



St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
2018 Annual Giving Campaign

Making a Place to Gather and Grow

"... We should love people not only with words and talk, but by our actions and true caring."

1 John 3:17-18

For decades, St. Margaret's has promoted the love of Jesus by focusing on ministries of inclusion, economic justice, and equality. Through our programming, our teaching, and our witness, we help one another become the hands and feet of Christ. This is the place where we are reminded that the work we do in the world is not in vain, that we serve a higher purpose, and that every act of love and discipleship works toward constructing a world in which all of God's children are valued.

Sustaining such a community takes financial commitment from all who call St. Margaret's their spiritual home. Our success in this endeavor is contingent upon us participating, doing what we can, and using the gifts we've been given to support the mission of the church. We value all who serve and volunteer in all our ministries. What you give matters. And the blessing of your financial support allows us to keep our doors open, our lights on and our ministries active.

—The Rev. Kimberly Lucas, Rector

What is a "pledge"?

Making a pledge helps our congregation to plan. Each fall, members and friends indicate the amount they intend to contribute to St. Margaret's Church in the year ahead for our annual operating expenses. Declaring this intention is your pledge.

Our members and friends give generously in many ways: through cash and checks in our weekly offering plate, online through Realm, through other recurring automatic services, or by mail. In addition, we all contribute our time and talents to our collective ministry.

How much to give?

Pledging is a voluntary act of faith. We won't ever tell you what you must give! However, many have asked for guidelines to aid their discernment about how much to give. That's why we are offering the following information. We hope it will help.

We all find ourselves in stages, and whether it's a period of abundance or a period of challenge, our circumstances are unique. The key to living a financially generous life is prayerful and thoughtful discernment and trust in God's will for your life. When you give, the act of giving will sustain you.

Where are you in your calling to meaningful annual giving?

First-time giving (1%)

I have prayed about my commitment to the St. Margaret's church family and find myself ready to make a yearlong financial commitment in writing.

Consistent giving (5%)

I have prayed about my commitment to the St. Margaret's church family and find myself ready to make a yearlong financial commitment in writing.

Sacrificial Giving (7%)

The St. Margaret's church family is my spiritual home and I am prepared to stretch to make an impactful commitment to grow our ministry.

Joyful Tithing (10%)

An important part of living into my spirituality and being a member of the St. Margaret's family is committing to give 10% or more of my income to support our ministry. Investing in the future of our work together is vitally important to my calling as a Christian.

% of Household Income	1%		5%		7%		10%	
Yearly Combined Income	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
\$25,000	\$21	\$250	\$104	\$1,250	\$146	\$1,750	\$208	\$2,500
\$50,000	\$42	\$500	\$208	\$2,500	\$292	\$3,500	\$417	\$5,000
\$75,000	\$63	\$750	\$313	\$3,750	\$438	\$5,250	\$625	\$5,700
\$100,000	\$83	\$1,000	\$417	\$5,000	\$583	\$7,000	\$833	\$10,000
\$150,000	\$125	\$1,500	\$625	\$7,500	\$875	\$10,500	\$1,250	\$15,000
\$200,000	\$167	\$2,000	\$833	\$10,000	\$1,167	\$14,000	\$1,667	\$20,000
\$300,000	\$250	\$3,000	\$1,250	\$15,000	\$1,750	\$21,000	\$2,500	\$30,000
\$400,000	\$333	\$4,000	\$1,667	\$20,000	\$2,333	\$28,000	\$3,333	\$40,000

Next steps

Through the month of October and the first week of November, we will celebrate what it means to “Make a Place to Gather and Grow” in the St. Margaret’s community. On **St. Margaret’s Day, Sunday, November 12**, we will have an “in-gathering” of our annual giving commitment forms during the single worship service at 10:00 AM. Our St. Margaret’s Day celebration will conclude with a traditional English High Tea after the service.

We encourage you to spend the weeks leading up to St. Margaret’s Day prayerfully reflecting on your pledge gift for the coming year.

Please complete the attached annual giving commitment form and bring it with you on **November 12**.

If you can’t be with us on St. Margaret’s Day we encourage you to place your commitment form in the plate on a Sunday prior to **November 12**, or to enter your pledge into Realm.

If you have any questions please contact **Jane Quenk**, Stewardship Chair, at jquenk@aol.com, or the **Rev. Kym Lucas** at klucas@stmargaretsdc.org. You can always call the office at (202) 232-2995.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is a pledge? How is it different from what I put in the plate on Sunday?

A: By completing a pledge card, we become intentional and regular in supporting our parish ministries. We put God at the head of our giving and spending.

Q: Why does my pledge matter?

A: Each year St. Margaret’s expands its connections and ministries to the community, touching more lives. Your pledge provides the consistent funds for the resources needed to create and sustain them.

Q: What does my pledge to the Annual Giving Campaign Support?

A: Your pledge supports our basic operating costs for clergy and staff, Sunday worship, Christian education for all ages, newcomer welcome, pastoral care for those hurting in body, mind and spirit, fellowship time together and outreach to our community and beyond.

Q: What if this is an uncertain year for me? I don’t want to make a pledge that I can’t fulfill.

A: You can change your pledge by simply contacting the church office or updating it in our online directory, Realm.

Q: *How do I give online?*

A: The best way for you to give regularly to St. Margaret's is to do so through Realm. It is easy and secure and gives you immediate access to your giving history. Here are the steps to take:

1. Go to your Profile on Realm: onrealm.org/stmargaretsdc
2. Click on giving on the left-hand column
3. Click on +Give
4. Type in the amount you want to give and the fund you want to give to (Annual Pledge, Altar or Flower Guild or Building Preservation Fund).
5. Indicate the Frequency of giving (one time, weekly, monthly, etc.)
6. Identify the payment method (from your checking account, savings account, credit card or debit card). If you use a credit or debit card, please add 5% to your contribution to cover the credit card costs.
7. Review your information and click Give.



St. Margaret's 2018 Annual Giving Commitment Form

Contact Information: Please Print

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

2018 Pledge Information

My/Our TOTAL Pledge for 2018 will be \$ _____

Payment Frequency:

☐ **Annually** ☐ **Quarterly** ☐ **Monthly** ☐ **Weekly**

I intend to honor my pledge:

☐ **Through Realm** ☐ **By check** ☐ **By credit card**

☐ **I am interested in information about including St. Margaret's in estate planning.**

☐ **I don't want my pledge acknowledged publically.**

Please bring this form with you on St. Margaret's Day **Sunday, November 12.**

Visit onrealm.org/stmargaretsdc to make your pledge online. Log onto Realm to make your first payment or setup recurring payments