



**Why We Pledge:
Unrestricted Generosity for Ascension's Whole Mission**

"All who believed were together and had all things in common." — Acts 2:44

Dear friends,

As we enter this season of reflection and gratitude, we invite you to take a moment to consider how God is at work through our community at Ascension. Each act of worship, service, and generosity flows from hearts joined in thanksgiving. Stewardship is one of the ways we live out that gratitude—responding to God's abundance with faith and love.

1. The Heart of Giving: A Spiritual Discipline

Stewardship is more than just keeping the lights on. It is a spiritual discipline—our grateful response to God's abundance. A pledge is a promise of faithful giving, a way of saying: "I am part of what God is doing here."

As you prayerfully consider your commitment, we invite you to take a meaningful step of faith in your generosity this year—one that reflects both God's blessings in your life and your hope for the mission we share at Ascension.

When you pledge for **Ministry (General Fund)**, you are supporting everything we do as a parish:

- Worship and Music – lifting our hearts and voices to God.
- Formation for all ages – helping children, youth, and adults grow in faith.
- Pastoral Care – offering comfort, prayer, and presence to those in need.
- Outreach and Community Support – extending Christ's love beyond our walls.
- Fellowship – building community and strengthening our bonds in Christ.
- Facilities and Operations – making all of this possible.

Your pledges for Ministry (General Fund), are the strongest and most faithful form of giving because they allow us to remain united in mission and flexible in response. Needs change during the year—unexpected repairs, new opportunities, sudden challenges. When pledges flow into one common basket for the General Fund, the Vestry can allocate resources wisely and fairly for the flourishing of every ministry.

2. The Vestry's Vow: Wise and Prayerful Stewardship

The Vestry—elected by you—prayerfully creates the annual budget. This budget directs funds from the General Fund into all areas of parish life according to our mission priorities and practical needs, with input from each ministry about their anticipated expenses.

This shared approach is the bedrock of Ascension's financial health. It ensures that all ministries are supported, no one is left behind, and we stay focused on the big picture: God's mission through Ascension.

3. Giving Beyond Your Pledge

Our first and strongest request is that all pledges and Sunday offerings be made for Ministry (General Fund). This common fund sustains the entire mission of Ascension—worship, music, formation, pastoral care, outreach, fellowship, facilities, and more. It is the foundation of our parish life and keeps us united in ministry.

From time to time, some parishioners may feel moved to make an additional gift to a particular ministry or project they care about. These extra contributions are always welcome—but they are *above and beyond* your pledge. They do not replace the pledge itself, which remains the essential commitment that funds and strengthens our whole mission together.

4. Making Your Commitment

This year, we are hoping for **100% participation** in our stewardship campaign—inviting those who have not pledged before to take a leap of faith and join our mission in a meaningful and joyful way. We also encourage everyone to prayerfully consider increasing their level of giving if they are able. When each of us makes a pledge, together we proclaim our unity and our commitment to God’s mission through Ascension.

Please return your pledge by **Ingathering Sunday, November 9**. On that day, we will bring our pledges forward at the altar and invite everyone to bring a can of food for our local shelters—a visible reminder that our stewardship extends beyond ourselves in service to others.

In this mailing you will find your pledge card, a return envelope, and an insert about proportional giving to assist you in prayerfully considering your commitment. Additionally, we will continue to share weekly reflections from TENS (The Episcopal Network for Stewardship) in our bulletin and in our weekly email.

You may make your commitment in one of these ways:

- Returning your enclosed pledge card at the altar on November 9.
- Mailing your card in the enclosed envelope.
- Submitting your pledge securely online using this QR code or by visiting: <https://onrealm.org/ascensionwestminster/AddPledge/ministry2026>



5. In Summary: The Power of Unity

Stewardship is about joy and generosity. By pledging to the Ministry (General Fund), we say together: “We are in this as one Body, one mission, one church.” And when you add special gifts for ministries you love, you’re helping that mission flourish even more.

Thank you for your generosity—past, present, and future. Your giving sustains and strengthens Ascension.

With gratitude and joy,

Pierre-Henry
Fr. Pierre-Henry
Rector

Kim
Kim Tompkins
Senior Warden

Mark
Mark Howe
Stewardship Chair