

Stewardship FAQs

answers to frequently asked questions about supporting All Saints' Church

What is meant by Stewardship?

Just as we endeavor to steward the earth's land and water for future generations, stewardship at All Saints' refers to our commitment to properly care for our parish – the buildings and grounds, the ministries, the staff, our relationships with each other and the wider community. To ensure the well-being of our church community, we give of our own time, talent, creativity, physical labor, and money as each of us is able. We also express our thanks to God and appreciation for the gifts we receive in community.

How is stewardship related to spiritual growth?

As with any endeavor, the more we practice, the better we become at what we have set our minds to. Our spiritual lives and our material lives are intertwined. Many of us have difficulty giving and receiving due to anxiety about not having enough or fears that who we are or what we have to give is not good enough. Conscious stewardship is a way of being attentive to and learning to trust in God who “working in us, can do more than we can ask or imagine.” (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Is my stewardship defined only by the money I give to the church?

Absolutely not. Time and service given to others is a critical component of stewardship. All Saints' can't function without all three gifts of money, time, and service.

Why is making a pledge important?

Pledging is a kind of promise and increases the chance one will follow through on their intention. The vestry does its best to operate the church on a sound financial basis, and knowing what the church can expect in income enhances the vestry's ability to plan responsibly.

How much should I give? Am I expected to tithe?

The most important thing is to make a pledge or gift that is meaningful to you, given your personal financial circumstances. The concept of tithing (giving 10% of your income) is rooted in scripture and Episcopal doctrine, yet in today's world each of us supports multiple organizations which fulfill important missions and require financial support. So, understandably, our personal “tithe” may include multiple organizations, many of which have large and broad donor bases.

Your giving makes a very large impact on All Saints' ability to fulfill our goals in support of our parish and community.

How do I make and pay a pledge?

1. Fill out the pledge card which you receive in the Sunday leaflet. You may also pledge online at ***allsaintsnh.org***
2. You may pay your pledge according to the schedule you select on the pledge card, via cash, check, our online payment link or by having your bank send your pledge by bank check to us. If you list All Saints' as a preferred vendor on your bank's online bill paying site, this incurs no charge to All Saints'. If you use our Vanco vendor, or pay by credit card, it will incur a charge to All Saints' so that the full amount of your pledge is reduced by transaction fees.

How will my pledge be used?

Your pledge will be used to support our operating budget. This budget supports our staff, maintenance, and programs as well as the programs of the Diocese of New Hampshire and the larger Episcopal Church.

How does income from our endowed and dedicated use funds affect our budget?

About 66% of our annual income comes from pledging. Additional funds come from funds established by donors for a specific purpose and mission that fund a specific budget line item, but may not be diverted to general operations. We also use income from endowed funds invested by the Diocese. Finally, we have a small portion of income from fundraisers, donations at Good Friday, Christmas and Easter, Music and Flower donations.