



*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another
with whatever gift each of you has received. - 1 PETER 4:10*

Dear People of Christ and Grace,

The theme for this year's stewardship campaign is *Faith-Filled Generosity*, which is so appropriate in these challenging times. Our community has experienced its share of disruptions, losses, and anxiety as a result of the pandemic, and it will be awhile before things settle. We know that we have been changed by our experience, and while our resolve and our sense of normalcy have been tested, our faith remains strong. We are more resilient and more connected than ever in our faith community, and we've continued to reach out beyond our walls. We have been generously caring for one another and it has been beautiful to witness.

Our stewardship and our mission this year have been focused on service. As we experienced months of not being able to gather in person, the usual focus on weekly worship was spread throughout the week as we found ways to gather virtually, taking more time to pray for each other's needs and serve our community. Our outreach efforts continued, we began an online Bible study, and kept in touch by calls and notes. We began sending out a weekly newsletter via email and postal service for those without internet to share all that was happening even when we could not be in the building. We put our various gifts received from God to good use in caring for one another.

As we plan for the year ahead, and further into our future, I am inspired and hopeful that we will continue to use our resources to bring about God's kingdom. This coming year, we will explore the ways that our generosity flows out of our faith, how we are formed and led into relationships with God and with one another as we share our gifts with the world. This is what we mean by faith-filled generosity.

How will you discover and use the gifts you have been given to strengthen Christ and Grace this year? How will you hear the Gospel call to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself, and then respond with generosity? As I look at each family, each individual in our parish, I realize that we are the stewards of God's manifold grace because we give to the world from what we have received.

Enclosed with this letter is a pledge card. The Stewardship Committee and I invite you to receive it with grace and prayer as you consider how you will share with God and God's Church from the goodness God has so generously given you. Recall the ways your faith has been inspired by the generosity of others and then be generous, that your faith-filled generosity will continue the legacy of love that has made Christ and Grace a home for your faith, through every season of life.

Peace,
Robin+

Christ and Grace Episcopal Church

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Looking ahead to 2021

Thanks to all of our members who expressed their faithfulness to the Church and to Christ and Grace through their prayers, worship, and offerings during this most challenging year in recent memory. We appreciate pledges that continued to be fulfilled, even when we were physically separate from each other. We also understand that circumstances of the pandemic have made it difficult or impossible for some of us to keep up with pledges. We value your prayers and your joining with us in spirit and in worship - in person or electronically. And we are grateful to our members who were able to give more during this trying time.

When we suspended in person services last spring, most of us had no idea how long we would be away from our building or what worship would look like four months later. Through the spring and summer we (mostly Robin!) learned and adopted new skills and technologies, brought worship opportunities to us even while we were isolated at home, and made plans to install a new camera to be able to continue bringing online services to our parishioners - and the world - even as we get used to congregating together again in our building.

Some of the hopes we have for Christ and Grace include

A new website - our new technology comes with monthly fees but it's become the cost of doing business in the 21st century church

Merit salary increases for staff

Increased maintenance fund for our building

A permanent part time sexton

Memorial Garden upkeep funding to fully support the needs of this important ministry

Part time AV/Communications manager (this is a big dream!)

Thank you on behalf of the Stewardship Committee,

Lee Adams
Jill Donnelly
Bill Miller

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