

He who was seated on the throne said,  
“I am making everything new!”  
Then he said, “Write this down, for these words  
are trustworthy and true.” REVELATION 21:5



*It's a  
New Day*

CHRIST CHURCH  
2010

Come and Hear  
Come and See  
Come and Celebrate

SEPT. 20 • SEPT. 27 • OCT. 4

BARBOUR PHOTOGRAPHY



# It's a New Day

## Christ Church 2010

### A Vestry Resolution

#### *Personal Stewardship & The Vestry's Role As Servant Leaders*

**W**e, the Vestry and Interim Rector of Christ Church, Raleigh, believe that our personal time, talents and treasure are gifts from God and we are given the freedom to return a proportion (percentage) of those gifts. We also believe that God wants us to know the total percentage of our return to God and then decide how we will divide that total between our faith community and other charitable works.

*Therefore, be it resolved,* that the members of the Vestry of Christ Church will each make a private pledge to Christ Church for 2010 only after deciding the approximate percentages of what each one will strive to give to our church and to other charitable works. And,

*Be it further resolved,* that the Vestry recognizes that the tithe (10%) is the biblical standard for total giving to both church and charities. For those individuals who accept that as a personal goal and wish to grow towards it or beyond it, we commit to prayerful review of our progress each year. And,

*Be it further resolved,* that we will apply this same principle of proportional giving to our budget-making deliberations. Therefore, we the Vestry will know the percentages of our *budgeted* outreach line items in the *operating* budget of Christ Church before the dollar amounts are entered and the budget is adopted.

—Adopted unanimously August 18, 2009

Thomas B. Hayward III Rachel L. Smith Catherine Cox  
Blanche Bacon Dea Bayant  
Martin H. Brinkley J. M. M. Rein  
John Mah Susan W. Small J. Ross W. J.  
Paul Hogg



# A New Day

## **OBJECTIVES for 2010:**

- *New Rector and Clergy*
- *Significant increase in the total number of pledging household units*
- *Renewed determination to achieve and maintain appropriate staffing and compensation levels*
- *A renewed Spirit, God's Spirit, moving through Christ Church and into the community.*

## **So, here's what you can expect from Christ Church**

on these three Sundays at the Adult Forum or in our worship services:

1. **On SEPTEMBER 20th** we will work together to discuss these topics:
  - Guilt-free giving in a needy world
  - Why knowing one's total proportion (percentage) to give back to God in charities and church frees us to hear, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."
  - How we can pay that forward with a small growth plan each year in our percentage of giving.
  - Celebrate the freedom we have to divide our proportional giving between churches and charities in any way we choose.
  - And, finally, to know that God only asks us to be proportionate givers, and it is always adjustable to income going up or down.  
*That last point is crucial in anxious and unstable times.*
2. **Our SEPTEMBER 27th** discussion is very pragmatic, with our expert team of professionals here with us: Our treasurer, Jim Cain; and our Parish Administrator, Jo Hardy. They are the most knowledgeable people when it comes to the stewardship of your dollars, given in the past and future. Let's hope for standing-room only in the parish hall. You will not be disappointed.

3. **OCTOBER 4th is CELEBRATION SUNDAY.** What's not to celebrate? We have God's gifts to give back and be God's co-creators. We have guilt-free giving, we know our proportion, and we have a life-plan to grow it. God cannot help but be pleased with us as God's people and God's parish. Celebrate! At the Adult Forum hour we will present additional facts, dialogue, and wrap-up whatever was missed, not heard or still needs explanation for anyone who missed September 27th.

And we will all have a chance to fill out and present a pledge card (provided by mail and in the pews) at one of the worship services. *We then will ask God to bless them at the altars.* (Cards coming in at other times will still be taken to a Christ Church altar and blessed before being added to the others.) Then we celebrate with lunch and good times together.

Faithfully,



Peter Hogg, Interim Rector

## IT'S A NEW DAY • Sundays, Sept. 20 & 27, Oct. 4

10:10-10:50am in the Parish Hall (with coffee & pastries)

**Sept. 20**    **Part I: THE NEED TO GIVE: COME AND HEAR**  
**God Loveth a Cheerful Giver but Accepteth from a Grouch**  
*Guilt-free giving in a world filled with needs.*

*Peter Hogg, Interim Rector  
 & Stewardship Committee Representatives*

**Sept. 27**    **Part II: GIVING TO THE NEED: COME AND SEE**  
**Stewardship of Your Dollars at Christ Church**

*Jim Cain, Treasurer & Vestry Member  
 Jo Hardy, Parish Administrator*

**Oct. 4:**    **Part II: GIVING TO THE NEED: BEFORE WE CELEBRATE**  
**Continuing last Sunday's dialogue & wrap-up**

*Jim Cain, Jo Hardy, & Stewardship  
 Committee Representatives*

**THEN IT'S CELEBRATION TIME at 12:15pm**  
**with lunch and good times together (following the 11:00 service)**

Come to the parlor following the 5:00 service on Sept. 20, 27, or Oct. 4 for refreshments and informal discussion of this year's stewardship campaign.

from our Stewardship Co-chairs

# Proportional Giving

**As Episcopalians, we believe that stewardship is a thankful response to God's graciousness.**

*It is giving back a percentage of God's gifts to us. Our fall Annual Giving Campaign provides the means for each of us to fulfill part of our stewardship mission. Pledges to Christ Church meet two objectives: 1) a personal one in that each of us is giving back a percentage of our income; and 2) a collective one in that all of us are supporting the continuing development of our parish—ensuring that it serves the pastoral needs of our parishioners, provides spiritual nurture, addresses many of our community's needs, and plays a role in promoting Christian values in the world.*

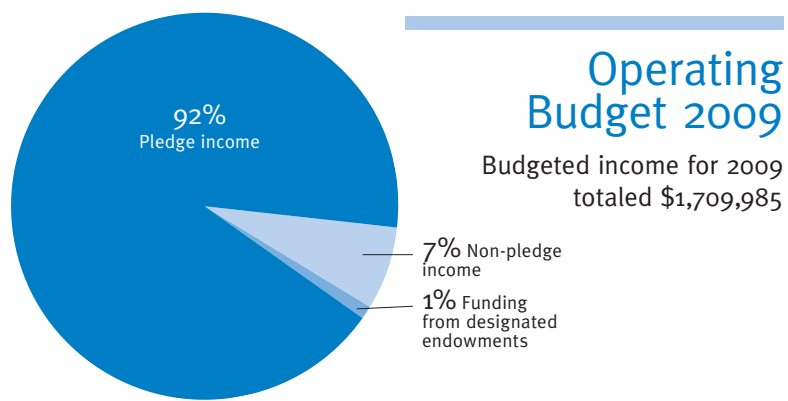
**OUR VALUES** At Christ Church we value the diversity of skills, backgrounds and perspectives of a large parish while holding fast to the beauty and tradition of Anglican liturgy and music. We value opportunities for spiritual development through the broad array of worship services, programs and parish life activities that our parish offers. We value our strong commitment to outreach in our local community and beyond. We want to be better at engaging more of our members in the programs of the church and in welcoming and embracing newcomers. We want to expand our commitment to outreach and involve more of our members in outreach efforts. We want Christ Church to be a positive contributor and leader within the Diocese. *We want a more robust and engaging stewardship program that focuses on the giving back of our time, talent and treasure.*

**OUR MISSION** We are a diverse parish, we are involved to varying degrees in different activities and ministries of the church, and we express our faith in different ways, but we are clear about what is important to us and our community of faith. In effect, we have said that **the mission of Christ Church is the mission of Christ's church.** In a time of change, upheaval and uncertainty, that is a message of comfort, a message of faith, a message of thanksgiving for what we have been given, as individuals and as a parish,

and for what we can be. It is a message that should resonate with candidates who will be interested in serving as Christ Church's 13th Rector, a message that imparts confidence as we pursue our Objectives for 2010, and a message that you can enhance with a positive response to this Annual Giving Campaign.

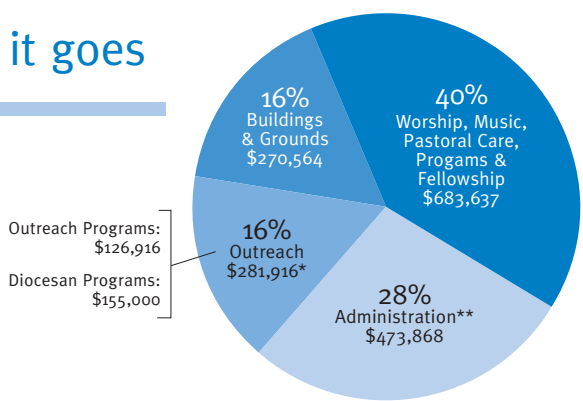
Julian Williamson      Marks Arnold  
CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS

## Where the money comes from...



## ...and where it goes

### Budgeted Expenses



\* An additional \$36,404 was given to outreach from special offerings in addition to the outreach budget shown above.

\*\* Administrative support, communication, technology, office equipment, telephone, supplies, audit, workers compensation & disability insurance

# Parish Stewardship Statistics (2009):

## 669 pledging units

(Represents 58% pledge participation of total households)

PLEDGE PARTICIPATION 2000-09			
2000	80%	2005	65%
2001	66%	2006	60%
2002	73%	2007	61%
2003	78%	2008	65%
2004	60%	2009	58%

## OUR ULTIMATE STEWARDSHIP GOALS...

are to have all of our parish households pledge, and to have all those who pledge make a commitment to increase their percentage of proportional giving. Our parish leadership will continue to work diligently toward the realization of these goals.

Excerpt from 2010 pledge card:

### *It's A New Day* CHRIST CHURCH 2010

I intend to share in God's work through church and charities by giving in 2010 a proportion of what God gives to me. My intended gift to Christ Church, a percentage of my total proportional giving to both my church and other charities, will be in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.



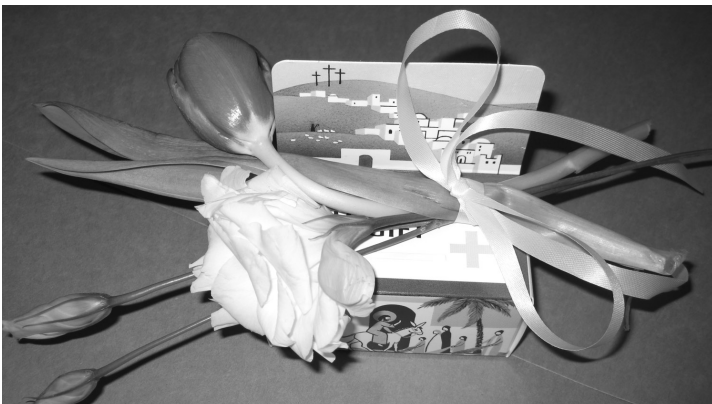
*Should your proportion need changing-- up or down-- during the year, please contact Diane Dixon, Financial Secretary (834-6259, ext. 107, or [ddixon@christchurchraleigh.org](mailto:ddixon@christchurchraleigh.org)).*



# What We Need: Guilt-free Giving

*If you are like most people, you need to be free from: “How can I best give beyond myself with all my responsibilities—and now times seem to be the worst-ever in my lifetime?” “How can I get away from feeling guilty about it? I should do more.” “Do I give enough? Why doesn’t it feel good?” “How can I teach my children? I’m not exactly the best role model.”*

1. Know the difference between **the need to give and giving to a need**. The need to give will help direct you in your annual commitments to charities and faith communities. But **giving to a need**, which can pop up at any time, necessitates setting aside a portion of your total giving in order to be able to give to an unexpected significant need.
2. Know the **percentage of income you keep for yourself (and family)**. Have a lifetime goal and review it annually to change it—up, if God’s gifts to you are increasing (in salary, investments, inheritances, etc.); down if need be when God’s gifts to you have drastically shrunk.





3. **Allocate the percentage according to your best intents.** If you are at a 6% giving level—which means you keep 94% of all that God has given you—and you want to support a faith community and important charities, then decide: do you want 60% of your 6% to go to church and 40% of your 6% to go to charities? How will you allocate your 6%?
  
4. **Live freely. Know your percentage.** Give “first fruits” up front. When God told the Hebrews to bring their first fruits before they put the crops in their own barns, surely his intent was to bless them. And, they lived with a cultural expectation of a 10% norm (Did they all do 10%? Who was to know?). And, if it was taken to the temple first to be used to sustain the priests (church) as well as to feed the hungry and needy (charity), the people reasoned that God would care for them as well. It was a win-win—freedom to give and freedom to stand guiltless before God.
  
5. **Finally**, if you’ve discovered you have a 2% annual level of giving from God’s gifts to you (you are putting 98% in your pocket) and you want to change that, then *set an annual goal*. Even moving to 2.1% next year could still work in a recessionary time. One tenth of one percent growth as we work toward our giving goal in the “bust” years, and a whole percentage point growth in the “boon” years, can go a long way to ensuring guilt-free giving over a lifetime because God is getting more of our hearts as we become more and more co-workers in God’s vineyard where the weeds of anxiety and needs exist side-by-side in God’s abundant garden.

# 10 Steps to Proportional Giving

1. Deliberately, and with prayerful consideration, develop your long-term objective for “giving back” a share of your income to the Church and to other charities.
2. Develop your definition of income—it can be either pre-tax or post-tax. The important thing is to develop a measure you are comfortable with and stick with it.
3. Estimate your current year giving and actual percentage of income.
4. Select your target percentages for the next year (these targets will help you move closer to our ideal long-term giving-back objectives).
5. Calculate or estimate your income for next year, and apply the target percentages to your estimated income.
6. Fill out your pledge card with the designated pledge amount.
7. Mail your pledge card or bring to the church in the enclosed envelope.
8. Make a list of the charities you plan to support next year and the designated amount.
9. **Congratulate yourself! You took a positive step toward fulfilling the true definition of stewardship.**
10. **Give thanks to God for all you have received.** Pray that your relationship with God may deepen and broaden so that your life may be grounded on the never-failing love of God.



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