



“WE WILL!”

2023 Fall Pledge Campaign

The life of St. Philip’s – its worship services, programs and ministries – depends on the support of each one of us. The church needs your time and attention, and needs your financial support. Each fall we ask all parishioners to prayerfully consider their pledge for the next year. The vestry uses these pledges to anticipate income and to craft an operating budget. Pledging is one way to stand up and be counted among those of us who say, “**We will!**”

Place your pledge on the altar on **Commitment Sunday, November 19, 2023**. If you are unable to attend, mail the form to the church *prior to* Commitment Sunday, and we will present your pledge on your behalf.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Primary Telephone _____ Primary Email _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Ways to Discern Your Pledge:

As you consider your 2024 pledge, begin with prayer. Consider the many blessings in your life. Reflect on why St. Philip’s is important to you. Ask if your pledge reflects your values and priorities.

Some use Biblical tithing to determine their giving, which is the Christian tradition of giving 10% of your gross income. Others use proportional giving, which sets an appropriate level of giving today and plans for giving to grow in the future. *Every pledge is meaningful.*

I/We pledge a total of \$ _____ to be fulfilled by December 31, 2024

PLEDGE PAYMENT FREQUENCY

choose one:

- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually

PLEDGE PAYMENT PREFERENCE

choose one:

- Debit/credit card via the website
- Automatic bill pay
- Check payable to St. Philip’s Episcopal Church
- Monthly electronic debit (complete debit authorization form included in the packet)
- Appreciated stock
- Charitable IRA Rollover

I will not pledge in 2024

We encourage you to return your packet, even if you choose not to pledge, because it helps us plan accordingly. Please mail your packet or bring it to church before Commitment Sunday, November 19.

- I/we plan to make regular offerings for 2024 but will not be making a pledge.
- I/we will not be making a pledge or regular offerings for 2024.

STEWARDSHIP AT ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Taking Care Of What Is Entrusted to Us.

Our St. Philip's community is important to you, and you've prayerfully discerned that you will make a pledge this year... but maybe you still have some questions. Here are answers to common FAQs.

What is the schedule?

Sunday, October 22: Kickoff Sunday and Pledge 101 forum during formation hour

Sundays, October 29, November 5 and 12: Return pledges to St. Philip's either by mail or by bringing to church

Sunday, November 19: Commitment Sunday! Special service in gratitude for pledges received and to close out the Stewardship Campaign

Is my pledge confidential?

Yes, all pledges and gifts to St. Philip's are confidential. The parish administrator, bookkeeper and members of the stewardship committee work together to see that:

- pledges and gifts are properly recorded
- accurate tax statements are sent
- useful summary reports are prepared for the vestry

The rector and the stewardship committee have access to pledge and gift records to the extent needed for the best interest of the parish.

What is the range of pledges at St. Philip's?

A pledge is a personal decision. **Every pledge, regardless of size, is important.** Pledges to St. Philip's range from less than \$100 per year to almost \$40,000 per year.

The average of all pledges last year was \$3,816. The median pledge among 172 pledges made last year was \$2,400. (86 households pledged more; 86 households pledged less.)

How much is our annual budget?

St. Philip's relies heavily on pledge income. Our budget for 2023 is approximately \$1.29 million. Of that amount, 53% comes from parishioner pledges. Our endowment provides 30%, and the remainder comes from short-term investments and non-pledged gifts and plate offerings.

Where does the money go?

Personnel costs: 52%
Operating Costs: 17%
Diocesan support: 9.5%
Outreach, Worship, & Formation: 15%

Diocesan Support

For 2023, St. Philip's Parish provides \$123,226 of our budget to the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina as our share of diocesan expenses. These funds support diocesan administration and smaller (less-funded) churches, and they provide resources for the diocese's five mission priorities: Racial Reckoning, Justice & Healing, Congregational Vitality, Collaboration & New Communities, Formation and Creation Care.

What if I'm uncertain about my situation in 2024?

A pledge is a good-faith promise of sharing the gifts God has given us. If your situation changes, your pledge can be altered by communicating that change to office@stphilipsdurham.org.

What if I have more questions?

If you have questions about stewardship or your pledge packet, please do not contact the parish office. Instead, email stewardship@stphilipsdurham.org

Office Use Only

Giving # _____ Entered _____ DD _____ PC _____ PA _____