

## 2011 “*Lift High the Cross*” Stewardship Campaign

Annually, in the fall of each year, our parish conducts a stewardship campaign. We would encourage your participation in this important effort to support the ministry of Christ Church Episcopal.

**“*Everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required*”** .....Luke 12:48

Christ Church Episcopal has truly witnessed our Lord's blessing. We are grateful to God for the strength and wisdom He has shown us not only to *delight in His will* but also to *walk in His way*.

It is with humble, yet joyful and grateful, hearts we reflect on Our Lord's many blessings for Christ Church Episcopal.

1. Our Parish family continues to flourish and grow in size and love. We regularly add motivated and eager new members as well as welcome previous members who are grateful to return home.
2. Our rector, The Reverend Michael S. White, continues as a strong, “unanxious” and caring pastor for our parish. We are especially proud of his participation in the selective Trinity Wall Street Clergy Leadership program and being chosen as the preacher at the community-wide Interfaith Thanksgiving service held at the First African Baptist Church.
3. The consecration of a dynamic leader, The Right Reverend Scott Anson Benhase, as our new bishop. As with his predecessors, he is supportive of and energized by the commitment and love of our Christ Church Episcopal parish.
4. The expansion of our youth and children's program with the addition of an energetic, competent and caring Youth and Children's minister, Sarah Lawton Brockenbrough.
5. The creation of our beautiful SEAL by the revered iconographer, Louise Huntington Shipps. Every brush stroke and color uniquely symbolizes our Christ-centered Anglican and Episcopal heritage.
6. The continued development of one of the finest music programs in the Diocese of Georgia and the city of Savannah under the direction of our well respected choir director, Timothy L. Hall.
7. The inspiring and joyful celebrations of God's love by our parish family. A few examples:
  - a. Celebration of the Life and Resurrection of our beloved deacon, Susan Wolfe Harrison.
  - b. Celebration of the 97<sup>th</sup> birthday of one of the “great ladies” of our church, Celia Jones Williams
  - c. Celebration of our church's founding at with a fun-filled and well attended Parish Oyster Roast at Cedar Bluff, the home of Isabella and Jerry Reeves.
  - d. Celebration of our “*Parish Life Together*” with a hugely successful Pot Luck Supper and Song Fest on Sylvan Island, at the home of Rosalie and Charles Morris.
8. Our ever expanding outreach ministries including Project Smile, Habitat for Humanity, St. Paul's food pantry, Kairos Prison Ministry and Chatham-Savannah Citizen Advocacy.

9. The grace, dignity and “unanxious” approach our rector, vestry and entire parish have exhibited during the protracted legal process. We have been gratified and humbly thankful for the favorable decisions of both the Superior Court of Chatham County and the Georgia Court of Appeals.
10. Our clergy and congregation’s strong commitment, at every service, to prayers for “*our sisters and brothers on Johnson Square.*”

As we continue to grow, it is vitally important we continue our strong commitment to outreach and growth while maintaining our long tradition of faithful stewardship and financial integrity.

Our 2011 "*Lift High the Cross*" stewardship campaign begins with our service on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our parish has many important opportunities and responsibilities as we expand our congregation's tradition of Episcopal worship to glorify our Lord Jesus Christ with joy, grace and dignity.

As we enter 2011, our parish is focused on four overarching priorities:

1. Maintaining worship as the center of who we are as a people.
2. Continuing to increase our ministry to youth and children.
3. Increasing our opportunities for service and outreach throughout our parish, our community and the world.
4. Continued focus on opportunities for spiritual growth for our parish community.

The next several years will be among the most important in the history of Christ Church as our church family, with God’s help, heals, builds and prospers. We need each of you to prayerfully consider a proportional gift and to “*Give all that you can*” as we together "*Lift High the Cross!*"

For more information on our “*Lift High the Cross*” Campaign, proportional giving, the current status of our legal proceeding and our Transition Fund you may access our *Questions and Answers* on our web site.

For your convenience, you may make either an *Online Commitment* or *Online Payment*.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to call or email our rector, Michael White, or either of Campaign Co Chairs whose contact information is shown below..

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