

If you already pledge, consider raising your pledge.

Specifically, consider doing so to fully fund all of Grace's ministries. An increased commitment will further strengthen our mission to prosper and flourish. And this goal is within our reach. Pledge by pledge, we build our future together and in Christ.

We can move beyond our current deficit budget to fully funding and broadening our ministry through new pledges and those who raise their pledge by a small percentage. Even modest increases will allow meaningful improvements and expansions to the ministries of Grace. May we suggest this additional *weekly* amount if you are pledging:

| Annual Pledge | Weekly Pledge | Additional Amount |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| \$0 - \$50 | \$1 - \$10 | \$2 |
| \$50 - \$1300 | \$11 - \$25 | \$4 |
| \$1301 - \$3000 | \$26 - \$58 | \$10 |
| \$3,001 - \$4999 | \$59 - \$96 | \$20 |
| \$5000 + | \$97 + | \$40 |



Generosity begets Grace begets Gratitude

We must confess that the central problem of our lives is that we are torn apart by the conflict between our attraction to the good news of God's abundance and the power of our belief in scarcity.

- Walter Brueggman

What could we do if pledges increased?

At Grace we recognize the value of our community outreach programs and the commitment of our parish to serving those in need. Our ministries strive to make God known to others by opening our doors and ourselves in God's name. With increased financial support our ministries of healing, hospitality and formation will continue to grow and help meet the needs of others both inside and outside our doors.

In addition to supporting our growing ministries, increased pledges will allow us to increase our paid staff positions, expand our programming, tend to the yearly maintenance needs of our facilities and renew our Welsh garden.



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Grace Episcopal Church
a community celebrating a God of abundance
Pledging
supporting Grace's Mission and Ministries



Who we are.

The foundation of Grace Church is its loving congregation which welcomes and embraces diversity and seeks to unify people of all ethnic, cultural, and economic backgrounds.

We are a church which worships in the Episcopal tradition commissioned to respect the dignity of every human being, to speak in love to one another, and to work for peace and justice in our communities, our nation, and in our world. We seek to live fully into our baptismal vows by nurturing our spiritual growth, reaching out to those beyond our doors, feeding the hungry, offering relief to the sick, and tending to those in need.



Why support the work of the church?

Our giving supports our congregation's mission and ministry both inside and outside our doors.

Supporting the church is a responsive practice of tending to what has been placed in our care by God. We have been asked to care for nature, for the young, the old, the less fortunate, and those unable to care for themselves and are endowed with the capacities for that care. We are enriched both by those capacities and by those things that are entrusted to us. In short, giving to the church is the right use of the resources God has given us.

The church offers a place for fellowship, for getting one's brothers and sisters and oneself through life and its struggles.

We support our churches as part of the stewardship of all of life because the church is a vehicle of God's action through Christ in the world. As a vehicle, the church increases the knowledge and love of the Lord. It binds up the whole of humanity. It teaches men, women, and children what is good by preserving and exchanging the stories of the faith and by providing a context for relationships that make faith existentially real.

What is pledging?

Pledging is the commitment of financial support to the mission of the church. The work of ministry requires our time and benefits from our talents, but it also depends on tangible resources. Pledges fund the operating budget for clergy, staff, programs, and facility maintenance.

Why should you pledge?

Grace depends on your pledge to fulfill its mission...to do all that it does in the lives of people everyday. The question is practical, but the answer is spiritual. All that we have in life – love, peace and grace being central to our lives – comes from God. We honor those gifts as we support our community and create our future through our pledge to Grace.

When we give to build the ministries of Grace, we make that offering – *of ourselves, our souls and our bodies* – in thanksgiving. As God has given us abundant gifts, we give back to create our future in God's place. When we give our money, we become a full participant in Grace's Christian community, making it possible for us to support each other and those in need outside our parish, to strengthen our faith, and to truly live as a community.

Can't I just put my contributions in the offering?

Pledging is important because it is a commitment to God, to the ministry of Jesus Christ in and through our parish. Pledging helps parish leadership know how much we can support our ministries next year.

What do you receive when you pledge?

Do not underestimate the spiritual dimension of pledging. Whether you're a newcomer or a longtime member, you probably remember the first time you came to Grace. Remember what it meant to you to discover this community of faith? You probably have stories about what Grace has come to mean to you since then, too. Very simply, our pledges today mean that Grace shall continue to be all it is now for those who find their way to us tomorrow.

If you do not pledge now, consider pledging something.

By doing so, you express your support for the mission of our parish and the dedication of the clergy and the laity who carry it into action. *Every pledge* – no matter the size – carries this vital message.



"Every member can do something to renew and reaffirm his or her faith in the community of Grace."

