephone calls
- The Rector's care for those in need
- Consoling those experiencing grief
- Taking Holy Communion to shut-ins
- Providing meals and transportation
- Counseling and crisis care
- Pre-marriage counseling
- Small group ministries
- Administrative support



Total Allocated to Pastoral Care in 2018: \$33,804.00

Outreach Ministry

St. Margaret's seeks to be a place where there are no outcasts and we strive to see Christ present in all our interactions. In Jesus' own words, "...as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it also to me." Giving pervades all that we do as a church and as individual Christians, and is expressed through the generosity of our parishioners.

Outreach & Ministry include:

- Food donations
- SPIN
- Laundry Love
- Diocesan support
- Community services
- AA building use
- Deanery and Ministerial Committees
- Special services
- Christmas Gifts for children and adults in need
- Support of local and national agencies that help with bringing about the kingdom of God



Total Allocated to Outreach & Ministry in 2018: \$54,873.00

Building & Maintenance

St. Margaret's was founded in 1973 and like many churches, has enjoyed periods of growth and has suffered decline over the years. The inadequacy of our physical plant was seen as a major limiting factor and the congregation committed to a program of major expansion at the beginning of the 21st century. We secured a bank loan to expand our space and built a new kitchen, seven classrooms, restrooms and a new parish hall. This additional space allowed us to provide a room for our choir, children's Sunday School, a nursery and a place for adult education/meetings. We also had a parish hall to meet, greet, welcome and provide hospitality to our church family, newcomers and our neighbors. Later, we also remodeled our Sanctuary, and updated out-buildings for special uses. While our congregation has grown, we still bear the financial costs of the bank loan originally incurred. In addition, our 45 year old facility requires constant upkeep and repairs. However, each Sunday we are fortunate to celebrate the glory of God in a tranquil and beautiful space.

Building & Maintenance include:

- Utilities (electric, gas, water etc.)
- General upkeep (repairs, painting etc.)
- Building cleaning
- Special programming needs
- Insurance
- Equipment and furnishings

Total Allocated to Building & Maintenance in 2018: \$50,831.00