

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

“God is the continual giver who waits for our response to those gifts.”

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Every November we kick off our annual giving campaign to raise funds for operating Grace Church and supporting our ministries for the coming year. It is not lost on us that Grace is a small community with a strong commitment to bearing witness to the love of Christ, both inside and outside our walls. Through our ministries we worship God, assist the poor and incarcerated, feed our community, visit the sick and speak out publically against injustice. **The life-giving ministries that take place at Grace and the spiritual sustenance we receive and share would not be possible if utility bills were not paid, buildings were not maintained and staff were not employed to run the daily operation of the church.** Did you know that **83%** of our revenue to continue God’s work in the world is generated from the voluntary financial contributions of members like you?

As we begin our search for a new rector, your wardens and vestry are committed to supporting the life of the parish and facilitating a search process that will with God’s help result in the calling of a highly competent and passionate priest. The months ahead will bring both challenges and exciting possibilities. It is most important that we all step up and do our part to ensure that Grace remains strong and that our parish ministries continue to function well. We want to ensure that our future rector will join a community that has been well cared for by its members during the transition and is committed to strengthening and growing our ministries. As you consider pledging for 2018, please reflect on what Grace means to you and to the greater community. **Ask yourself: How much is Grace Episcopal Church worth to me?**

Finally, during this time of transition, please pray for our parish community and support each other with humility, love and kindness. After all, we are each ministers of Grace and God calls us to care well for one another.

A pledge card is enclosed as well as our pledging brochure. Please return your card by placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office by Sunday, December 10, 2017 so that the Finance Committee can prepare the budget for 2018.

Faithfully,

Judith Brooks, Senior Warden
Mike Hungerford, Junior Warden