



A FIRM FOUNDATION

THE ST. PETER'S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



May 19, 2025

Dear Friends,

Since its construction in 1915, St. Peter's Episcopal Church has been a visible sign here on Washington Avenue in Portland, Maine, of God's love for the world. For the last 110 years, faithful parishioners have worshipped here and been empowered to go out from its doors to share Christ's love with the neighborhood, the larger community, and the world.

Families have seen their loved ones baptized here, formed in their faith, married, supported in times of need, and at the end of their lives commended to God's eternal care. Those who have gone before us cared for and handed on to us a goodly heritage. Now it is our turn to demonstrate our care and commitment.

A FIRM FOUNDATION is our first Capital Campaign in over 30 years. It is an invitation to you as a parishioner, friend, or member of this community, to consider making a generous contribution to St. Peter's over the course of three years, or through a bequest. We have set for ourselves the goal of raising \$250,000 to help us continue to repair and maintain the fabric of this historically significant house of worship, to replenish the endowment, and to improve our programs of ministry.

Exactly how will these funds be used? First, we will devote a percentage of the funds raised to replenishing our endowment, portions of which in recent years have been used to meet current operating expenses.

Building maintenance and improvement projects funded from the campaign will include:

- Completion of stonework, repointing the exterior walls of the church
- A new dossal curtain behind the altar
- Repair of all windows in the nave
- Continuation of floor refinishing, including sacristy and stairwell
- Improvements to the kitchen, perhaps including a new dishwasher
- Renovation and upgrade of restroom facilities, including better handicapped access
- Church roof repairs
- Regular tree work
- Funding for youth outreach and formation and other programming needs

We are delighted to report that we have already received commitments and bequests totaling \$192,000. How can you help us reach our goal of \$250,000?

There are a number of ways in which you can contribute. Our three-year campaign offers these possibilities for gifts to the Fund, made in addition to our annual pledge commitments to pay for the operating expenses of the parish:

- A current gift of a lump sum and / or,
- Periodic gifts of money over the three-year term of the Campaign, and / or,
- Transfer of ownership of life insurance policies or other assets, and / or,
- Gifts to St. Peter's via a will, trust, or other estate planning mechanism.

In order to be included in the current Capital Campaign Fund, you can contribute funds right now and over a three-year period by filling out the attached Commitment Form, or indicating on the form a commitment to make future contributions from your estate. In the latter case, we will follow up with a more detailed Legacy Intention Form.

If it is unclear how much money may be available for a gift (technically called a bequest if it is in a will or estate planning document) from your probate estate, you can still sign a commitment to make a gift to St Peter's from your estate "pursuant to the terms of your estate planning and applicable probate and tax laws." In this fashion, we can all be assured that St. Peter's will receive the intended portion of your estate, along with any other eligible gift recipients (beneficiaries). You can contact Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, campaign co-chair, at tainsworth207@gmail.com or (207) 650-3691 if you have questions or want more information about a planned gift. We also will be offering a presentation after the coffee hour on Sunday, June 1st to provide more information about such gifts.

We are grateful for the growth that God has given us in the last few years. Such growth inspires us to ensure that all those who come after us will continue to experience God's love, Christ's call, and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, to be a community that brings a message of compassion, healing, forgiveness, and justice to the world.

In Christ's Name,

Your Capital Campaign Committee

Mr. Thomas Ainsworth and Ms. Lenita Richard, co-chairs

Ms. Anita Chandler, Ms. Allison Schroth, Mr. Robert Simmons, Fr. Thomas Mousin

