

**My 2012 Pledge as a Member
of The Church of The Transfiguration**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TEL: _____

**I/We Pledge To The Glory of God
To Support Our Church:**

\$ _____ weekly

\$ _____ monthly

\$ _____ quarterly

\$ _____ as I can

I would like Pledge Envelopes:

Yes No

I Plan to E-Pledge: _____

[signature]

Please cut along dotted line



**THE CHURCH OF THE
TRANSFIGURATION**

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An Episcopal Church in the Anglican Communion

**THE CHURCH OF THE
TRANSFIGURATION
2012 Pledge Campaign**



**Vision For Growth:
Not So "Little"
Anymore**



Vision For Growth: Not So “Little” Anymore

The Right Rev'd Andrew St. John, *Rector*

I am often amused when people show surprise at the size of our church based on its nickname “the Little Church”! I always say that the name was given not to describe its physical size but rather resulted from a belittling remark by the Rector of a neighboring parish (no longer in existence) who clearly did not approve of Father Houghton’s generous welcome to one and all.

The name has well and truly stuck and is beloved by many. However it must not be used as an excuse to describe the dimension of our life and work. Rather as I have said before “we are capable of doing great things for God”. Let’s think big at the Little Church! That is why I chose as this year’s theme for our stewardship appeal: **A Vision for Growth.**

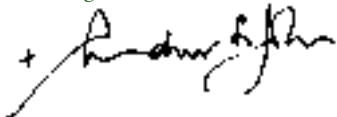
Our task as Christians is to grow God’s Kingdom through our own growth spiritually; through the growth and effectiveness of our mission and outreach; by welcoming new people into our life and thus growing the congregation; and by providing educational and spiritual resources for personal growth and maturity.

One of the key elements in our own spiritual growth is our attitude to our money. How we use our finances is a spiritual matter!

Does our giving reflect what we believe as well as our priorities? Or is it simply an afterthought in our budgeting? One way to calculate our pledge that is helpful to many is to think in terms of proportion or percentage. Does my giving to God and his Church represent 2%, 5% or 10% of my income? The benefit of that approach is that though my income may change the proportion given does not.

My challenge this year to you all is to “**give for growth**”: that is both your own spiritual growth as well as the growth of our life and work here at Transfiguration. Let the Little Church do great things for God.

With blessings and encouragement,



Pledging: 2011 Results

The Church of the Transfiguration—OUR “Little Church”—is home to a diverse congregation of 200 active members. Some of us are cradle Episcopalians familiar with an annual pledge; others are new to the Episcopal Church and have never pledged.

In the past, our annual stewardship campaigns have been limited to a written appeal and a series of sermons and testimonials leading up to Stewardship Sunday.

**For 2011, we received 77 pledges
from 39% of our membership.**

**The total came to: \$179, 558
or just 18% of our expense budget.**

Of this, over 50% came from just 9 pledges.

What makes up the expense budget?

• Salaries & Wages.....	\$379,211
• Plant & Maintenance	\$340,900
• Administration	\$113,034
• Music Program.....	\$92,940
• Church Work.....	\$50,960
	<hr/>
	\$977,045

Where does our *non-pledge* revenue come from to balance our budget?

- Plate Cash & Special Offerings
- Extended Community Donations
- Designated Income (e.g., Music)
- Goods & Services (e.g., Bookstore)
- Rental Income
- Bequests

We are blessed to have an endowment and rental income but a healthy congregation provides more of the necessary operating funds through personal giving.

How Much Should We Pledge?

For 2012, the Vestry is recommending a pledge goal of \$250,000, or 25% of total expenses.

How can we do this?

- Consider increasing your pledge.

The following examples may be helpful:

\$10/week or \$40/month

\$50/week or \$200/month

\$100/week or \$400/month

\$250/week or \$1,000/month

- Increase the number of members of the congregation who pledge and attract new members to join us.
- As you consider your current or new pledge, think about it in terms of a weekly donation and compare it to your other spending:
 - \$10/week = 3 Starbucks coffees
 - \$50/week = 1 theater ticket
 - \$250/week = 2 dinner dates
- Prayerfully, alone or with your family, complete the “*Mad Lib for the parishioners of the Little Church*”.
- Listen carefully to the sermons by our clergy and testimonials by fellow members of the congregation on October 30 and November 6 & 13.

**Joyfully present your pledge
and celebrate our collective success on**

November 20, 2011.