

St Philip's
episcopal church

BUILDING
belonging
TOGETHER

worship • love • action
a church for all people

The Rev. Maryann D. Younger
Rector

The Rev. Gabriel Lamazares
Associate Rector

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August 29, 2025

Dear friend,

Our faith community is precious. We belong to God – and we also belong to each other. In a world where it's easy to feel isolated, our parish is a place where we're called to connect – with God, with one another, with creation, and with our own spiritual gifts.

We are not just friends, though; we strive to be the body of Christ by loving our neighbors as ourselves, as Jesus taught, building something bigger than ourselves. We show up for each other on Sundays, Wednesday nights, and other times in between, because we want to know and love each other.

This year's stewardship theme is **Building Belonging...Together**. We bring ourselves to this place and to each other – regardless of where we are in our faith journey – with the hope that we can be good stewards of all we have been given. We are committed to *belonging to each other* – not only in name, but in presence, in service, and in giving.

We're grateful that you are considering a pledge to support St Philip's. Everything we love about St. Philip's – worship and music, formation for all ages, opportunities to gather together in fun and in prayer, and justice and advocacy work in Durham – is only possible because we pledge to each other to keep it all going. We hope you'll take some time in the coming weeks to pray and discern how you can participate in our shared life. Your financial commitment, no matter the amount, is a vital part of our collective ministry and witness. We invite all pledge cards to be returned by Commitment Sunday, October 12, so our vestry can plan faithfully for the year ahead.

Thank you for the many ways you already give, and for all the ways you help **build belonging** and God's church in the world.

With gratitude and hope,

Treat Harvey, Chair, Stewardship Committee

Maryann D. Younger, Rector



It's quick and easy to
PLEDGE ONLINE
stphilipdurham.org/pledge



FALL 2025 STEWARDSHIP *Pledging for 2026*

Each week we come together to nourish ourselves, pray for our community, and support each other – to build our lives of faith together. St. Philip's is a vibrant and growing church home because we are all giving of ourselves. Your pledge supports the worship and music, the children and youth programs, the advocacy and action that bring us together. Thank you for helping us build belonging at St. Philip's.

*No matter where you are on your spiritual journey,
 there is a place for you at St. Philip's.*



HOW TO DECIDE ON A PLEDGE

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.

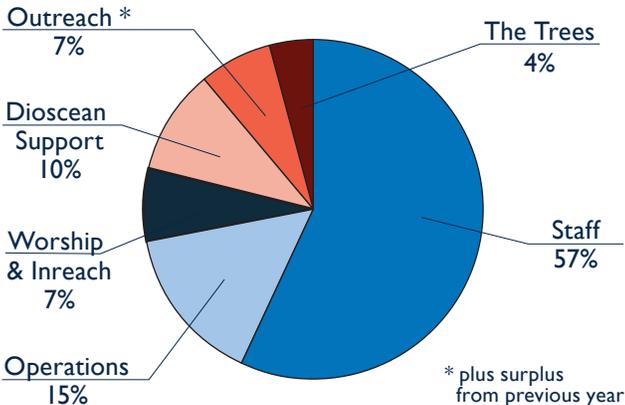
Proportional Giving
 can be a percentage of your income that feels right. Someone may start at 2-4%, with the goal to increase over time.

Fixed Giving
 is a way to set a goal to regularly set aside money for the church. If you save \$3.50 a day, it can become a \$100 monthly pledge.

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

2025 BUDGET

Where does your pledge money go? The vestry sets the parish budget each December, knowing what the coming year's pledges will be.



2024-25 PLEDGE STATS

Last year, we challenged folks to grow their pledging.

How can we keep this momentum going? How can you help to support our growing community?



17 new!
52% increased!

Number of Pledging Households



SCHEDULE

SEPT

7

Kick-Off Sunday

Stewardship takes over the Adult Forum and the Social Hour after the 11 a.m. service. Bring your pledge questions and celebrate with us.

OCT

1 & 5

Fellowship Days

Community building activities. Save the date!

OCT

12

Commitment Sunday & St. Philip's Day

Our whole community will come together for the annual celebration of St. Philip's Feast Day and presenting our pledges.

One worship service at 10 a.m.

HOW TO PLEDGE ONLINE

Begin at the stewardship webpage:
stphilipdurham.org/pledge

Click "Pledge Now"

Pledge Now

Enter the amount and frequency of your payment. The form will automatically total your pledge for the year.

Click "Save Pledge" and enter your payment information on the next page of the form.

Please consider checking the box to cover the processing costs.

Finally, click the "Give" button at the bottom to complete your pledge.



STEWARDSHIP FAQ

What if I'm not planning to pledge?

Life happens – we get it! Even if you choose not to pledge, please turn in a pledge card. This helps us plan accordingly. On the pledge card is a box to check saying you don't intend to pledge this year.

You're always welcome to share what you can in the offering plate. And if you decide to make a pledge at any time during the year, you can call the office or pledge online.

If you'd like to speak with clergy about your decision, please make a note on your pledge card.

What if I'm uncertain about 2026?

A pledge is a statement of intent, made in good-faith at the time. We fully understand the complicated times we're living in. If your situation changes at any time during the year, your pledge can be changed by emailing office@stphilipdurham.org.

What's up with processing costs?

St. Philip's is charged 3% for each credit card transaction we put through, and 1% on each bank draft. Last year, we paid approx. \$4,000 in fees!

Please consider adding to your pledge to cover the fees associated with your payment.

What if I have more questions?

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

Thank you!

St. Philip's is a thriving and growing community because of your support.

– your stewardship team

Treat Harvey (Chair), Ginny Bowman, Diantha Daniels, Lowell Dargbeh, Amanda Harrison, Paul Keys, Marty Nelson, Sam Pace, Liz Sappenfield, Andy Slaughter, and Bynum Walter



Thank you for considering a pledge
to support St. Philip's in 2026!
We are a growing and thriving community
because of your investment.

St Philip's
episcopal church

CHECK
ONE!

This year I/we pledge to give \$ _____ annually quarterly monthly weekly.

This will be a **total pledge** of \$ _____ to support St. Philip's in 2026.

I/we are unable to pledge this year.

PRINTED NAME/S

SIGNATURE/S

PAYMENT DETAILS ON REVERSE

Thank you!

Please tell us how you plan to fulfill your pledge.

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER

PRIMARY EMAIL

- Online at stphilipdurham.org/pledge 
 - Debit/credit card
 - Bank draft
- Automatic bill pay
(set up in your bank's online banking system)
- Check payable to *St. Philip's Episcopal Church*
(mailed to the church or put in collection plate)
- Monthly electronic bank debit from St. Philip's
(complete debit authorization form in packet)
- Appreciated stock or Charitable IRA rollover
 - I need more information.

Fall 2025 Pledge Campaign Debit Authorization Form

*Fill out this form to have St. Philip's automatically
pull your gift from your bank account*



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.

Please include a voided check with this form so we can verify your banking information.

This is a:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change of banking information | <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuation of automatic debit donation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change of donation amount | <input type="checkbox"/> 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
2026 Pledge	\$	__/20/2026	__/20/2026

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: _____

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

Church Directory Opt-Out Form

*Fill out this form to exclude your contact info
from St. Philip's online member directory*



August 29, 2025

St. Philip's offers a church directory through Realm, our membership database. St. Philip's Directory is an important resource in the life of a church community. In the directory, community members (and *only* community members) can see each other's contact information. This lets us reach out in times of need, provide messages of condolence or celebration, connect family members, and get together outside of worship times. The directory is an essential tool for building our communal life.

Beginning this pledge season, we will include all pledging households in the church directory by default. Information provided in the directory will include name, address, phone number, email, and also birthday and family members. This fall, we'll be offering support for how to log in and use the directory, with opportunities for you to ask questions.

The directory is only available to members of St. Philip's, who are given permission to create an account in our database. This information is not openly available on the web, and access is protected by password and two-factor authentication.

You can always opt out of being included in the directory. If you or members of your family DO NOT want to participate in the church directory, please complete this form and return it with your pledge card. To change your participation status at any time, please contact the church office.

- I/we DO NOT want to be included in the church directory.
- Please include me, but exclude my children's information from the church directory.

Printed name(s) to exclude from directory

Signature(s)

Date