

# Willmann Board Gives Donation to Abode Home in Memory of Barbara Simon



*Front row (left to right): Patsy Sasek, Susan Alwais, Senior Warden, Mary Thorsby, Executive Director, Abode Home, Edwin Sasek.*

*Next row (left to right): Fr Ram, Pam Piedfort, Linda Ertz, Catherine Carr, Debbie Godfrey*

Grieving a lost loved one is difficult any time of the year but it is especially hard during the holiday season. For many families that grief begins when their loved one is placed in hospice. Among the many options for hospice care in San Antonio, one San Antonio organization, Abode Home, offers a contemplative space for individuals and their families to live out in dignity their final earthly days.

Members of the St. George Episcopal Church Willmann Trust Fund Board met with Mary Thorsby, Executive Director, and Abode Advisory Board members on Tuesday, December 27, 2022.

The visit was to present a check from the St. George Willmann Board for \$11,000 to Abode Home in memory of Barbara Simon, longtime St. George member and Treasurer of the Willmann Board for almost a decade. Barbara lost her brief battle with cancer on December 17th and spent her last days in the contemplative atmosphere at Abode.

Abode Home is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a no-cost contemplative space for those who are in the final days of life. Upon entering the mood is quiet yet spiritually full. Barbara's daughters knew immediately that Abode Home was where she needed to be. They felt God's presence immediately.

Thorsby shared with the group that there are close to 40 non-profit homes nationwide that are open to receive hospice patients. However, Abode, located just to the west of Los Patios off Loop 410, is the only one that is contemplative in nature. According to the Abode website (<https://abodehome.org>), Abode is the "only 501(c)(3) nonprofit end-of-life care home in San Antonio offering contemplative care for those in the last three months, weeks or days of life. We provide our service at no charge to our Guests, hospice or insurance. We welcome and depend on the generosity of you – our donors – to support our sacred work."

Funds come from Clara Willmann Trust administered through St George Episcopal Church by the Willmann Board. Elected each year by the Vestry, the Board oversees the fund management and assures that Clara's vision - "to help hurting people" - is faithfully carried out. Funds support our pastoral care ministries and Rev. Judy's compensation as well as help the Board offer outreach support to individuals and organizations.

Willmann was a member of St. George. She left her financial legacy through the fund that bears her name. She also left a house on Castle Lane which is at the far corner of our property line.

For more information about the Willmann Trust Board or leaving a legacy gift to St. George, please reach out to Fr. Ram.