

July 19, 2023
A Letter from The Rev. Ben Robertson
Update on the Bequest Committee's Decisions

Friends & Fellow Saints,

Last March, the Senior Warden and I informed you that All Saints received a generous, unrestricted bequest of \$753,128.87 from the estate of Dr. L. Glenn Christie. We continue to give thanks for this incredible blessing and Dr. Christie's love for his All Saints family.

In response, the Vestry formed a subcommittee – the Bequest Committee – to pray about, receive suggestions, and ultimately recommend to the Vestry how the parish might celebrate and use Dr. Christie's kind gift. The members of the Bequest Committee were the Rev. Ben Robertson, Chair and Rector; Mark Wilcox, Senior Warden; Jim McCauley, Junior Warden; Errol White, Treasurer; Bruce Wright, Chair of Finance; John Bell, Vestry; Blair Bruch, Vestry; and James Forsythe, Vestry. I am grateful for the Bequest Committee's hard and dedicated work and for the dozens upon dozens of suggestions we received from our fellow Saints. Y'all have some great ideas!

During last night's regular Vestry meeting, the Vestry received, discussed, and unanimously approved the Bequest Committee's recommendations. They include:

- A \$200,000 grant to our Endowment Fund.
- The creation of a \$160,000 Vestry Designated Fund to, if needed, supplement the Annual Budget while the Endowment recovers from a recent downturn in the stock market.
- A \$113,769 grant to Building & Grounds for current projects and deferred maintenance.
- The creation of three part-time staff positions: a Director of Children's and Family Ministries, a Director of Youth Ministries, and a Sunday Driver to bring folks who live in retirement communities to Sunday worship. These positions are funded for three years, and we pray they can be incorporated into the Annual Budget by 2026.
- New vestments for our choirs, acolytes, and Lay Eucharistic Ministers.
- Improved technology in Thornton Hall for presentations, classes, and the use of outside groups.
- A \$30,000 grant to our Human Needs Fund.

If you have questions about the process, the Committee's recommendations, or how they will be implemented, please feel free to ask me, a member of the Vestry, or a member of the Bequest Committee. The Vestry will share further details as we thankfully utilize each part of this blessing from Dr. Christie, and I pray these endeavors will enrich the mission and ministries of All Saints. Many thanks to everyone who participated in this important and blessed effort.

Keep the Faith,

Ben +