RISING TOGETHER

October 2, 2026

We did it! It is with great joy that we announce that the Rising Together capital campaign for The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina has achieved its primary goal of $3,318,777. We give thanks for the individuals, the congregations, and the bishops who have supported the campaign with prayers and generous contributions. Guided by the Holy Spirit and under the inspirational leadership of Bishop Ruth, we have now secured the funding for the projects selected during the discernment process in our diocese.

As campaign co-chairs, we are grateful for the faithful work of the entire campaign team. Securing advanced gifts, organizing congregational and community gifts and events, inviting participation in the campaign, and coordinating the entire effort required the devotion of many individuals. This team effort exemplified our campaign theme — "Rising Together."

This campaign has always been about supporting our sisters and brothers who were most impacted by the schism and about restoring justice for generations to come. As Bishop Ruth said in her address to the 235th Annual Convention of the diocese in November 2025: *"We are agents of the new thing God is doing. We must run to catch up with what God is up to, bringing redemption from all the broken pieces of this world. You are taking all the broken pieces and making them whole again."*

With the resources generated by the campaign, we can repair the broken pieces by supporting building upgrades and safety requirements for the Three Churches United, the historically black churches on the peninsula of Charleston, and St. Peter's Church in the West Ashley area. We can also begin to strengthen the presence of The Episcopal Church in the fastest growing areas of the state — Myrtle Beach and the Bluffton-Hardeeville corridor.

Although we have much to celebrate, our work is not finished. The Rising Together campaign includes a stretch goal to support St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, which is located on 314 acres of Atlantic coast beach, maritime forest, and undisturbed salt marsh on Seabrook Island about an hour south of Charleston. St. Christopher is the perfect destination for groups, families, and those looking to step away from life's demands for a few days.

While the primary campaign goals touch those faith communities most impacted by past challenges, the stretch goal for St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center would touch the entire diocese as the camp's varied programs support youth of all ages. The mission of the camp and conference center is "to offer guests a place for rest, restoration and renewal and to provide a space to encounter the Living Christ." This mission is accomplished through the offerings of summer camp, the barrier island environmental education program, outdoor encounter programs, and retreats.

We give thanks for everyone whose prayers and generous contributions allowed us to achieve our primary campaign goal so quickly. May we continue to "rise together" to meet our stretch goal in order to support St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center in the future.

With grateful hearts,

Herbert Drayton, Barney Forsythe, and Ray Sabalis
Rising Together Campaign Co-Chairs