

Faith, Vision, Legacy - It's About Time

Capital Campaign News from St. Augustine's In-the-Woods

November 2008
Volume 1, Issue 3

The Mission of St. Augustine's In-the-Woods Episcopal Church is to *"worship God, witnessing to Jesus Christ by serving the community and the world in which we live, all through the power of the Holy Spirit."*

Upcoming Campaign Events

November 9
Sunday School Art Day

November 16
Pastor's Story

November 22
Advance Commitments Gathering

November 23
Chair's Story

December 7
All-Church Banquet and Children's Party
Commitment Worship

January 4
Celebration Worship!

CREATIVE "GIFT PLANNING"

Many of us are experienced at giving or tithing (giving 10% of our income) to the mission and ministry of St. Augustine's Church. Most of us may think about giving in terms of our checkbook or pocketbook. Many of our gifts for both the annual operations of the church and the capital campaign will come from our checkbooks or pocketbooks.

The fact is that often gifts for capital campaigns are contributed in ways other than cash and checkbook. Let's think outside the conventional box and be creative in our giving. What additional opportunities are there for making gifts over the next three years?

Appreciated Assets as Gifts

How about contributing appreciated assets: property, stocks, mutual funds, or other investments? You may have

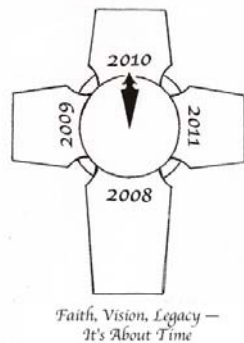
highly appreciated property (a vacation cabin or lot, a duplex, a second home, or rental property) that you are afraid to sell because of the capital gains taxes. Have you ever considered contributing such property to our church? These can make excellent gifts to our capital campaign. Your benefits for giving appreciated assets:

- 1) Receive joyful satisfaction about making a significant gift to the ministry of our church,
- 2) *Use a recognized plannin tool* to avoid paying taxes on the gain you have built up over the years; and,
- 3) Realize a charitable gift deduction for the full amount of your gift.

Personal Property

Gifts to the church can include personal property. Do you have a good car, an RV, or a boat that you would be willing to dedicate? These too, can be contributed. It is important, however, that

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these personal properties have value, and that people not contribute things they would otherwise discard. Valuable personal property makes a wonderful gift.

Lifestyle Giving

Another way to generate gifts for our campaign is to consider lifestyle adjustments. Going camping with the family in place of a more expensive vacation, postponing the purchase of an automobile or remodeling of a home, are all ways to “find money” in order to make a generous gift. We are reminded that our forebears often took second mortgages on their homes in order to build their churches.

Shared Benefit Gifts

There are also several ways in which the financial benefits of a gift can be shared between the donor and the church. These include charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, and life estate agreements. It is recommended that you contact your financial advisor if you are considering a gift of this nature.

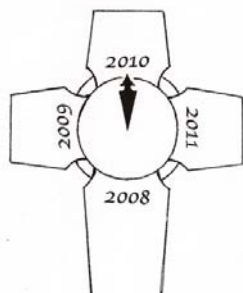
Help with your Gift Planning

St. Augustine's has people who are willing to assist you with your gift planning. For assistance or more information, please contact Jay Ryan (360-221-8561) or Jim Langler (360-331-1957).

“D-Day” by Isabel Neddow

Your Senior Warden detects a level of anxiety as D-Day (decision day for a Parish Hall) approaches. Each of us has to decide how we can support the annual Stewardship Drive as well as a three-year pledge for a new building. Everyone worries about the economy; some worry about what others are giving, and some just worry because they're good at it. And your wardens, rector, vestry and building committee are not immune from this. We want to encourage you to pray and to reflect - to look for ways to make this happen rather than fear about ways it won't - to look into the future in the knowledge that those of us charged with decision-making will make careful and reasonable decisions based on the results of our campaign.

*“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit”
(Corinthians 12:4)*



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*"For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has."
(II Corinthians 8:12)*

Advance Commitments Gathering

On the 22nd of November a group of parishioners will come together at 4:00 PM to make a public devotion toward St. Augustine's "Faith, Vision, Legacy - It's About Time" capital campaign. They will be making sacrificial gifts to jumpstart our congregation's stewardship of God's blessings and encourage us to commit to Christian growth through our building expansion and improvement mission. This mission is more than expanding and improving of our physical presence. It is about the changing of us, our children, the visitors to our parish and our community for many years to come.

One-year pledges to our annual ministry budget as well as three-year financial commitments above and beyond to our building fund will be invited. Commitments to the building fund may be paid as a one-time gift, or in weekly, monthly, or annual installments.

The Advance Commitments event is open to all who wish to attend. The campaign committee is actively seeking additional participants. Everyone who wishes to make an early, inspirational financial commitment is welcome. The members of our congregation that step up with their early offering show the commitment and caring St. Augustine's will need in the years ahead to complete our building mission both financially and spiritually, and will pave the way for others to give sacrificially.

Finding \$100 a month

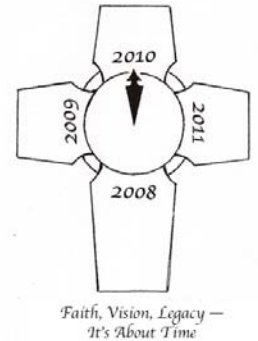
Is it possible to find \$100 each month in your current budget to increase your giving? Here are a few suggestions from The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross that may help you find the extra money.

- 1) Most of us spend too much on impulse items. Practice never buying anything in the store you didn't originally go in to buy. Remember the item and its cost and plan to come back the next day. Chances are you won't. You saved money!
- 2) Never spend "extra" unexpected funds that you receive. Sign rebate checks and tax refunds "for deposit only" and put these refunds into your savings or money market account.
- 3) Spend cash for entertainment. Decide what you will spend each week and put this in a jar. Use only these funds, and when the jar is empty, STOP! You may be surprised at how much longer your other money stays in your checking account.
- 4) Pay the church first! Pay yourself second!

Celebration Banquet and Commitment Worship

The Banquet Committee is now finalizing the arrangements for our Celebration Banquet. Lessons and Carols will start in the Nave at 4:30. Afterwards we will adjourn to the Undercroft for fellowship with wine, punch, and appetizers including assorted baguettes with spreads of olivata, pepperonette, and pesto. Dinner will be served buffet style at 6:00 PM sharp! The menu will include a salad of organic greens, fresh pears, feta, and dried cranberries with pear vinaigrette. The main course will be chicken in white wine, lemon and grape sauce. This will be accompanied with gratin of Yukon potatoes, tomato, zucchini and Gruyere, pasta balsamico, and spinach with corn soufflé.

At 7:15 the children will go to the special Children's Program. The theme for our Children's Program will be "Celebrating Advent in the Home." We will explore different "Advent In The Home" traditions. Materials will be provided to help each child and young person create his or her own hand crafted items that will help bring Advent to the home this year. At the same time the adults will enjoy cheesecake, coffee, and a program celebrating the culmination of our "Faith, Vision, Legacy - It's About Time" campaign. At 8:00 the celebration will conclude with the Family Commitment Service in the Sanctuary.



*"Feasts are made for
laughter; wine
gladdens life, and
money meets every
need."
Ecclesiastes 10:19*



