



The Rev. Paul J. Stephens, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Billy Walton, Deacon

November 1, 2015
The Feast of All Saints

Dear All Saints' Parish Family:

Today marks a new day in the life of The Episcopal Church! In [his sermon this morning](#), our new Presiding Bishop Michael Curry issued a fiery and enthusiastic challenge to the church to take on new energy in response to our commitment to be followers of Jesus. This challenge to The Episcopal Church as a whole is, of course, a challenge to All Saints'. Make no mistake: Bishop Curry was speaking directly to us.

There is much to build upon at All Saints' in response to this challenge:

- Our daily outreach to the poor provides some twenty thousand meals annually and now includes health fairs and help with legal needs. We can still increase this outreach.
- Our EYC is planning a mission trip to Atlanta in the spring to minister to the needy there in a way which will "minister back" to our young people and help to shape them. We can support and encourage this effort.
- Our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and other Christian Education offerings are strong, helping to form the lives from the youngest to the oldest among us, with participation in adult Sunday School exceeding one thousand so far this year. We can broaden participation in these programs.
- Our facilities are constantly made available to numerous community groups and events and are home to Boy Scout Troop 85 and Cub Scout Pack 85. We can continue to find new ways to let our faith speak through our hospitality to others.
- Our many and various gatherings for fellowship and food such as Wednesday evening meals, summer brunches and other special events are a mark of our parish community. We can rework our approaches to these occasions with outsourced catering as participation grows, reducing the work now asked of participants.

Whether and how well we succeed in responding to Bishop Curry's challenge in the coming year will depend in large part on our generosity, both in terms of time devoted to new and renewed participation and in terms of money pledged in new and renewed financial commitments to what it takes to run the life and ministry of All Saints'.

Now is the time to make our financial commitments to All Saints' 2016 operating fund. If we are to grow in the ways described above and more, and if we are to find new and creative ways

to carry out what Bishop Curry spoke about, our giving to All Saints' will need to grow, not only in amounts pledged, but also in the number of households making financial commitments.

Below you will find information summarizing the parish's financial needs for the coming year. While expenses are projected to grow next year by about 6.6%, total giving growth of about 17% is needed, first to cover a rather large loss in giving from 2015 pledgers who died or moved, and then to meet the 6.6% overall growth.

You can use [this printable pledge form](#) for making your commitment to meeting this need. All parishioners are asked to return their pledge forms to the church office or to the collection plate by Sunday, November 15, when we will hear from another bishop, our own Bishop Brian Seage, as he makes his first visit to All Saints'. If you prefer, you may [submit your pledge online](#).

The need for graceful response in this new day is no less now than at any time before. In fact, it is more urgent than ever if we are to faithfully meet Bishop Curry's challenge to us.

Faithfully yours,

All Saints' Stewardship Committee

Tony and Deanna Alford – Co-chairs
Les Alvis
Mike Fitzpatrick

Stephen King
Joellen Murphree
Albert White

All Saints' Operating Fund Snapshot **Where we are now and where we need to be for the coming year**

	2015 Year-end Estimate	2016 Projected Need
Giving Summary		
<i>From Financial Commitments (Pledges)</i>	\$478,612	\$508,404
<i>From All Other Sources</i>	<u>59,053</u>	<u>54,200</u>
Total Giving	\$537,665	\$562,604
Expense Summary		
<i>Clergy and Staff Compensation and Benefits</i>	\$289,253	\$297,156
<i>Office and Buildings Operations and Maintenance</i>	118,981	133,892
<i>Outreach</i>	94,396	98,013
<i>Worship and Programs</i>	<u>25,238</u>	<u>33,544</u>
Total Expenses	\$527,868	\$562,605
<i>Giving in Excess of Expenses</i>	\$9,797	???