



# FORWARD IN FAITH

## CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER

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

St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
Medina, WA

Issue 1 September 2024

### UPCOMING CAMPAIGN EVENTS

**“Forward in Faith”  
Small Group Informational  
Gatherings**  
October 14 – November 10

**Day of Prayer**  
Wednesday, November 13

**Children’s Chapel Stewardship  
Activities**  
Sunday, September 29  
Sunday, October 27

**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

## Our Campaign Begins!

In our worship services on Sunday, September 15th, we officially began our Combined Annual and Capital Stewardship Campaign entitled Forward in Faith: Rooted in Faith, Nourished by Community, Branching out to Serve.

Over the next three months, we invite you to join us as we journey together through this stewardship season.



**Forward in Faith** is one campaign that will have two expressions of giving: a one-year financial pledge to support our annual budget and a three-year financial pledge for our Rector Housing Fund. The three-year pledge is above and beyond our annual giving.

But our campaign is about far more than finances; it’s an opportunity for us to grow into the heart and the love of God. We will honor and celebrate the legacy that’s been given us and invest in the future of St. Thomas to provide a church home for everyone.

Plan now to be part of this exciting time in the life of the St. Thomas family!



# Why Is This Campaign So Important?

While churches across the country are struggling to grow, St. Thomas Church has welcomed many new families into our parish. This is a testament to your commitment to showing hospitality to strangers and your dedication to loving your neighbor.

This campaign honors the commitment of generations of St. Thomas families that have equipped us with a marvelous campus to support our work in

“To whom much is **given**, much is **expected**.”

–Luke 12:48

our community. We are now in a unique position to continue and cultivate the work that God has given us to do.

## The **Forward in Faith**

campaign will do this by replenishing our annual operating fund and providing a long-term housing solution for our current rector and rectors to come.

We need your help to nurture the growth we are experiencing and sow the seeds for the next generation of St. Thomas Church.



## Upcoming Small Group Gatherings

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

## “Forward in Faith” Gatherings Provide Information and Inspiration

This year St. Thomas is having a very active and comprehensive stewardship campaign. To give everyone an opportunity to learn more about the campaign, we are scheduling a series of small group gatherings. Some of these gatherings will be in people’s homes; others will be held at the church and some via Zoom.

The focus of these gatherings is to provide a comfortable setting to share a devotion, talk about the campaign, and share a time of fellowship. No financial commitments will be asked for at these gatherings. Congregational leaders will be at each gathering to lead the devotion and the discussion, as well as answer questions.

If you are interested in hosting or attending one of these events, please let us know by October 10. They will be held between mid-October and mid-November. You can do this by:

- Signing up at church on Sundays
- Emailing Nancy McEachran or Kristen McSherry at

Nancy - [nesmce@comcast.net](mailto:nesmce@comcast.net)

Kristen - [kristennmcsherry@gmail.com](mailto:kristennmcsherry@gmail.com)

# CALLED TO SERVE

## Meet the Campaign Team



**The Rev. Liz Costello**  
Rector



**Kim Malcolm**  
Co-Chair



**Tim Diller**  
Co-Chair



**The Rev. Edmund Harris**  
Associate Rector



**Tera Soelter**  
Promotion Director



**Mary Williams**  
Advanced Commitment  
Co-Director



**Peter Justus**  
Advanced Commitment  
Co-Director



**Lisalynn Reed**  
Resource Director



**Nancy McEachran**  
Small Group Gathering  
Co-Director



**Kristen McSherry**  
Small Group Gathering  
Co-Director



**Molly McConkey**  
Banquet & Hospitality  
Director



**Barbara Feldon**  
Bible Study  
& Prayer Vigil



**David Paranchych**  
Continuation Director



**Megan Miller**  
AV Director  
Children & Youth Director



**Mary Waldman**  
Poster / Display Coordinator



**Gwen Ellison**  
Publicity Coordinator

In addition to the team above, several others are lending their support to this campaign - Brian Evison, Finance Liaison; Anne Bentley, Treasurer; Mike Eggenberger, Vestry Liaison; Jennifer Winter Eichenberger, Photographer; Fred McConkey, and many others.

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## SAVE THE DATE!

### All-Church Celebration Dinner Thursday, December 5



Please mark your calendar for a great celebration with the entire St. Thomas family!

As one of the culminating events in our **Forward in Faith** campaign, a banquet is being planned for Thursday evening, December 5. This event will bring us together for a spirit-filled time of fun, and inspiration. Delicious food and a wonderful program are planned.

Stay tuned for more information and your invitation to the “Party of the Year” in the coming weeks.

**SEE YOU AT THE CELEBRATION!**