

October 16, 2019

Dear Fellow Worshippers,

Thank you for being a part of our spiritual community at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

Reflecting on this last year, we began new ministries and invigorated existing programs, made needed repairs to our physical plant and worked toward the goals the congregation identified through our Day of Discovery.

As your Treasurer, I learned many were reluctant to commit to an annual pledge amount. I was one of these, I wasn't actually sure when starting to attend St. Stephens if I would stay with this church, or if the emergencies of daily life would allow me to keep my promise of pledging, or if nurturing this congregation was what God wanted me to do with the money I give back to our church. I put my questions before my Lord, and moved forward with the job I was given.

While working on last year's budget, I understood how vital my pledge is to the church. Instead of operating (as I had feared) in "crisis" mode, to keep the bills paid and the doors open, pledging allows us to meet our expenses and expand our scope, offering services to the congregation, opportunities and outreach programs. With your pledge we, your vestry, are able to meet our common mission and goals.

You are cordially invited to a Stewardship Kickoff Brunch after the Sunday morning service on October 27th from 11:30 until approximately 1pm. Please prayerfully consider your pledge and plan to complete your pledge card for the upcoming year. You may also go online to the Church Website, <u>https://ststephensaz.org</u> to pledge.

Gratefully,

Sandra Calhorin

Sandra Calhoun, Treasurer Member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Vestry