

Grateful & Growing:



Being a Good Neighbor

Stewardship & Capital Campaign • St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

September 28, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church,

As campaign co-chairs for St. Andrews' capital stewardship program, we are excited to announce the launch of our *Grateful and Growing: Being a Good Neighbor* campaign. The purpose of our campaign is to live into God's call for us to be a good neighbor by raising funds to complete the payoff of the house adjacent to the church property, which we bought last year when it became available for the first time in many years. By acquiring the property, we realize the immediate benefit of 10 additional parking spaces, which reduces our impact on nearby streets when we host large events or Sunday services.

Our campaign will also have a significant outreach component to fund new ways to serve our neighborhood. We are considering using our properties to provide affordable housing for lower income families, possible transitional housing for the unhoused, or a safe space for Afghan or other refugees. The larger parish will be consulted for feedback as these opportunities become available to us.

As part of our stewardship of all creation, we will also commit a portion of the funds to energy-saving improvements in our church building as well as in our four rental houses, helping to reduce our carbon footprint even further. In this time of increasing climate uncertainty, these are important steps to take for the sake of future generations, marginalized communities, and the rest of God's creation.

Last year, our vestry stepped out in faith in acquiring this property on short notice, knowing this to be a rare opportunity. Earlier in the life of St. Andrews, we followed God's leading in deciding to buy the other rental houses adjacent to the church property. In each case, the funds for these purchases were raised through the faithful generosity of earlier generations, and we gained some of our valuable parking places too.

In 2020, several parishioners provided short-term loans that allowed us to buy the property before it went on the market. We have since taken out a loan from the Diocese to pay off our generous parishioners. Now, we seek to retire the loan to free up the possibilities for how we can use the property to advance our ministries and move forward in a fiscally responsible way.

Our vestry voted to hire The Enrichment Group, professional fund-raising consultants who have led hundreds of successful church campaigns, to help guide us in our vision and implementation of our campaign. Our consultant from The Enrichment Group, Marc Rieke, with whom we have worked before, brings the experience, expertise, and effectiveness to lead us to the successful conclusion of our campaign. His leadership is devoted to inspire, inform, involve, and invite each member to commit to campaign service and support.

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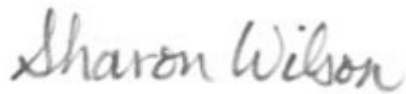
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The campaign will focus on biblical stewardship to encourage Christian growth and commitment. The process will provide many opportunities for you to become involved through Bible study, a prayer vigil, Grateful and Growing Gatherings, and other activities. We need your help to be successful. Please give prayerful consideration to helping if you are contacted by a member of the campaign team.

In the next few months, you will be receiving four campaign newsletters which will give you the full details of how we will expand our ministry through *Grateful and Growing: Being a Good Neighbor*. Watch for special articles and announcements in *The Log* as well as in the Sunday bulletins.

What an exciting time to be a part of St. Andrew's church family! We look forward to working in partnership with you.

Prayerfully,



Sharon Wilson
Co-Chair



Van Bobbitt
Co-Chair