



We are committed to the future of New York.

Communities within the Diocese of New York are creating an independent, federally-chartered credit union to support economic and racial justice in our neighborhoods.

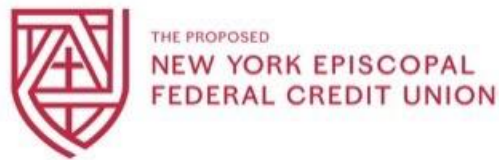
We're sharing the invitation below to participate in the *Campaign for the Credit Union*. An extensive credit union chartering process is almost complete. The last step is a shared commitment by communities across the Diocese of New York to the credit union's success.

Everyone is invited to make a pledge that makes sense for their community.

Heavenly Rest has made a pledge to the campaign. Our leaders have been leaders in this initiative. Lindsey Counts & Bill Campbell are members of the credit union task force; Treasurer Doug McIntyre is a co-chair of the campaign.

I'm hopeful & excited for the credit union's success.

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We are a group of clergy and laypeople committed to economic and racial justice.

Together we are creating an independent, federally accredited credit union serving the communities within the Diocese of New York.

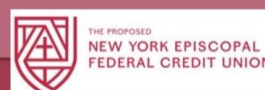
The Credit Union will open banking services to the underserved, while providing low-cost emergency loans and financial counseling.

Caring for our neighbor is a core teaching of our faith. Jesus reminded his followers, “whatever you do for the

Common Injustice. Uncommon Commitment.

The Campaign to Create a Credit Union for the Communities of the Diocese of New York

- Together, we can address systemic injustice with the shared commitment of our communities across the Diocese of New York.
- Caring for our neighbor is a core teaching of our faith. Jesus reminded his followers, “whatever you do for the least of these, you do for me.” Luke chapter 10 speaks highly of the Samaritan who cared for a man who was attacked and was left wounded on the road.
- Economic inequality appears across our neighborhoods, from Staten Island to Poughkeepsie. Because of financial requirements, many of our people cannot use traditional banks and lack access to basic banking tools. The disconnections impact the everyday lives of our people.
- It's structural injustice—and it disproportionately impacts people of color. Economic and racial injustice are entangled.
- Our credit union will open banking services to the underserved, while providing low-cost emergency loans and financial counseling. It will be independent and financially responsible. The extensive chartering process is nearly complete.
- Through a national online network, communities across the Diocese will be able to access basic services locally, in their own neighborhoods.
- Now we are seeking to crowdfund the remaining \$350,000 needed for the chartering process in pledges from individuals, congregations, schools, and chaplaincies across the Diocese of New York.



least of these, you do for me.” He spoke highly of the Samaritan who cared for a man who was attacked and was left wounded on the road.

From Staten Island to Poughkeepsie, traditional banks exclude our people through financial requirements and unreasonable fees. The lack of access to basic banking tools disproportionately impacts people of color and New York’s most vulnerable, from formerly incarcerated individuals to survivors of domestic violence.

To be like the Samaritan, we are taking action to address this injustice.

The credit union will be completely independent of the administrative structures of the Diocese, financially responsible, and accredited and insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

While the chartering process is almost complete, the very last step is to gather \$350,000 in pledge commitments from across the Diocese as required start-up capital.

Here’s how you can help.

Could your congregation make a pledge to the credit union, perhaps from your thrift sale, holiday bazaar, or other fundraiser? Could you make an individual pledge?

To get things started, each task force member and every co-chair signed below has made a pledge, ranging from \$300 to \$15,000. Each of our parishes will make a pledge as well.

Right now, we need pledges and not contributions.

[You can make a pledge here.](#)

Our goal is to be able to announce at the November diocesan convention that we’ve completed the campaign. Our shared commitment can make a big difference for our neighbors.

We hope you will join us, as we seek to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Faithfully yours,

The Credit Union Task Force Members and Campaign Co-Chairs

> Credit Union Task Force:

The Rev. Matt Oprendeck, co-chair, St. James Church, Fordham

Mr. Dall Forsythe, co-chair, Trinity Wall Street

Mr. Bill Campbell, Church of the Heavenly Rest Manhattan

Ms. Lindsey Counts, Church of the Heavenly Rest Manhattan

Ms. Esslie Hughes, Chief of Finance and Operations
The Rev. Deacon Bob Jacobs, Church of the Holy Apostles Manhattan
The Rev. Canon Steven Lee, Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine
Ms. Pearl Piccott, St. Margaret's Church, Bronx
Ms. Virginia (Ginna) Sermier, St. Peter's Church, Millbrook
The Rev. Richard Witt, Rural & Migrant Ministry

> Campaign Co-Chairs:

The Rev. Matt Calkins, Grace Church Millbrook
The Rev. Dr. Pierre-Andre Duvert, St. Luke's Bronx
The Rev. Dr. Gawain de Leeuw, Holy Trinity Inwood
Mr. Miguel Escobar, Episcopal Divinity School at Union
The Rev. Matthew Heyd, Church of the Heavenly Rest Manhattan
The Rev. Deacon Denise La Vetty, Church of the Incarnation Manhattan
The Rev. Kate Malin, Christ's Church, Rye
Dr. Sandra T. Montes, Union Theological Seminary
The Rev. Elizabeth G. Maxwell, Church of the Ascension Manhattan
Mr. Douglas A. McIntyre, Church of the Heavenly Rest Manhattan
Ms. Jeannine Otis, St. Mark's in the Bowery
The Rev. Jennifer Owen, St. Augustine's Church, Croton-on-Hudson
Ms. Diane B. Pollard, Manhattan North Inter-Parish Council
The Rev. Hal Roark, Good Shepherd, Granite Springs
Ms. Paula Roberts, Trinity Church Morrisania
Mr. Peter Saros, Bronx Council
The Rev. Deacon Geraldine Swanson, Church of the Ascension Staten Island
The Rev. Jennie Talley, St. John's Wilmot & Trinity St. Paul's, New Rochelle
The Rev. Patrick Williams, St. Martin's & St. Luke's Church, Harlem

[Click here for more information about the proposed credit union.](#)

Church of the Heavenly Rest | 1085 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10128

