# Annual Giving Unite Us to Pray and Serve

### Why pledge?

Individual pledges combine to provide a helpful revenue figure. Every single pledge is valuable to the total.

Receiving your pledge this fall will inform planning for resumed activity, at the time when it is deemed safe.

The pledge total will allow us to be responsive to changing conditions throughout the year.

Pledge revenue funds all that we do, from programs and ministries, building operations and maintenance, personnel, and outreach beyond our walls.

Pledge revenue enables worship, learning, pastoral care, and service to others, for all ages and stages of life.

Discern and Return by November 22.

Pledge with the enclosed pledge card or online at http://bit.ly/PLEDGE2021



# THE IMPORTANCE OF PLEDGING

### Discerning a Pledge

The Bible speaks of giving in proportion to what we have received. The biblical standard for that giving is a tithe, or 10% of one's annual income. How do you begin working towards the tithe?

Start by considering that the average pledge made to Christian churches nationally is 2.5 % of annual household income. If you have achieved 2.5 percent, work towards stepping up another 2.5 percent each year, with 10% as a goal. Think seriously, give joyfully.

### Planning for 2021

The pandemic brought disruption to our normal rhythm. When church services and Candlelight Concerts were suspended on March 15, 2020, the corresponding donations were halted. Our daily visitors, who normally place one dollar per person in the box in the Tower, were not here to do so. We don't know when these sources of revenue will resume. Therefore, for the preliminary budget depicted here, we've planned to be without that revenue for the entire calendar year 2021.

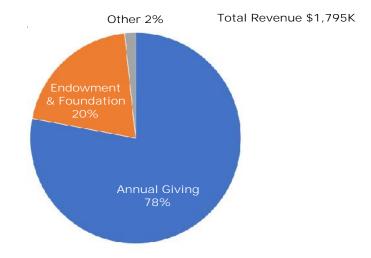
If we desire to continue our tradition of ministry at the standard we know and love, and agree it would not be right to significantly alter its character, we will need to raise an additional \$100,000 from the parish for 2021. A small portion of our expenses vary to some degree according to whether the church and parish house are open or closed. Compensation and benefits do not vary, and make up 64% of our expenses.

We know that one day we will reopen to visitors, worship in person, hear music, and pass a plate. In the meantime, we must replace the funds from these vital functions that are not occurring. Please review the two charts on the opposite page to see how we project funds to be received and spent.

## PROJECTED 2021 FINANCES

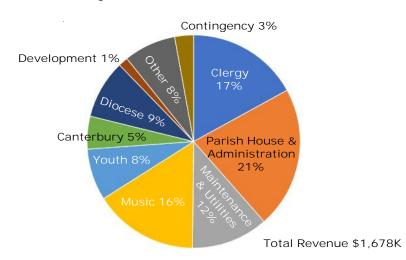
#### PROPOSED REVENUE

In 2021, we plan for annual giving to provide \$1,400,000 or 78% of our total revenue. This is up from 2019 when annual giving was 71% of total revenue. This change is due to lack of income from plate, concerts, and the donation box in the church (Tower Box).



#### PROPOSED EXPENSE ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM

Annual Giving supports the mission and ministry of Bruton Parish in the broad categories below.



This results in a small surplus for purposes of loan repayment and working capital.

# Making Pledge Payments

Pledges are payable by December 31, 2021, in the way or ways best for you, bearing in mind that making periodic gifts as opposed to a single gift at year-end helps with management of our cash position.

By check or cash

Offering envelopes not required; place cash in any envelope with your full name on the front

By automated payments (Bill Pay) arranged by you and your bank

By credit/ debit card or ACH (secure electronic transfer)

https://abundant.co/brutonparishchurch/give

Recurring gift option available

Processing fee: 2.5%, optional addition to your gift amount at time

of transaction

#### Gifts of Stock

Donate appreciated securities or mutual funds held longer than one year and receive a tax deduction without paying capital gains tax. Provide your broker these transfer instructions:

Account Name: Bruton Parish Episcopal Church

Fidelity Investments DTC #0226 Brokerage Account #X90-766745

Your Name

#### Gifts from an IRA

Those 70.5 years of better may make a Qualified Charitable Distribution directly from an IRA. For those taking the standard deduction, it is a real benefit, because, in effect, you get a deduction over and above the standard deduction. Provide your IRA custodian this information for sending a check:

Bruton Parish Church, P.O. Box 3520, Williamsburg, VA 23187-3520

Attn: Finance Office EIN # 54-0519571

Your Name

In considering prepayment of a 2021 pledge, the following information may apply to some taxpayers: For 2020, recent legislation allows donors to take larger charitable deductions, namely, \$300.00 (single) or \$600.00 (couple) for standard, non-itemized deductions, or up to 100% of your adjusted gross income for itemized deductions.

This information is not intended as legal or tax advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney or tax advisor.

# THOUGHTS ON PLEDGING

It is both a sign of my faith and my annual practice, to decide my donation before the year even starts.

When I know the amount I need to reach, it gives me peace of mind-it's true!

I have it worked out so a check is sent each month. It is easier than going to church wondering, how much can I give this time?

I figure out my pledge in terms of how I am paid. I can commit to giving back a portion of what I make, with trust.

When I found out the church qualified to get the distribution from my IRA, I called and made it happen. The check went directly as it was supposed to. A win-win.

We take our total pledge and divide it by four — give it online in four equal amounts. Helping the church do what it needs to do.

I've looked back and since we started pledging, we're actually giving more. I'm happy about that.

Thank you for the gifts of time, talent and treasure that you offer to Bruton Parish Church each year.

For questions or to request a personal visit, call or email:

Marty Easton, Development Director, 757-345-2256 or measton@brutonparish.org

#### Vestry Members

Bill Dugge, Virginia Elwell, Libby Flowers, Melinda Gibson, Steve Hibbitts, Dick Hodgson, Ron Hurst, Marty Jones, Sally McConnell, Melinda Morgan, Jessica Pierson, John Snead, Spence Webster

#### Clergy

The Rev'd Christopher L. Epperson, Rector

The Rev'd Charles H. Bauer Associate Rector for Christian Formation

The Rev'd Lauren M. McDonald Associate Rector for Outreach & Women's Ministries

The Ven. Jan Brown, Deacon

Bruton Parish Church
P.O. Box 3520, Williamsburg, VA 23187-3520
(757) 229-2891

