



CHAPEL of the CROSS

an historic Episcopal Church

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Clergy

The Rev. William H.
Compton
Priest In Charge

The Rev. Tom Fanning
Interim Associate Priest

*Welcoming the stranger,
nurturing one another, and
guided by the Holy Spirit, the
Chapel of the Cross strives to live
the mission of Jesus Christ
through prayer, traditional
liturgy, Christian Education,
active outreach, and love of all
God's creation.*

Chapel friends,

It is the best of times, it is the ~~worst~~ best of times. Our apologies to Charles Dickens, but this may be the most exciting and optimistic time in the history of the Chapel of the Cross. As your 2023 Stewardship Chairs, we have over 50 years of combined membership at the Chapel. Neither of us can recall a time where our Parish had so much energy... so many positive things happening all at the same time. Consider our new sanctuary, record attendance, new programs for youth, children (and seniors!), Concerts in the Country, Christmas in the Country, new faces each Sunday, and the list goes on and on. We are truly blessed!

Each year, we pause after Day in the Country and take a moment to count our blessings. Then the clergy, staff, church committees, and vestry start the planning for next year. Each of these groups prayerfully considers what they would like to accomplish over the next twelve months. They submit a plan and a budget to the vestry. Then it is the vestry's responsibility to prioritize and adjust the budget to best meet the needs of the parish, balancing what funds are available with their priorities for next year.

This is also the time for each member of the Chapel of the Cross to set their priorities and plan for next year. What treasure will you devote to the Chapel of the Cross in the coming year and thereafter? If you are a new member and first time "pledger," if you have been pledging for years, or if you don't pledge, but put money in the plate each Sunday, Stewardship season offers each of us a time to reflect where we are in our relationship with each other and with God.

Over the next month, you will hear from a cross-section of our parish about what this place means to them, how they have been blessed, and how they plan to approach this Stewardship season. We ask you to listen, examine your own views on Stewardship and prayerfully consider turning in the enclosed pledge card by the end of Stewardship season on November 5th. To the extent that you are able, we ask you to increase your pledge from last year and help us work towards one million dollars in pledges for the first time in our parish's history.

Sharing in God's grace towards our Parish and all of us,

Whit Rayner

Reggie Sim