



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. Below are some examples of our many ministries.

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 many church members that work in teams of four that rotate 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 Ministry: Age-appropriate scripture lessons and chapel during the adult service for young children, nursery, and monthly activities.

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

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM) is a four-year, adult education program for lay ministers. The program is created and administered by the University of the South's School of Theology and is presented in small groups facilitated by mentors. Participants study scripture, history, morality and ethics. Through group reflection, participants learn to "do" theology and build personal skills used in all types of ministry.

LANDSCAPE Maintaining and planning church grounds and upkeep

PASTORAL CARE The Pastoral Care Ministry gives lay members of St. Margaret's the opportunity to bring love and fellowship of the Church to those who are hospitalized, home bound, in nursing homes, lonely, or in need of companionship. This ministry has five teams who rotates each week bringing communion to those in need and also shares the church's news.

S.P.I.N. The Outreach Committee has brought back Serving People in Need (SPIN)! The new SPIN takes on a slightly different mission. St. Margaret's is

collaborating with St. John's United Methodist Church and their food pantry called The Shepherd's Market. The committee continues to collect non-perishables

MEDITATION GARDEN The purpose of this ministry is to develop sacred spaces for reflection, contemplative prayer, meditation, and spiritual formation for the community of St Margaret's. It has the potential to serve as a place of hospitality and outreach for the greater community. The garden is located in the woods behind St Margaret's. This is a place of refreshment and renewal for all who seek to be still. It can be a quiet place to share stories with companions on our journey to a closer relationship with Christ and each other.

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

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

INVITE, WELCOME, CONNECT Ministry is an evangelical expression that empowers congregations and the Church to reach out with the good news offered by Christ. It is an effort that tasks us to move our congregation into a culture that values mission versus the maintenance mindset many of us have been most comfortable with. It is a ministry that welcomes new people into our fold and also seeks to engage our members through sharing of life stories and intently listening to those stories. Finally, we seek to empower the laity to discover the gifts that God has bestowed on them and use those gifts to better serve Christ and our faith community



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 blessings 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.

In this brochure we 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 blueprint of our financial plan. Our narrative is built around five main areas: Worship, Congregational Development, Pastoral Care, Outreach Ministry, and Building & Maintenance.

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
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Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810

www.saintmargarets.com
The Very Rev. Tommy Dillon, Rector



Every  Perfect 
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Baton Rouge, Louisiana



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
- Presider & preacher
- Lay ministers
- Altar Supplies
- Admin support
- Music Ministry and Choir
- Worship booklets
- Special services
- Livestream of worship

Total allocated to Worship in 2022: \$78,905



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 2022: \$63,748



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 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 those in need
- Providing meals and transportation
- Counseling and crisis care
- Pre-marriage counseling
- Small group ministries
- Administrative support

Total Allocated to Pastoral Care in 2022: \$39,751

Building & Maintenance

St. Margaret’s was founded in 1972 and like many churches, has enjoyed periods of growth and has suffered decline over the years until the last nine 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 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

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
- Diocesan support
- LGBTQ+ Welcome
- Community services
- AA building use
- Deanery and Ministerial Committees
- Special services

Total Allocated to Outreach & Ministry in 2022: \$55,641



has grown, we still bear the financial costs of the bank loan originally incurred. In addition, our 50 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 and yard maintenance
- Special programming needs
- Insurance
- Equipment and furnishings
- Meditation Garden

Total Allocated to Building & Maintenance in 2022: \$54,414