



Dear St. Paul's community,

October 2021

What a year! Some of us are exhausted by our attempts to keep family and friends healthy and connected. Others are anxious to return to a semblance of "normal". Once again, however, the St. Paul's community has been a bright spot throughout---made all the more brilliant by the calling of Rev. Cara Rockhill to be our Priest-in-Charge, who joined us in February!

In our hopeful St. Paul's way we found ways to worship joyfully and support each other throughout this year of Zooming, muting, unmuting, waiting, worrying, and working. And, as soon as it was safe enough, we pulled together to create a hybrid service with some worshipping in person and others participating electronically. In short order, Rev. Rockhill has helped us remember how rejuvenating it can be to simply REST, in spite of what swirls around us all, and take the time to worship God together.

Now we can look toward our future--a RENEWAL if you will. Rev. Cara has a brand new shoulder, our beloved buildings and peaceful Meditation Garden are getting some much needed attention and we await the all clear so we can resume a service that includes a full Eucharist and glorious singing! As our property gets the loving care it deserves, we are fully committed to enhancing our technological capabilities while exploring and developing new and wonderful ways of being church - both in this challenging time and in the years to come.

But naturally, there's a catch. It's time to focus on our financial life too. Repair and maintenance costs for our 150-plus-year old buildings are mounting up quickly. All of our programs and ministries, salaries, safety monitoring and technology investments...all of this makes our beloved community tick, but requires each of us to pledge our financial support to the extent we can. Contributing our time, talents and treasure is a long-standing part of the Episcopal tradition and one which this community has always embraced with gusto!

Let's "do the numbers". We anticipate our budget for 2022 will be approximately \$240,000. The vast majority of the revenue needed to support this budget comes from your pledges. We are budgeting pledge revenue of \$125,000 in 2022. All of this pledge revenue will come from our small but mighty 42 pledging households. We realize that we are all in different financial positions. However, we ask if you have the means and have pledged less than \$3,000 in the past, can you move closer to the amount which represents 1/42 of our budget? If you have pledged more than that in the past but have not increased your pledge in a while, could you add a 1% or 2% increase to match inflation?

Please respond to this request as generously as you can so that our Treasurer, Susan Boyer, and our Vestry members can put together a strong budget for what promises to be an exciting year to REST and find RENEWAL in community with God and with each other.

Love and peace,

Three handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'Cara Rockhill', the second is 'Bernice Cramer', and the third is 'David Montgomery'. The signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Reverend Cara Rockhill

Bernice Cramer, Warden

David Montgomery, Warden