



CONGREGATION STEWARDSHIP 2023



WASHINGTON
NATIONAL
CATHEDRAL

gracious giving



“Since you excel in so many ways — in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us — I want you also to excel in *the gracious act of giving.*” 2 Corinthians 8:7 (NLT Translation)

When Paul was writing these words to the Corinthians, they, like so many of us, were being tested in innumerable ways. Their world was changing. Laws were changing. People were moving from place to place. No one knew what would happen financially or politically. And yet, these early Christians managed to be filled with joy and to celebrate their love for each other.

That love is alive in our congregation today, in the warm and devoted community we have nurtured, especially in these last few years of uncertainty. Our wonderful group now extends from Washington DC to New Mexico, to the Caribbean, to Canada and as far away as New Zealand!

Our support for each other is evident in the smiles we see — both in the nave on Sundays and during

our Zoom coffee hours. It is apparent in the helping hands extended to people in need and in the beautiful greetings in our online chats. Through the connections we are building, this congregation is becoming so much closer than we ever expected — and all through our embrace of each other and a shared commitment to live lovingly in the world.

In that spirit of love and giving, we enter into our annual pledge season. **While a pledge is once a year, truly gracious giving happens through our actions every day.** Gracious giving is the spouse who builds their partner up. The teacher who focuses kindness on a misbehaving student. The friend who doesn't mind if you forget to return a favor. The neighbor who listens to your enthusiastic viewpoint even when they do not agree with it.

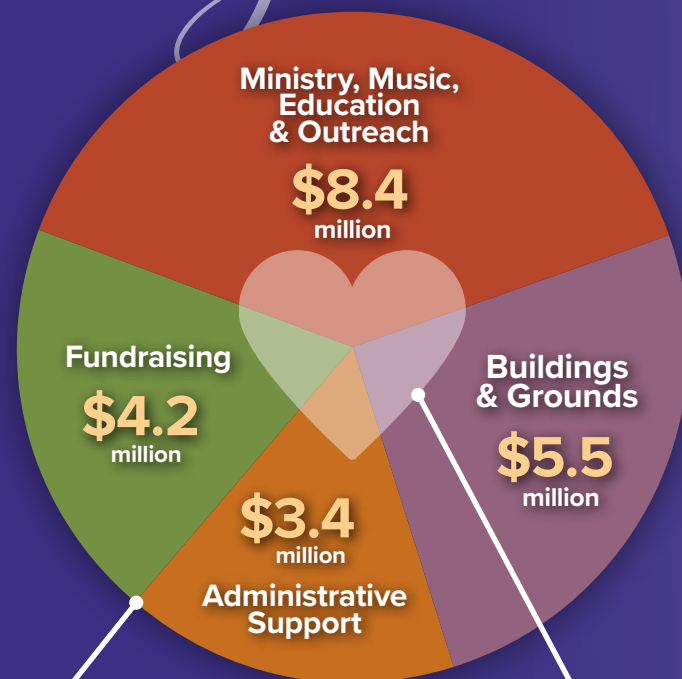
The writer Elizabeth Gilbert said there is no more gracious gift we can offer somebody than to love a person almost in spite of themselves. For God loves each of us in spite of ourselves.

We invite you to reflect on the role your faith and the Cathedral community have played in supporting you. Your 2023 financial pledge will help us continue investing in our shared congregational life and ministries.

Let us be gracious in all we do. Let us share what is ours freely and with thanksgiving to the Lord.

In Gratitude,
Jeffrey Wilson, Suzanne Schuerman,
Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs

pledges: THE LIFEblood OF OUR MINISTRIES



The Congregation remains the heartbeat of our Cathedral, and your pledge is the lifeblood of our ministries. Your 2023 financial pledge will help us continue investing in our shared congregational life and ministries. In order to continue to fulfill our mission as a House of Prayer for All People - including supporting local ministry and virtual offerings - we ask you to give generously.

Whether supporting our ministries, our congregation, our neighbors or this grand and glorious space, your pledge will be directed to where it is needed most.

Who should make a financial pledge?

Everyone. If you are participating in Cathedral worship services in person or online, enjoying Bible studies or fellowship groups, or connecting with Cathedral clergy, we encourage you to make an annual financial gift. Pledging is an important spiritual exercise which allows you to reflect on the blessings God has bestowed upon you and to express your gratitude for those gifts by giving back to the Church.



I already give, why should I pledge?

Pledges allow us to plan for the year ahead. Your pledge is a vital tool to develop the operating budget and plan for outreach, education, and other important spiritual and formation programs.

How much should I pledge?

Your pledge should be an amount that is meaningful to you and an amount you can give with gratitude. If you pledged last year, consider increasing by 5%. If you currently do not pledge but contribute regularly, consider making a pledge.

I live outside DC. Why should I pledge?

No matter where you are located, this congregation welcomes you! Your pledge helps support the new ways we deliver life changing ministries to friends in communities near and far. This year, the Cathedral will introduce a digital minister to support your pastoral needs.

welcoming

ALL WITH A WARM AND GENEROUS SPIRIT

Average
Sunday
Viewership
20,000+

Average
Weekday
Viewership
3,100

National
Coffee Hour
3,035
Logged on

New
Congregation
Members
82

Baptisms
4
Receptions
3

Confirmations
7
Reaffirmations
1

I made a pledge last year, should I pledge again?

Yes! Your pledge will not automatically renew. Please take time to consider what you would like to commit to the Cathedral Congregation during upcoming calendar year 2023.

I've heard about the Cathedral's comprehensive campaign. Will my pledge be part of it?

As a congregation member, your generous annual pledges are a large part of why the comprehensive campaign has been so successful to date. We ask that you make your congregational pledge to the best of your ability first. Your pledge is critical to budgeting and is the window into what we can accomplish together in the coming year. Congregation members will have the opportunity to make an above-and-beyond campaign gift in the spring of 2023.

What is the Comprehensive Campaign?

The Cathedral moved into the public phase of a 5-Year Comprehensive Campaign in September of 2022. After building quietly for several years, the campaign raised enough to move to the public phase, thanks to transformational gifts and the continued generosity of annual, monthly and weekly donors. A comprehensive campaign is similar to a bricks-and-mortar capital campaign but, in addition to capital projects, it also includes year-to-year operating funds. This \$150M campaign spans five years and has three main components: the Cathedral's annual operating budget, funds to expand and grow our ministry, and funds to preserve and protect the physical spaces in which so much of our ministry happens.

Can I set up an automatic payment by credit card?

Yes, you can include your credit card information on the pledge slip or enter it online at cathedral.org/gracious.

Can I pay by check?

Checks are welcome and may be mailed to **Washington National Cathedral**
P.O. Box 98283,
Washington, DC
20090-8283.

Is my pledge tax deductible?

Yes. Donations to the Cathedral are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. You will receive a statement detailing your donations each year.

3 options:

FOR SUBMITTING YOUR PLEDGE



Mail your pledge in the enclosed envelope to:
Washington
National Cathedral
P.O. Box 98283
Washington, DC
20090-8283



Pledge online at
cathedral.org/gracious



Bring your pledge slip to
in-person worship on
October 30, 2022

opportunities

FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUNDED
IN LOVE, COMPASSION AND JUSTICE



244 meetings,
programs, classes

3 retreats
with over
50
participants

Provided healing prayer to
235
individuals via Zoom

Advent Reflections:
2,449+
attended
Reflections
and Compline
over 4 weeks

20
Clergy-led
bible studies



Take on Lent:
100+
registered
85+
joined over
5 weeks



serving

WITH OUR NEIGHBORS
NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY



For **80** attendees at each of three nights in November, the **Longer Tables – Shorter Walls** dinner program and discussion took on issues facing our nation such as civility, racism and sharing Grace with those whom we disagree.



Sanctuary Ministry with its Neighbor to Neighbor Program hosted a Honduran Family and helped settle them in Fairfax County.



Does my pledge count towards a National Cathedral Association membership?

Yes! All supporters who give \$60 or more in a year automatically join the NCA. For more on membership benefits, visit cathedral.org/NCA.

Does the Cathedral encourage estate gifts?

Yes. You can include the Cathedral in your will, trust or even as a beneficiary of your IRA. Visit cathedral.org/plannedgiving to learn more about extending your support of the Cathedral's ministry to those who follow us.



When am I expected to pay my pledge in total?

You can pay all or a portion of your pledge at any time. Pledges made during this Campaign should be paid in full by December 31, 2023.

What if I become unable to complete the amount I pledge?

We understand that circumstances change. Please let the development office know if you need to make changes to your pledge during the calendar year.





Have questions?

If you are discerning a pledge and would like to speak to a member of the clergy, please contact:

The Reverend Dana Corsello

Canon Vicar
(202) 537-5290
dcorsello@cathedral.org

If you have administrative questions about pledging, please contact:

Michelle C. Jackson

Sr. Manager, Gift Processing
and Donor Services
(202) 537-5535
mjackson@cathedral.org

Visit cathedral.org/gracious
to learn more.



3101 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20016
cathedral.org