



PREPARING THE ABUNDANT TABLE

All Saints-by-the-Sea Commitment 2010

October 5, 2009

Dear Friends in Christ,

This past Sunday we launched Commitment 2010, this year's stewardship program. Our theme is *Preparing the Abundant Table* – the abundant table of the Eucharist, of all of God's wonderful gifts to each of us, and of what we give back in gratitude. Thank you so much for your financial support in this difficult year. While some members have had to reduce their giving, others have been able to increase their giving; as a result, so far we are getting through this financial travail by some general belt tightening while keeping our key people and program commitments intact.

I wanted to share with you some thoughts on pledging and the finances at All Saints, so you will have that information as you consider your pledge for 2010. In 2009, we will have about a million dollars of pledge income, which goes to support our beautiful campus, three clergy, a lay staff of 7, and importantly outreach – and we hope to have more next year so we can expand important programs. Where does this money come from, and how does our individual stewardship fit in? To answer this question, we have prepared the enclosed chart. The chart shows in a series of steps or categories, ranging from low to high, how many of us pledged for this year in different amounts. You'll see there is quite a wide range of pledges, with the average being about \$250 per month or \$3,000 per year. Using this chart you can find yourself and see how your pledge fits into All Saints' overall financial picture.

And, speaking for the Wardens and Vestry, we want to ask you to consider something else: taking a step up. This chart provides a practical way of experiencing the joy of greater giving, step by step. I hope you will be able to take a step up this year.

Commitment 2010 will conclude on All Saints Day, Sunday, November 1, when we will have a Vestry-prepared breakfast after each of the services. You can offer up your pledge card at either service that day, or if you prefer you can return yours to the office in the envelope provided.

Thanks so much for your participation and support – that is what makes All Saints such a wonderful place to be.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas H. Mack". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Thomas H. Mack
Senior Warden