

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA FEASIBILITY STUDY 2025





WALKING
TOGETHER

CALLING
OF OUR
HOPE
IN THE

...With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with

one another in love, making every effort to maintain

the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit,

just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.

ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM,

ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL,

WHO IS ABOVE ALL AND

THROUGH ALL AND IN ALL.

EPHESIANS 4:2-6





*By grace we are made alive in Christ—created in Christ Jesus
for good works, which God has prepared beforehand that we might walk in them.*

— FROM EPHESIANS 2

Although our first congregations were founded in the 1680's and the Church of England was established in South Carolina in 1706,

these sacred lands we inhabit were tended and cared for by the Edisto, Waccamaw, Sewee, Winyah, and Yamasee, and others long before the first Europeans arrived here. Some we remember by the names of places we hold dear, some remain our neighbors today, and others our ancestors exiled from their homelands to claim them as their own. In all cases, we owe them a debt we cannot repay, but must acknowledge, as we chart a way forward toward God's way of peace and justice in this place that has been entrusted to our care.

The history of our congregations precedes the Revolutionary War, and our ties to the Church of England

transcended the politics that briefly broke the bond when the colonies rebelled. Our forebears in faith remained committed to continuity of worship and sacrament when independence was declared and Scottish bishops continued to support our congregations while war persisted. In 1785, we sent representatives to the first Convention of The Episcopal Church in America, which would officially establish The Diocese of South Carolina four years later. One of our delegates to the original convention, William White, served as the first presiding bishop of our nascent national Church.



The year 1789, which we claim as our inaugural year, was an auspicious one. It also marked the inauguration of the first President of the United States, George Washington, and the introduction of the bill for the abolition of slavery in the British Parliament. With these deep roots in such a complex and transformative history, in a place that carries the legacy of both the travesty of Gadsden's Wharf and the courage of Robert Smalls, now alongside the trials we've faced in recent years of division and conflict, the words of the famous hymn of our founding era come to mind: "Through many dangers, toils, and snares, we have already come."

As we emerge from years of uncertainty and conflict, followed by years of peacemaking and negotiation, to reclaim our identity as the diocese that was established at the dawn of The Episcopal Church itself, we are grateful for this new season, and humbled by knowing it is by God's grace that we find ourselves restored for a new day.

Even in our moment of celebration and hopefulness, we are aware that we carry in our history many of the most troubling paradoxes of the time in which we were established. Our first president was himself an enslaver. The composer of the treasured hymn "Amazing Grace" made his fortune in the trafficking of human beings into enslavement before advocating for its abolition and inspiring the author of the bill introduced in 1789.

God holds all of this together, and by grace, offers us new mercies on this day, and every day, that we may have "no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun." Therefore, let us walk together in the hope of our calling, doing the good works God has set before us with the Spirit of unity God has renewed in us.

Entering a new season

As we enter a new season of renewal, healing, and hope in The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina, we are called as one body in one Spirit to look ahead together. Remembering that we are inextricably connected to one another, and to this place where God has planted us, we seek together the welfare of all.

We have been strengthened by the tests of recent times. Our vision, refined as by fire, is clearer and farther-reaching as we look to the future God is calling forth.

Stepping into this moment, we recall the charge of St. Paul to the young church in Ephesus, to walk together in the hope of our calling, with humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love; maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

As this beautiful landscape we inhabit reminds us: sea and shore, marsh and grass, tree and vine, land and bridge, city and countryside exist alongside one another; indeed these exist because of one another. So it is with all of us in our beloved diocese. Each congregation, each deanery, each one of us is part of the one body and Spirit that claims us all.

Knowing this, as we look to the horizon, we must ask ourselves: How do we tend to each part of our diocese? How do we live out the values we share, nurture what has already been planted and make space for the new thing God is doing? How do we repair old harms and kindle new sparks of faith? How do we show our care for creation and our love for our neighbors? How do we do all of this to God's glory, with the gifts God has given us through the one Lord, one faith, one baptism that we share? How do we walk together in the hope of the calling to which we have been called as God's faithful people in this new season and beyond?





Our work together

To answer the questions facing us in this new season, we first acknowledge that God has already equipped us for what we have been called to do and who we're called to be as The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina. Just as we relied on God's guidance in our strategic work to define our vision, we must now consider how to bring that vision to life with God's guidance. In this way, we will ensure that the values and priorities we've embraced together may be made visible. Through the renewal, repair, and reimagining of the way we show up across the diocese, we reveal signs of God's presence among the people we serve, bringing into being the beloved community we seek.

Across the diocese, we've identified a host of projects that will allow us to demonstrate our commitment to spreading Christ's love, seeking justice, and walking humbly with our God as one body of Christ. With each building we restore, each parking lot we expand, each servant of God we uphold by supporting their ministry, and each welcoming hand we extend to our neighbor, we liberate the gospel from past wrongs and present hesitations to do the transformative work God has called us to in this moment.

SPREADING CHRIST'S LOVE

\$7.5 million

- New church buildings, locations, and church plants
- Expansion/reconfiguration of existing properties
- Parking facilities and exterior improvements
- Outreach to youth

SEEKING JUSTICE

\$6 million

- Basic repairs for safety
- Modifications for sustainability
- Needed improvements/code upgrades

WALKING HUMBLY WITH OUR GOD

\$5.2 million

- Legacy and storytelling
- Hospitality
- Centering Creation Care at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center



Spreading Christ's love

Across the diocese, we've identified opportunities to spread Christ's love in new locations, through new worshiping communities and new facilities for existing congregations. Bringing good news to the people of South Carolina by showing up where we are needed with new vitality is a way to bring the hope of our calling to life with renewed energy and commitment. Through our churches, and through the vibrant ministry of St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, where we are able to reach young people directly, we are inspiring them in their formative years to carry the faith forward for generations yet to come.

- New church buildings, locations, and church plants
- Expansion/reconfiguration
- Parking facilities and exterior improvements
- Outreach to youth

\$7.5 million

LOCATIONS MAY INCLUDE

Messiah, Myrtle Beach

The Episcopal Church in Okatie

St. Anne's, Conway

St. Francis, Edisto Island

St. Catherine's, Florence

St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center (dining hall, chapel, labyrinth)

Seeking justice

Emerging as we have from a time of trial to reclaim the church of our ancestors, we have a special responsibility to support all the communities in our diocese affected by marginalization and neglect, from the early days of our history up through the period of recovery from the schism. By committing resources to their repair and renewal, we restore the bond of peace that connects us as one body in Christ, and we shape a more just future for all the people of our diocese.

- Basic repairs for safety
- Modifications for sustainability
- Needed improvements/code upgrades

\$6 million

LOCATIONS MAY INCLUDE

St. Mark's, Charleston

St. Peter's, West Ashley

St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center (staff housing)



Walking humbly with our God

Knowing that whatever we do, we are able to do it only by God's grace in the name of Jesus Christ, we are reminded that God calls us to walk humbly together. By giving attention to the needs of our neighbors, by telling our stories as people of faith authentically, and by caring for all that God has given us, including the gift of creation, whose beauty, power, and fragility are all abundantly present in the unique landscape we inhabit, we are living out our calling.

- Legacy and storytelling
- Hospitality
- Centering Creation Care at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

\$5.2 million

LOCATIONS MAY INCLUDE

Diocesan Archive Center at Calvary, Charleston

St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center (solar panels, sustainability)

Communities in need of revitalization and growth

Ways to give

If The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina begins a capital campaign, there are many ways for individuals to fulfill pledges payable up to four years, including:

- Cash and check gifts
- Credit card payments
- Stock transfers

For a proposed campaign to be successful, gifts of all sizes are important and necessary.

Essential gifts chart

This chart can be helpful in determining how a potential gift from you may support a campaign as well as how this gift would impact your monthly expenses.

The first column indicates how many gifts of each dollar amount are needed to complete the goal. The second column indicates the level of gifts needed. The third column shows what a monthly payment would be for each gift broken out by month over four years. The final column not only adds the total of gifts left to right, but shows the cumulative total increasing from the top down. The final column shows what a monthly payment would be for each gift broken out by month over four years.

Budget

SPREADING CHRIST'S LOVE
\$7.5 million

SEEKING JUSTICE
\$6 million

WALKING HUMBLLY WITH OUR GOD
\$5.2 million

New church buildings

Remediation for sustainability

Legacy and storytelling

New locations and church plants

Basic repairs for safety

Hospitality

Expansion/reconfiguration

Needed improvements/code upgrades

Centering Creation Care at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

Parking facilities

Staff housing at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

Outreach to youth

GOAL
\$18,700,000

Number of gifts	Gift amount	Monthly over 4 years	Building to our goal
4	\$1,000,000	\$20,833	\$4,000,000
10	\$500,000	\$10,417	\$9,000,000
15	\$250,000	\$5,208	\$12,750,000
20	\$100,000	\$2,083	\$14,750,000
25	\$50,000	\$1,042	\$16,000,000
40	\$25,000	\$521	\$17,000,000
40	\$15,000	\$313	\$17,600,000
40	\$10,000	\$208	\$18,000,000
40	\$7,500	\$156	\$18,300,000
42	\$5,000	\$104	\$18,510,000
76	\$2,500	\$52	\$18,700,000
100	\$750	\$16	\$18,700,100
MANY	LESS THAN \$500	VARIABLE	GOAL ACHIEVED

Feasibility Study Leadership

The Right Reverend
Ruth Woodliff-Stanley
Bishop
*The Episcopal Diocese
of South Carolina*

The Reverend
Chuck Robertson
Canon and Senior Advisor
to the Presiding Bishop
The Episcopal Church

The Reverend Ryan Currie
Canon for Common Mission
*The Episcopal Diocese
of South Carolina*

Molly Hamilton
Director of Communications
*The Episcopal Diocese
of South Carolina*

Ann Fleming
Canon for Congregational
Development
*The Episcopal Diocese
of South Carolina*

Barry Ronan
Treasurer
*The Episcopal Diocese
of South Carolina*

Deb Harris
*Holy Cross Faith Memorial,
Pawleys Island*

Ray Sabalis
Christ Church, Denmark

Barbara Christie
St. Christopher Camp
and Conference Center
Advisory Board Chair
Grace Church Cathedral, Charleston

Herbert Drayton
St. Stephen's, Charleston

Bill Trawick
Grace Church Cathedral, Charleston

Barney Forsythe
St. Mark's, Port Royal



Feasibility Study Frequently Asked Questions

Is the campaign a foregone conclusion?

The only type of capital campaign we want to have in The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina is a successful one. By success, we mean one in which there is a shared vision for the projects by the diocese and both a capacity and a desire to fund this vision. The diocese will not proceed with solicitation for a capital campaign if this vision is not shared. The purpose of the feasibility study is for the leadership to hear from the diocese whether a campaign is possible or not.

When will we find out the results of the feasibility study?

Vandersall Collective will provide our leadership with a comprehensive feasibility study report before the Diocesan Convention in November, to then be shared with all who participated in the study.

What if there is support for the campaign but the potential total raised isn't \$18,700,000?

A successful feasibility study is one that accurately reflects the capacity and desire of those that participated. If the amount that is determined that can feasibly be raised is either greater or less than \$18,700,000, we will utilize the feedback in the feasibility study to determine the prioritization of projects and how the vision of this campaign resonated with participants' willingness to give.

Has Vandersall Collective ever not recommended moving forward with a capital campaign?

Yes, as a consulting firm it is their desire to see clients and partners move forward in their ministries in healthy, lifegiving, joyful ways. If a feasibility study indicates lack of support for a capital campaign, they have and will communicate these results to our diocese. We will only move forward with a capital campaign if the feasibility study indicates both a shared vision and an ability to support a campaign.

If the feasibility study indicates moving forward with a campaign, when would solicitation begin?

Depending on the results of the study, planning for a capital campaign could begin as early as this winter with a public launch sometime in the new year. If the results indicate that we need to alter our plans, we would adjust our timeline accordingly. We are committed to communicating all information pertaining to the campaign consistently and transparently.

The Essential Gifts Chart indicates a pay in period of campaign pledges of 4 years. Could I potentially pay-in for a longer period of time?

Yes, if you are considering a potential pledge that would extend that 4-5 years, please indicate this in the study.

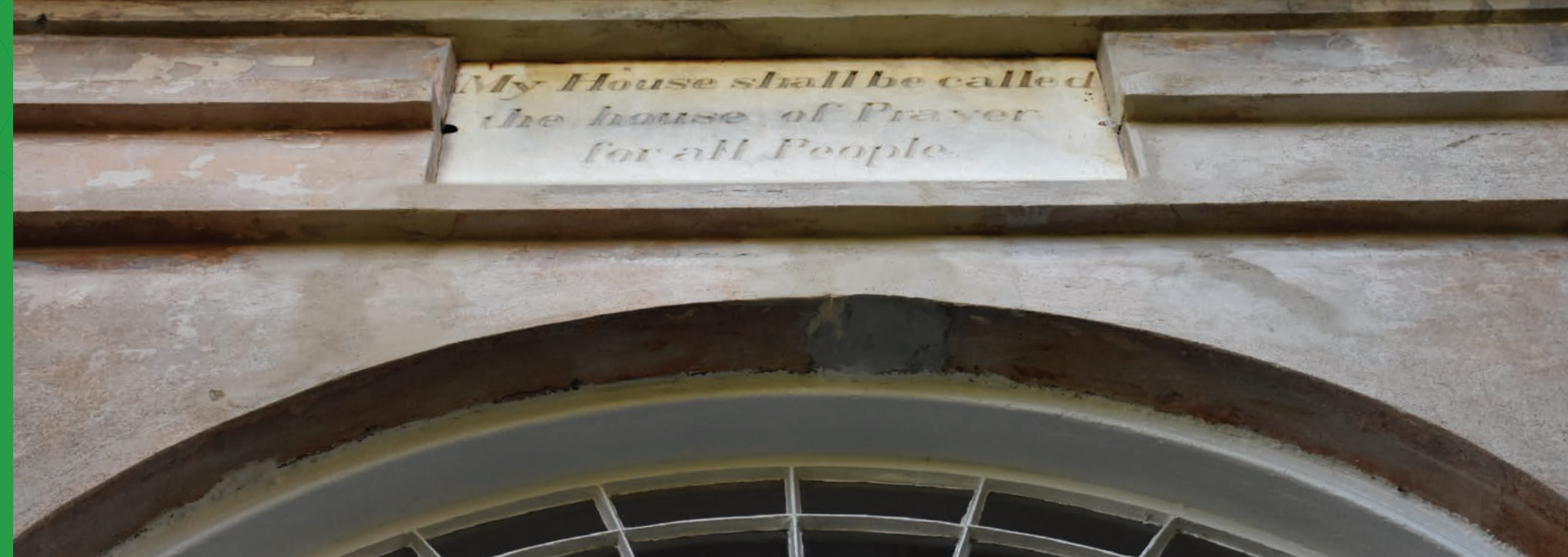
Would a capital campaign pledge to the diocese count the same as my annual campaign pledge to my church?

Each year, congregations invite their members of their community to give an annual pledge to fund the mission of the congregation. These funds pay for personnel, programs, outreach ministries, and the regular upkeep of the space. These funds typically come from an individual's regular monthly income.

Pledges to the diocesan capital campaign will be used to fund specific one-time projects. This gift is an extraordinary gift that would likely be above and beyond one's annual gift. Individuals can give in a variety of ways, and all gifts, regardless of size, are needed for the campaign to be successful.

Annual or capital pledges: which is a priority?

While we embrace gifts given to both your congregation's annual fund and a potential capital campaign to the diocese, we ask that individuals maintain their regular giving to the annual campaign at their congregation before considering a capital campaign pledge.



God of all Hopefulness, God of all Joy

You call us into a new season.

Deepen our faith, strengthen our resolve, sharpen our vision,

That we might respond to your love

With courage and generosity,

And thereby build beloved community in this, the church of our ancestors,

for the sake of all who need you now and those

who will long for you in years to come.



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

P.O. Box 20485 • Charleston, SC 29413 • 843-259-2016 • www.episcopalchurchsc.org