



FORWARD IN FAITH CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER

St. Thomas Episcopal Church | Issue 2 | October 2024
stthomasmedina.org/forward-in-faith

ROOTED IN FAITH | NOURISHED BY COMMUNITY | BRANCHING OUT TO SERVE

UPCOMING CAMPAIGN EVENTS

"Forward in Faith" Small Group Informational Gatherings

October 14 – November 10

Children's Chapel Stewardship Activities

Sunday, October 27

Day of Prayer

Wednesday, November 13

Advance Commitments Event

Friday, November 22

All-Church Banquet SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, December 5

Commitment Sunday

Sunday, December 8

Celebration Sunday

Sunday, January 26

Stepping In & Stepping Up: Join Us!

We confess that when we were asked to be co-chairs of this conjoined annual/capital stewardship campaign, we had to wonder, "Why us?" This was quickly followed by the thought: "Why not? Why wouldn't we want to be a part of such an exciting time in the life of our church?"

After some thought, prayer and discussion with Mother Liz, we felt certain of one thing. Each of us was being called to step up in ways above and beyond the abundant giving that already occurs at St. Thomas Church in so many ways on a daily basis.

As part of our campaign, we're hearing amazing stories about the living history of our church, and the ways in which it - and our members - positively impact our community. St. Thomas holds a vital place locally and in our larger Diocese. We're also hearing people reflecting on what it means for us to grow and strengthen our church for service now and into the future.

We have been astonished at how God is working in our midst to make our campaign a reality. Team leaders have stepped up with exceptional talent and enthusiasm, and so many people have already committed their time, effort and creativity. Perhaps you have stepped up - seeking, volunteering, assisting, and serving. Thank you!

We invite you to get involved and to join us as we move Forward in Faith together.

Tim Diller and Kim Malcolm, Campaign Co-Chairs



Upcoming Small Group Gatherings

Tues., 10/15	Hunts Point
Fri., 10/18	Clyde Hill
Tues., 10/22	Hunts Point
Wed., 10/23	St. Thomas Church
Fri., 10/25	Bellevue
Tues., 10/29	Zoom Session
Sat., 11/2	Kirkland
Sat., 11/9	Mercer Island
Sat., 11/9	Renton Highlands
Sun., 11/10	St. Thomas Church
Mon., 11/11	Kirkland

Bring Your Voice and Your Questions. “Forward in Faith” Informational Gatherings Continue

Informational meetings for our **Forward in Faith** campaign are underway. These small group gatherings are designed to give you the opportunity to hear about the plans and purposes of our campaign and learn more. Both in-person and Zoom gatherings are available.

If you haven't already done so, sign up now in the Ebsworth Life Center or with the QR code to attend one of these important fellowship and dialogue events. Everyone is welcome and invited! For more information, contact Molly McConkey at mollymccconkey@gmail.com or (425) 301-0040 or Kristen McSherry at kristennmcsherry@gmail.com or (425) 444-5996 .



A Day of Prayer Lifts and Inspires Us

On Wednesday, November 13, St. Thomas Church will host a Day of Prayer at the church from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM. Our Day of Prayer is designed to make purposeful space for reflection, discernment and the lifting of prayerful petitions to God as a faith community.

All are invited and welcome to participate. Please consider coming for an hour during the day and supporting the mission of our church through prayer and meditation. A poster will be available for you to sign up at church starting October 20th.



Children's Chapel Invites Our Youngest Members Forward in Faith

This fall during Children's Chapel, our youngest members will be exploring the meaning of stewardship and generosity. Kids age 4 thru 5th grade, be sure to join us for the next Children's Chapel on **October 27 at 10 am.**



A Word From A Member of St. Thomas Church

My name is Anne Katri Rosnow and I have been a parishioner of St. Thomas Episcopal Church since 1982, the year I was baptized. My two Sons, Robby (age 9) and J.J. (age 6), are also community members of St. Thomas. Like me, Robby and JJ have participated in the wonderful childcare, Sunday School and Vacation Bible Camp programs at St Thomas. We consider St. Thomas our church home and faith community.

When asked to give a brief reflection of "What St. Thomas means to me (and my family)?" I asked the boys this question. Their response was : "St. Thomas is a place of LOVE."

I found their response to be profound and quite accurate, as I thought through my happy memories at St. Thomas.

St. Thomas is a place where we share God's LOVE with one another. LOVE at St. Thomas also includes:

LASTING.

St. Thomas church has existed for 73 years. As we prayerfully consider the present stewardship campaign, I personally feel called to make sure this faith community has the resources to flourish for the next 73 years, and beyond.

OPEN.

St. Thomas welcomes ALL people, from many different backgrounds. We are all God's children and this community excels in opening our doors to share God's LOVE with our parish, those in our neighborhood and beyond.

VIBRANT.

Led by our talented clergy, staff, vestry and many committed volunteers, St. Thomas offers numerous programs, worship and time for fun and fellowship together. These programs and our parish come together to result in a vibrant, thriving faith community.

EXCEPTIONAL.

The St. Thomas clergy, staff, musicians, facilities team and volunteers are truly exceptional. They give countless hours and their whole hearts to their roles at our church. We are privileged to benefit from their wise preaching, beautiful music and thoughtful programming - which keeps us coming back each Sunday. In summary, St. Thomas is a place to know God's LOVE.

As a working parent, I am very aware of the rising costs that face each of us. However, as I prayerfully consider how I can support this year's Stewardship Campaign, "Forward in Faith", I am called to give of my time, talents and financial resources, to help ensure that our St. Thomas community has the funds to flourish into the future.

So, **Forward in Faith** (and gratitude), I walk with each of you, as we embark on our Stewardship campaign, together.



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SAVE THE DATE!
All-Church Celebration Dinner with Bishop Labelle
Thursday, December 5



Come and meet the Bishop! Our new Bishop, Rt. Rev. Philip N. LaBelle will be joining us for the All-Church Banquet.

As one of the culminating events in our ***Forward in Faith*** campaign, this event will bring us together for a spirit-filled time of fun and inspiration. Delicious food and a wonderful program are planned. Please mark your calendars for a great celebration with the entire St. Thomas family!

Stay tuned for your invitation and more information in the coming weeks.

Please contact Molly McConkey at 425-301-0040 or mollymconkey@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.