

St. Luke's Episcopal Church ~ La Iglesia Episcopal de San Lucas

We Gather Together...

There's an old hymn that begins "We gather together to ask the Lord's blessings". This we do, each and every time we gather for worship, fellowship and meetings. We not only ask for God's blessings - we expect them! We expect that God will bless our lives, our work, our families, our parish, and our common ministries. Were it not for Jesus' promises to be with us always, and that what we ask faithfully God will grant, our expectations would be unfounded and foolish.

This is the time of year in our lives together as a Christian community when we look to the future. The new year is just around the corner, and begs the question "What will the new year bring?" In our parish, organizations and ministries are planning for new opportunities to reach out to our community and the world with the Good News of Jesus the Christ.



A significant part of our planning is the question, "Where will the money come from?" - because to continue our mission and ministry and to grow other opportunities, it takes money. I am absolutely convinced that there is no shortage of money in this parish. We have all the money we need to do the ministry to which God calls us. However, all that money is still in our pockets, and our ministry is only limited by our level of generosity.

We are asking everyone who is a member or regularly attends worship to consider their financial support of our parish worship and ministries for 2011. Please pray about this, evaluate your personal or family finances, and your commitment to share God's blessings through our parish ministries. Fill out the Pledge Card and return it to the parish office or bring it to church on November 7th, The Feast of All Saints. During the Offertory, at all services on that day, all pledge cards will be presented.

An important part of our theology and practice is about giving of our Time, Talent and Treasure. This we offer to God in thanksgiving for God's blessings in our lives. On the back of this letter is a "Proportional Giving" chart that might help as you consider the habit of giving a certain percentage of your time, talent, and treasure back to God through your Christian community.

The last line of the old hymn is "Thy name be praised! O Lord, make us free!" God created us with Free Will and through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are Free! Praise God!!

Fr. Ed