



The Rev. Phillip Parker, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Billy Walton, Deacon

Dear wonderful people of All Saints',

Grace and peace to you. A few weeks ago, one of my colleagues was visiting All Saints'. We talked about our new bishop, camp, and All Saints'. I was telling him how great this place is. The people are great. Our nave is amazing. Our parish hall is huge. Our kitchen is marvelous. The only thing I can think of that would make it better would be to have a restroom closer to the nave. I said something like, "I wish the church and parish hall building were connected. He looked at me and said, "At least you have a parish hall. I don't even have one." The parish he is serving does not have a place outside of the nave where people may gather, enjoy each other's company, have potlucks, and concerts. We have an amazing parish hall.

I have been to many Episcopal Churches throughout this diocese. I am willing to say, with confidence, that All Saints' has some of the best spaces for ministry. Between the kitchen, breakout rooms, parish hall, library, classrooms, nursery, and choir rooms; God's work is being done. This work takes place not only on Sunday mornings, but also every day of the week. Almost every single day, our buildings are being used to feed, to help house, to educate, and to serve God's people. We may not realize it, but these buildings are a source of ministry. They provide a place where God's love and grace can come together with those who need to feel that they are loved.

This would not have been possible without the hard work that All Saints' undertook by being willing to discern God's call to take that step out into faith and build this wonderful place. I can only imagine the faith it took to say, "yes, let's do this." By saying yes, All Saints', by being led by God, has not only built a place for those who said yes to building it, but also to us here today, and for those who will walk through our doors in the future.

Now, it is our time to burn the note to this debt. We are almost there. We need to stay focused with our financial support until the end of 2026. For those who have pledged in the past, please continue to offer your support. For those of you, like me, were not around when All Saints' made the decision to build, please offer your support and pledge to this "burn the Note" campaign. Also, I really want to burn this note.

All Saints' is not only a place for God to reach out to those who attend church here, but also a place where God reaches out to this whole community. God's work is being done within these walls. From someone receiving a hot breakfast, to someone who is trying their hardest to remain sober, to scouts preparing for their future, to children learning and playing, to someone who felt distant from God realizing God is right there with them, to those who feel unloved experiencing God's love poured out by this congregation, and to all of us who have been fed at God's Altar and, at potlucks, is possible because of the faith of this congregation and the willingness to open our doors to our neighbors.

The peace of Christ be with you,

Phillip Parker, Rector