

St Philip's

episcopal church

worship • love • action
a church for all people

September 1, 2024

Beloved children of God,

The Rev. Maryann Younger
Rector

Wow!

The Rev. Gabriel Lamazares
Associate Rector

Week by week, the energy and excitement grows at St. Philip's. Members we haven't seen since the pandemic are returning, bringing joyful reunions. New families spanning a full range of ages and backgrounds are arriving, finding an open and diverse place of worship teeming with activity. Our ministries are expanding, with offerings both new and rejuvenated from the past. New staff members are bringing new energy, and the Rev. Gabe Lamazares has returned to full time ministry with us. Thanks be to God for all this good news.

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As you likely know, this year we're in a year-long strategic visioning process. St. Philip's is a parish gifted with many resources, and there's so much we *could* do. Visioning will help us discern what we're *called to do*. We've been asking: Why are we a church together? Who are we? What do we value? The answers so far have been astounding in number and inspirational in content. Your responses are so loving and beautiful they take my breath away.

With all this good news and inspiring growth, this year we need to make a leap in our giving. To support our ongoing growth, our 2025 pledges need to increase by \$130,000.

We need to invest in our vision.

While our parish visioning work is ongoing, so far three priorities have emerged:

- **Families:** Expanding our programs to serve the growing number of children and families in our community
- **Music:** Growing our music program to give glory to God through hymnody, children's offerings, and joyful, inspiring anthems
- **Campus:** Catching up on needed maintenance, upgrading technology, and improving energy efficiency to support our facilities' increased day-to-day use

Every autumn, we ask you to consider a pledge – or commitment – to show how much you intend to contribute in the coming calendar year.

Here's what we're asking of you this year:

- **If you're already pledging**, we're asking you to increase your pledge.
- **If you're new and haven't yet pledged**, we're asking you to start pledging this year.
- **If you contribute regularly to the offering plate**, but haven't yet made a formal pledge, we're asking you to pledge this year.

In 2024, we're visioning about our dreams for St. Philip's. With your pledge, in 2025 we'll invest in growing that vision into reality. This is such an exciting time for our church: Between the vibrant worship, our many active ministries, our newcomers, and the big decisions on the horizon, it's easy to feel the Holy Spirit moving at St. Philip's.

We're building on a legacy of openness and welcome at St. Philip's, of loving our neighbors. As we continue visioning and listening to what the Spirit is calling us to do, let's prepare to invest in our vision. Let's be both loving and bold as we determine the next generational impact we can make.

Please join me in supporting the bright and faithful future of our parish by making a pledge this fall – your commitment to St. Philip's in 2025.

Beloved, I give God thanks for you every day. What an honor it is to walk with you through this pivotal and exciting time of St. Philip's history.



The Rev. Maryann D. Younger
Rector



**Fall 2024 Pledge Campaign
Debit Authorization Form**

A debit authorization form is required each year and whenever a change is made to the amount, start date, end date, or bank account information. **All debits will be made on or about the 20th of the month.**

This is a:

- Change of banking information
- Discontinuation of automatic debit donation
- Change of donation amount
- New direct debit authorization

LAST NAME(S)		FIRST NAME(S)	
ADDRESS			
ADDRESS 2		CITY	
STATE	ZIP	PHONE	

****Please consider adding 1% to your total to cover processing fees.***

Fund	Monthly Amount	Date of 1 st contribution	Date of last contribution
2025 Operating Pledge	\$	___/20/2025	___/20/2025

Please debit my contribution from my (check one):

- Savings account
- Checking account (attach a voided check)

Routing Number: _____
Valid routing number must be 9 digits and start with 0, 1, 2, or 3

Account Number: _____

Please include a voided check with this form if you're able. This lets us verify your banking information.

Submit changes to authorizations to office@stphilipdurham.org by the 10th of the month for the change to take effect by the 20th of the month.



YES! We will *Invest In Our Vision!*

The life of St. Philip's – its worship services, programs and ministries – depends on the support of each one of us. These things need your time and attention, and they need your financial support. As you prayerfully consider your pledge this year, we ask you to consider your part in supporting a leap of \$130,000 in the church operations budget in 2025.

Pledging is part of how we take care of what's entrusted to us. And it's one of several ways we **Invest in Our Vision** for our St. Philip's community. We are immeasurably grateful to you for past and continued support.

Place your paper pledge form on the altar on **Commitment Sunday, October 13, 2024**. If you're unable to attend, mail the form to the church *prior* to Commitment Sunday, and we'll present your pledge on your behalf. *If you choose to pledge online, we'll provide an "I pledged online" card for you to present at the altar on Commitment Sunday.*

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Primary Telephone _____ Primary Email _____

Please prayerfully consider increasing your annual pledge at a level of generosity that flows from the outpouring of God's grace, mercy, and blessings in your life. Use the giving chart on the back of this form to estimate the percentage increase you plan to pledge in 2025.

***Please consider adding 3% for credit card transactions or 1% for ACH transactions to your total pledge amount to cover the fees associated with each.**

I/We pledge a total of \$ _____ to be fulfilled by December 31, 2025

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 bank debit (complete debit authorization form)
- Appreciated stock
- Charitable IRA rollover

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

If you prefer not to pledge for 2025:

Life happens – we get it! Even if you choose not to pledge, please return this form. This helps us plan accordingly. Please indicate below and either mail your pledge form or bring it to church before Commitment Sunday, October 13, 2024.

- I/we plan to make regular offerings for 2025 but will not be making a pledge.
- I/we will not be making a pledge or regular offerings for 2025.

Monthly Pledge	2% Increase	5% Increase	8% Increase	10% Increase	12% Increase	15% Increase
\$20.00	\$20.40	\$21.00	\$21.60	\$22.00	\$22.40	\$23.00
\$30.00	\$30.60	\$31.50	\$32.40	\$33.00	\$33.60	\$34.50
\$50.00	\$51.00	\$52.50	\$54.00	\$55.00	\$56.00	\$57.50
\$60.00	\$61.20	\$63.00	\$64.80	\$66.00	\$67.20	\$69.00
\$75.00	\$76.50	\$78.75	\$81.00	\$82.50	\$84.00	\$86.25
\$85.00	\$86.70	\$89.25	\$91.80	\$93.50	\$95.20	\$97.75
\$100.00	\$102.00	\$105.00	\$108.00	\$110.00	\$112.00	\$115.00
\$120.00	\$122.40	\$126.00	\$129.60	\$132.00	\$134.40	\$138.00
\$140.00	\$142.80	\$147.00	\$151.20	\$154.00	\$156.80	\$161.00
\$150.00	\$153.00	\$157.50	\$162.00	\$165.00	\$168.00	\$172.50
\$170.00	\$173.40	\$178.50	\$183.60	\$187.00	\$190.40	\$195.50
\$180.00	\$183.60	\$189.00	\$194.40	\$198.00	\$201.60	\$207.00
\$210.00	\$214.20	\$220.50	\$226.80	\$231.00	\$235.20	\$241.50
\$250.00	\$255.00	\$262.50	\$270.00	\$275.00	\$280.00	\$287.50
\$275.00	\$280.50	\$288.75	\$297.00	\$302.50	\$308.00	\$316.25
\$300.00	\$306.00	\$315.00	\$324.00	\$330.00	\$336.00	\$345.00
\$400.00	\$408.00	\$420.00	\$432.00	\$440.00	\$448.00	\$460.00
\$500.00	\$510.00	\$525.00	\$540.00	\$550.00	\$560.00	\$575.00
\$600.00	\$612.00	\$630.00	\$648.00	\$660.00	\$672.00	\$690.00
\$800.00	\$816.00	\$840.00	\$864.00	\$880.00	\$896.00	\$920.00
\$1,250.00	\$1,275.00	\$1,312.50	\$1,350.00	\$1,375.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,437.50
\$3,100.00	\$3,162.00	\$3,255.00	\$3,348.00	\$3,410.00	\$3,472.00	\$3,565.00

Stewardship is taking care of what's entrusted to us.

What's the schedule?

Sunday, September 8: Kick-Off Sunday
 "Pledging 101" Fun forum during 10 a.m. formation hour

Sept. 8 – Oct. 13: Pledge Season
 Mail or bring completed pledges to St. Philip's

Sunday, October 13:
 St. Philip's Day and Commitment Sunday
 Fellowship, celebration, and a special service in gratitude for pledges received

How much is our annual budget?

At St. Philip's, we rely heavily on pledged income. In 2024, the vestry approved a deficit budget of \$1.29M, because that was the amount needed to do the work God was calling us to do. Currently we rely on our endowment income for 40% of our budget. *Think of the amazing things we could do with our endowment income if we didn't need it for operations!*

To invest in our vision in 2025, we need to increase our operating budget by \$130,000. Will you prayerfully consider increasing your pledge to help us meet our goal?

What if I'm uncertain about my situation in 2025?

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

What if I have more questions?

Get in touch! Email stewardship and pledge packet questions to stewardship@stphilipsdurham.org.

Office Use Only

Giving # _____ Entered _____ DD _____ PC _____ PA _____

stP | INVESTING IN OUR VISION

In 2024, we're envisioning about our dreams for St. Philip's. With your pledge, in 2025 we'll invest in growing that vision into reality.

OUR FOCUS

Though our parish visioning work is ongoing, so far three priorities have emerged:



FAMILIES



MUSIC



CAMPUS

GROWTH IN ACTION

In 2024 we saw:



Children and youth participation up by 50%



Increased use of our campus and facilities throughout the week



Choirs of all ages are woven into our liturgy

To support our ongoing growth, our 2025 pledges need to increase by \$130,000

HOW TO APPROACH PLEDGING

There's no one-size-fits-all approach to pledging. It's a personal decision. Financial circumstances change, and you should always give out of gratitude, not guilt.



Proportional Giving can be a % of your income that feels right. For example, some may start at 2-4% with the goal to increase over time.



Fixed Giving is a way to set a goal for every month or week to set aside for the church. One approach is to consider savings converted to giving. For example, if you save \$3.50 a day it can become a \$100 monthly pledge.



Give Until it Feels Good means to listen to what your heart is telling you to give. What level of support connects us more deeply with our purpose as a church community

ONLINE PLEDGING HAS A NEW LOOK!

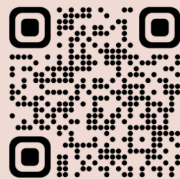
This year you can pledge directly in our online membership portal

Pledging online is quick and easy, and it streamlines work for our office staff.

Please consider paying your pledge in installments throughout the year.

This helps with planning our financial commitments.

Pledge online at
stphilipdurham.org/pledge



pledge online

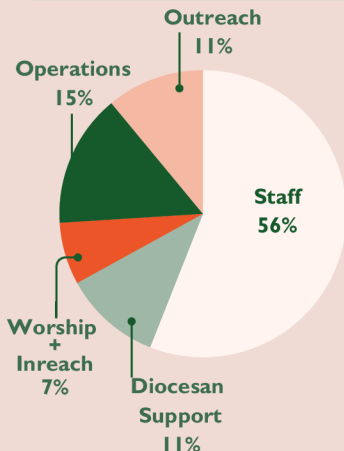
Here's how

1. Click "Pledge Now." Fill in your pledge amount.
2. Enter the amount of your pledge payment, then select the frequency (weekly, monthly, yearly). The form will tally up your total pledge.
3. Click "Save Pledge," and you'll see a confirmation page. Click the box at the bottom to enter your payment information.
4. Confirm your pledge amount, then click "Continue."
5. Enter your credit card or bank draft information, then click "Give" to complete your pledge.

Before you go...

Add an online gift to fulfill this pledge.

2024 BUDGET



2024 PLEDGE DATA

Parishioners of St. Philip's give at different levels as they are able. To support our budget increase, can you step up your pledge level this year? Dream big with us!



Households (174 Total)