

**St Philip's**  
episcopal church



worship • love • action  
a church for all people

August 26, 2026

The Rev. Maryann Younger  
Rector

The Rev. Gabriel Lamazares  
Associate Rector

403 E Main Street  
Durham, NC 27701  
919-682-5708  
stphilipsdurham.org

Dear St. Philipians,

We write to you in thanksgiving for the generosity of our community here in the heart of Durham. We are grateful for our commitment to glorious music and liturgy, our call to service out in the world, and our celebration of all persons as beloved of God. St. Philip's is certainly a place with – in the words of the traditional spiritual – “plenty good room.” *Plenty good room* for all people, and *plenty good room* for abundant ministry both within and beyond our walls.

We are blessed by a shared generosity of spirit. We witnessed it this spring when we asked for financial support for Phase 2 of our Sacred Spaces work, which restored the church's plaster and paint. You gave enough not only to fully fund that work, but also to get started on funding for Phase 3 to complete the more complex aspects of restoring and renovating our beautiful church building. Your generosity has also responded to our ongoing call for the care of creation as we installed enough solar panels to supply 40% of our parish's electricity needs. And our capacity for faithful giving is apparent every week of the year: in our vibrant youth and children's programming; in our intergenerational worship and fellowship; and in our commitment to devoting 10% of our total yearly income to support outreach beyond our walls, including ministries as diverse as LEAP, the Sandwich Guild, Global Missions, Urban Ministries of Durham, the interfaith food shuttle, Liberian Medicals, Inc., the Pauli Murray Center, and many others.

We witnessed St. Philip's generosity in last year's pledge campaign that supports our operating fund: 146 households committed to giving a total of \$720,445 for 2026 – an increase of 5.4% from 2025. We're so glad you are part of the St. Philip's family! Will you consider making a pledge this year to support our ministry together?

This is not only an appeal for funds – it is an invitation to grow your own connections in God's household, to make room for others, and to live into God's abundance. When we respond together, we become the church God is calling us to be: a community with *plenty good room* for all. We invite all pledge cards to be returned by Commitment Sunday on St. Philip's Day, October 11, to enable our vestry to plan faithfully for the year ahead, and so we can celebrate together in one service at 10am!

With gratitude,

Diantha Daniels and Donna Rewalt,  
Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs

Maryann D. Younger,  
Rector



# FALL 2026 STEWARDSHIP *Pledging for 2027*

This year's stewardship theme, *Plenty Good Room*, invites us to recognize the abundance God has already entrusted to us. Even in uncertain times, we are called to trust that there is enough: for our families, for our church, and for our neighbors.

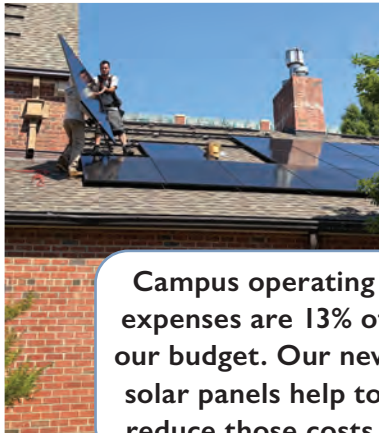
Your pledge is important because it helps us to plan for the coming year. The vestry will use the amount pledged as guidance when they set the next year's budget. Your pledge makes our worship, programs, and outreach possible. These photos show examples of pledges in action.

Our clergy and staff make it all happen! Personnel costs are 59% of the budget. Here you see joyful teamwork at the Vestry/Staff Retreat.



*There is plenty of room for everyone at God's table.*

Campus operating expenses are 13% of our budget. Our new solar panels help to reduce those costs.



Worship and Inreach are 6% of our budget. St. Philip's Day was a glorious celebration!



Support for The Trees is 4% of our budget. StP kids basked in creation at Camp in June.



Outreach ministries and giving are 8% of our budget. UMD is our most longstanding outreach partnership.



% of 2026 budget

It's quick and easy to  
**PLEDGE ONLINE**  
[stphilipsdurham.org/pledge](http://stphilipsdurham.org/pledge)



Watch a how-to video with full instructions on making and paying your pledge on our website.

*Our parish is a place of belonging — where each person matters, and each gift is needed. Together we are the Body of Christ.*



## STEWARDSHIP FAQ

### How do I decide on a pledge?

There is no one “right” answer – it’s very personal. 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 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 and ask yourself what level of support connects you more deeply with our community.

### 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'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. You're always welcome to share what you can in the offering plate. If your situation changes at any time during the year, your pledge can be changed by emailing [office@stphilipsdurham.org](mailto:office@stphilipsdurham.org).

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

### What if I have more questions?

Get in touch! Email stewardship and pledge packet questions to [stewardship@stphilipsdurham.org](mailto:stewardship@stphilipsdurham.org).

### Thank you!

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

— your stewardship team: *Diantha Daniels and Donna Rewalt (co-chairs), Marty Nelson, Sam Pace, Andy Slaughter, and Bynum Walter*

## SCHEDULE

### AUG **30** Kick-Off Sunday

Stewardship hosts the Social Hour and kicks off a series of Ministry Minutes that will share all the Good Work being done at St. Philip's.

### SEPT **13** Stewardship @ Forum

Bring all your questions to the Forum at 10am.

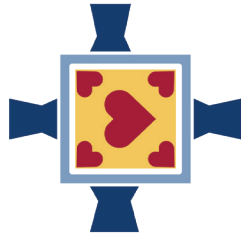
### SEPT **20** Ministry Fair

Find ways to share your time and talents.

### OCT **11** Commitment Sunday & St. Philip's Day

Celebrate our patron feast day and present your pledge at the altar.

One worship service at 10 am.



*Plenty*  
**Good Room**

Thank you for  
considering a pledge  
to support  
St. Philip's in 2027!

Pledging is a two-step process.



- ☐ This year I/we pledge to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ annually ☐ quarterly ☐ monthly ☐ weekly

This will be a **total pledge** of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I/we are unable to pledge this year.

PRINTED NAME/S

SIGNATURE/S

STEP 2  
ON REVERSE

PAY THE PLEDGE

2



ADDRESS

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CITY / STATE / ZIP

---

PRIMARY PHONE

---

PRIMARY EMAIL

---

- ☐ Church Directory Opt-Out:  
Please do NOT include my contact information  
in the online members-only directory.

Please tell us how you plan to fulfill your pledge.

- ☐ Online at [stphilipsdurham.org/pledge](http://stphilipsdurham.org/pledge)  
(make pledge and schedule payment) 
- ☐ 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 by St. Philip's  
(complete debit authorization form in packet)
- ☐ Appreciated stock or Charitable IRA rollover  
☐ Please send me more information.



## *Why make a proportional gift?*

Recently retired Bishop of Olympia, the Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, stated that the tithe is only the beginning point. As Christians we give one hundred percent of what we have in gratitude for God who gave us everything there is. We're *all in*.

### **When you make a proportional gift:**

- You set aside your first fruits, dedicating a portion of your wealth, works, and wisdom to God. This is a sacred act.
- Your financial gift rises and falls with your income – it is right-sized to your household.

*Giving back to God is a life-time journey; setting a percentage allows you to step up your giving over time.*

| Annual<br>Income | Weekly<br>Income | Beyond the Tithe |       | Tithe | Weekly Proportional Giving |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |      |      |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------|-------|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|
|                  |                  | 15%              | 12%   |       | 10%                        | 9%    | 8%    | 7%    | 6%    | 5%    | 4%    | 3%    | 2%   | 1%   |
|                  |                  |                  |       |       |                            |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |      |      |
| \$20,000         | \$385            | \$58             | \$46  | \$38  | \$35                       | \$35  | \$31  | \$27  | \$23  | \$19  | \$15  | \$12  | \$8  | \$4  |
| \$40,000         | \$769            | \$115            | \$92  | \$77  | \$69                       | \$69  | \$62  | \$54  | \$46  | \$38  | \$31  | \$23  | \$15 | \$8  |
| \$50,000         | \$962            | \$144            | \$115 | \$96  | \$87                       | \$87  | \$77  | \$67  | \$58  | \$48  | \$38  | \$29  | \$19 | \$10 |
| \$70,000         | \$1,346          | \$202            | \$162 | \$135 | \$121                      | \$121 | \$108 | \$94  | \$81  | \$67  | \$54  | \$40  | \$27 | \$13 |
| \$80,000         | \$1,538          | \$231            | \$185 | \$154 | \$138                      | \$138 | \$123 | \$108 | \$92  | \$77  | \$62  | \$46  | \$31 | \$15 |
| \$90,000         | \$1,731          | \$260            | \$208 | \$173 | \$156                      | \$156 | \$138 | \$121 | \$104 | \$87  | \$69  | \$52  | \$35 | \$17 |
| \$100,000        | \$1,923          | \$288            | \$231 | \$192 | \$173                      | \$173 | \$154 | \$135 | \$115 | \$96  | \$77  | \$58  | \$38 | \$19 |
| \$120,000        | \$2,308          | \$346            | \$277 | \$231 | \$208                      | \$208 | \$185 | \$162 | \$138 | \$115 | \$92  | \$69  | \$46 | \$23 |
| \$150,000        | \$2,885          | \$433            | \$346 | \$288 | \$260                      | \$260 | \$231 | \$202 | \$173 | \$144 | \$115 | \$87  | \$58 | \$29 |
| \$200,000        | \$3,846          | \$577            | \$462 | \$385 | \$346                      | \$346 | \$308 | \$269 | \$231 | \$192 | \$154 | \$115 | \$77 | \$38 |
| \$250,000        | \$4,808          | \$721            | \$577 | \$481 | \$433                      | \$433 | \$385 | \$337 | \$288 | \$240 | \$192 | \$144 | \$96 | \$48 |



## 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  
☐ Change of donation amount

☐ Discontinuation of automatic debit donation  
☐ 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 <sup>st</sup> contribution | Date of last contribution |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2027 Operating Pledge | \$ _____       | ___/20/2027                          | ___/20/2027               |

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@stphilipsdurham.org](mailto:office@stphilipsdurham.org) by the 10th of the month for the change to take effect by the 20th of the month.*