



August 29, 2014

Dear Parish Family,

Thank you all so much for your generosity in support of our capital campaign. We are pleased to share with you that as of August 26, 2014 we have received pledges and gifts from our congregation and the Vestry totaling \$481,500. This added to a grant of \$50,000 from the Diocesan Foundation brings the total to \$531,500 toward our goal of \$650,000, or 82% of the needed funds. We intend to make future applications to the Diocesan Foundation in 2015 and 2016, and also to other granting organizations, including the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund. If you have not had the opportunity to make a pledge to the campaign, please help us raise the needed \$118,500 to reach our goal.

### **What has been accomplished?**

As you will remember, the congregation identified 15 projects that were of the highest priority for St. Mark's, with a total projected cost of \$500,000. These projects fell into the categories of Life Safety, Preservation, Access and Maintenance. These projects we then further categorized into priorities and budgets were developed for each project. We felt fairly confident in our ability to raise the half a million necessary to cover these projects over three years and then **the boiler failed**, adding another \$150,000 to our need, bringing our new goal to \$650,000.

There were two life safety projects that were accomplished before the campaign kickoff that were so urgent that through early gifts we installed the new kitchen hood and upgraded the alley and fire escape doors to meet critical city codes. We are now working our way through the year one projects and have made a significant start on the planning for year two goals.

**Boiler** As with many projects in older facilities, other costs were identified as we planned the boiler replacement. Most significant is the need to install a chimney vent liner to meet current city codes. You may have noticed the chimney work, and while we had the crane on site to complete this work we removed the historic bell from the belfry. We are pleased to share with you that the new boiler will be in place to heat our church this fall.

**19<sup>th</sup> Street Doors** Another life safety project for St. Mark's is the modification of the doors facing 19<sup>th</sup> street in order to provide safe egress in the case of an emergency. A committee comprised of architects and engineers have met with the City Fire Prevention Bureau and are exploring how this can be accomplished in a historically sensitive way.

**Windows** We have received bids from a nationally respected stained glass restoring company and work will begin in April or May of 2015. This project will take approximately three months to complete. Some of the windows will be repaired on site and some will need to be removed. After the restoration a protective layer will be added that will preserve the glass without diminishing the beauty of our historic treasures.

**Bell** As mentioned above, it made sense to remove the bell from the tower while we had a crane on site for the chimney rebuild and insertion of a liner. A small committee has been formed that is charged with the design for the renovation of the 19<sup>th</sup> Street garden and the display of the bell that was presented to the church from St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Philadelphia. The bell was first used on April 4, 1869. The bell project was especially important to Fr. Eugene Todd and we are very pleased that progress is being made on this project.

Additional projects that will be completed during 2015 are the replacement of the curb and gutter on Central Avenue, the repointing of the brick and stone on the exterior of our church, and repair and repainting of the exterior trim.

We are extremely proud of the congregation's accomplishments and have you to thank for your generous gifts that have made this achievement possible. We are very close to reaching our ambitious goal which will allow us to complete all of our projects over the next three years. If you did not have the opportunity or ability to make a pledge or gift during this first phase of our capital campaign, please note that all gifts are welcomed and needed to complete all of our ambitious goals. Please contact any member of the Cabinet if you would like more information about the campaign.

Robert (Rick) J. Davis, MD  
Campaign Chair

**Campaign Cabinet**

Peggy Coffman  
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