

November 1, 2017

Dear friend,

As we begin the Stewardship Campaign for 2018, we write to ask you prayerfully to consider increasing your pledge to St. Luke's Cathedral in two important ways: first, increase your pledge of money to enable us to hire a Canon Pastor, and second, formally pledge your time and talent to the missions and ministries of St. Luke's. Let us explain.

For a number of years, we have discussed the need for a second priest. Our Dean shepherds his flock tirelessly, but there is never enough time. Our deacons serve and have served energetically and faithfully, but part time and without pay. Our parish is sufficiently large to require, by all measures, additional clergy. This fall, the Vestry authorized the Stewardship Committee to seek an additional \$50,000 to hire a part-time Canon Pastor, the name given to assistant clergy at a Cathedral. Together with a modest 4% increase to our 2017 pledged income of \$355,000, this brings our goal to \$420,000, an 18% increase over 2017.

Second, we have all heard of the difficulties mainline churches are having retaining membership. At St. Luke's, we are fortunate to have seen increasing pledges and Sunday attendance, but barely. A major goal is to increase our relevance and presence, which will require new ideas and energy - to borrow from Bishop Robert Schnase, Radical Hospitality, Risk Taking Service, and Extravagant Generosity. Recently we have asked the chairs of St. Luke's missions, ministries and committees to think about what they might do with, for example, 100, 200 or more hours of new volunteer time next year. We ask you now to think how such a pledge of time and talent would affect your life and the life of St. Luke's. Imagine how the power of St. Luke's ministries could improve our parish community and address serious issues in our larger society!

We are deeply sensitive to your generous contributions to our recent Capital Campaign, Living Stones. With those funds we have completed major repairs to the East Wall and Rose Window, repairs are underway to the Lancet windows, and we are making plans for kitchen, bathroom and parking lot improvements. You have been very generous, and on behalf of our entire community, we thank you.

Explanatory materials are attached to this letter. Please prayerfully consider increasing your pledge by at least 18%. If you have not pledged heretofore but you would like for St. Luke's to be your spiritual home, please devote some of your treasure to where your heart is.

Our In-Gathering Day is Sunday, November 19, 2017. Please return your pledge cards at the 10:00 o'clock service that day, or in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

There is much to do, and with the grace of God we will do it.

Yours in Christ.

George Cooper, Senior Warden

Sam Allen, Junior Warden

Encl. Time and Talent Pledge Card
Treasure Pledge Card
FAQ Canon Pastor

FAQ Time and Talent
Spiritual Gifts Inventory
Missions and Ministries