



FORWARD IN FAITH

ROOTED
IN FAITH

NOURISHED
BY COMMUNITY

BRANCHING
OUT TO SERVE

Dear St. Thomas Church Family:

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

Ephesians 3:20-21

As I reflect on the story of St. Thomas Church, I am struck by the faithfulness of each generation. We are a church built on the faith of our ancestors. A faith that was tried, tested, and true. A faith that sought to glorify God in high tides and low tides.

As we continue in the faith of our ancestors, we are invited to become the next generation. We are invited to become the next generation that ensures places like St. Thomas Church continue to flourish now and for generations to come.

This Fall, we kicked off the **Forward in Faith** campaign, which is designed to provide for the church's current needs and help to ensure we have a thriving future. **Forward in Faith** is a conjoined annual and capital stewardship campaign that will generate financial support for a new Rector Housing Fund, and our annual operating budget (our typical stewardship campaign).

I am writing to ask you to prayerfully discern giving to this campaign.

To help you discern, I'd like to invite you to join me in participating in spiritual formation activities. In the months ahead, we will have a series of guest speakers, preachers, and prayer opportunities to aid in your discernment. A list of these activities is included on the following page.

Additionally, we will also have several **Forward in Faith** social gatherings in October and November. These small group meetings are an important part of our campaign. The events are informational with time for dialogue and questions. No financial commitments will be asked for or received at these gatherings. You will have the opportunity to meet with others in our church family and learn more about our campaign.

Your attendance at one of these gatherings is important. We are hoping every member of our parish will attend one. For more information, or to sign up for a date to attend, please contact Nancy McEachran at nesmc@comcast.net, or Kristen McSherry at kristenmcsherry@gmail.com. There are also sign-up sheets in the Great Hall.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and commitment to St. Thomas Church. With God's



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power working through us, we will move **Forward in Faith**, becoming the next generation, so that future generations can look back and give thanks for our faithfulness!

In Christ,

The Reverend Liz Costello, Rector

Spiritual Formation Offerings

- Booklet of Prayers
- Sermon Series on Stewardship by St. Thomas Clergy and Witness Speakers by St. Thomas Lay Leaders
- Cocktails with Dean Andrew Tremlett, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, Saturday, October 26, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, St. Thomas Church and Ebsworth Life Center (ELC)
- Stewardship Sermon (8:00 am and 10:00 am) and Forums (9:00 am interview and 11:30 am presentation), Sunday, October 27, with Dean Andrew Tremlett
- Day of Prayer on Wednesday, November 13, 6:00-8:00 pm (St. Thomas Church)
- Stewardship Address and Dinner with Bishop Phil LaBelle, Bishop of the Diocese of Olympia, Thursday, December 5, 6:00-8:30 pm, (ELC)

Current Small Group Gatherings (Additional groups will be scheduled.)

- Tuesday, October 15 - Hunts Point
- Friday, October 18 - Clyde Hill
- Tuesday, October 22 - Hunts Point
- Wednesday, October 23 - St. Thomas Church
- Friday, October 25 - Bellevue
- Tuesday, October 29 - Zoom Session
- Saturday, November 2 - Kirkland
- Saturday, November 9 - Mercer Island
- Saturday, November 9 - Renton Highlands
- Sunday, November 10 - St. Thomas Church