FAITH THAT MAKES ROOM

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2027

September 11, 2026

Dear Friends,

There is something beautiful about a church that makes room.

Here at Trinity, we make room for worship and wonder, music and laughter, quiet and stillness. We make room for longtime parishioners and newcomers, elders, adults, and children. We make room for people who are finding their way and for people who are already home. And in doing so, we make room for God to work among us.

This year, we invite you to make room for Trinity in your giving, too, by making a financial pledge for 2027. Your generosity makes it possible for Trinity to be a place where people can worship, serve, grow, and find community. We are grateful for the many ways your faith and generosity make this community what it is.

We make room in our historic building for groups that care for the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of our community. In our sanctuary, children learn and grow, adults grieve and heal, and neighbors connect. What a blessing to have a space that can hold it all. We make room in our lives to live out our faith through acts of service. Whether serving meals, stocking food pantries, visiting neighbors, helping with laundry, or providing books for children, our parishioners put their faith into action both within and beyond the walls of Trinity.

We make room in our hearts for growing relationships with God and one another. Our prayer teams intercede for those in need. Each Sunday, our altar guild sets His table while our choir and musicians fill our sanctuary with song. Readers share His message in person while the tech guild shares it online. Through these ministries we deepen our faith and grow together.

And we are making room for a new rector. With a strong foundation, we begin our search for a rector who will bring new energy and ideas to Trinity.

Making a confidential pledge is a meaningful way to take part in our shared commitment to all that Trinity has and does. Our pledges allow us to plan for the year ahead, support our clergy and staff, care for our buildings, and sustain our ministries. **We invite you to fill out and return the enclosed pledge card in the postage-paid envelope by October 18, or make your pledge online at www.trinitynewtownct.org/pledge-2027.**

If you are new to pledging, please read the FAQ and pledge card to learn more. If you are currently pledging, please prayerfully consider increasing your pledge this year. Every pledge helps us continue the work God has called us to do.

Thank you for making room for Trinity in your life,

Christina Lye
Warden

Frequently Asked Questions About the Stewardship Campaign

What is the purpose of the pledge drive?
We are a self-funded congregation—our expenses are paid from contributions by our parishioners supplemented by limited withdrawals from our endowment funds. We invite our members to prayerfully consider how they can share their resources to support God's mission here at Trinity. The Vestry creates the budget for 2027 based on the results of the pledge drive.

How do I determine the amount of my pledge?
Making a financial commitment to God's work at Trinity is a personal and intentional spiritual decision—one we hope you approach with prayer and reflection. One way to guide your pledge is through proportional giving, where your gift is based on a percentage of your income, working towards the biblical tithe of 10%. Alternatively you could increase your pledge by a percentage of last year's gift. For example, if you pledged $5,000 in 2026, a 5% increase would bring your pledge to $5,250 in 2027. This is crucial as the church's expenses increase every year with cost of living adjustments and inflation.

How do I make my pledge?
Fill in the enclosed pledge form, place it in the postage-paid envelope and drop it in the mail by October 18. You can also drop it in the offertory basket during Sunday service. Or if you prefer, you can make your pledge online by filling in the online form at www.trinitynewtownct.org/pledge-2027. The Stewardship Committee will be available during coffee hour to help you.

What are the ways I can pay my pledge in 2027?
Our preferred method of payment is through scheduled monthly withdrawals from your bank account, done through a secure online service called Vanco. A monthly payment gives us a consistent cashflow to pay our bills while minimizing transaction fees. You may also pay with a credit card through Vanco, which gives you the option to cover the transaction fees which are higher for Trinity than a bank withdrawal. You may also set up Vanco to make weekly payments if that works better for your household. You can access Vanco through www.trinitynewtownct.org/give. You can alternatively pay by check made out to Trinity Church and put it in the collection basket or mail it to the office at 36 Main Street, Newtown, CT 06470.

Should I consider giving stock, money from a retirement fund, or a grant from a donor-advised fund?
Yes, these methods can be a benefit both to you and to Trinity, as the church receives the full pre-tax amount of your gift. We encourage you to speak with your financial advisor to see if one of these methods is right for you.

What if I can't fulfill my pledge?
Life can bring unexpected changes, and these may affect your financial situation. If you need to amend your pledge amount please reach out to Treasurer Noel Bellesheim or our new rector.

Who should I talk to if I have questions?
If you have any questions, Kim Merrill, our Communications and Membership Manager can be reached at 203-426-9070. Our Treasurer, Noel Bellesheim (203-470-2689) and our Stewardship Chair, John Sullivan (203-733-4833) are also excellent resources and welcome your calls.