

A message from campaign chairs Warren and Karen McFarlan



We want to thank you for the enormous support that the Together Now comprehensive fundraising campaign has received across the diocese. In the last several months we have celebrated successes at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Mattapan, St. Paul's Church in Malden and the Parish of the Epiphany in Winchester, just to name a few. Additionally, leadership gifts, collaborative campaigns and in-pew collections are all on schedule to reach their targets. The outpouring of faith and generosity has been humbling. At present, just over \$14.6 million of the \$20-million campaign goal has been raised. An additional \$7.7 million has been raised for use in individual congregations which ran or are running collaborative campaigns—dollars that will be used for mission and ministry right in local communities. We have much to be thankful for as we collectively move to secure the long-term impact of the diocese through outreach locally and abroad, strengthening our individual congregations, refurbishing our cathedral church and investing in

environmentally sound practices.

All but 26 of our congregations are now actively planning for their campaign participation, have completed their activities or are mid-stream toward doing so. For example, on a recent Sunday, we were at St. Christopher's Church in Chatham as it launched week one of its four-week in-pew collection. Much is going on. Yet there is much more that we must urgently attend to if we are going to bring the campaign fundraising activities to a conclusion by year's end (and, we hope, meet our campaign goal by Diocesan Convention in early November). We need the active engagement of every remaining congregation and vestry in completing their plans for campaign participation by September. This will provide the crucial time for the fall push to completion.

It has been a remarkable period for our diocese as, against prevailing trends, we grow in membership. This is heavily due, we believe, to the remarkable leaders we have at both the parish and diocesan level. This campaign is a wonderful way to support their efforts now.



Raising up new generations:

Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center nurtures faith and community

Our Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center is a gift, not just to our diocese but to our whole church. Because of the generosity of donors who helped build it, 10 years ago this summer The Camp (as it's familiarly known) welcomed its first group of campers. My eight-year-old son was part of that group. I remember the resolute way he slung his backpack over his shoulder and walked down the hill to his waiting counselors and cabin mates without

Continued inside

Our \$20-million campaign

\$2 million

Tithing for mission beyond our diocese

\$2 million

Caring for God's creation

\$4.5 million

Equipping congregations for strategic local mission

\$7.5 million

Raising up new generations in faith and service

\$4 million

Transforming our cathedral church

For more information about each of the campaign initiatives, please visit:
www.diomass.org/together-now-campaign

RAISING UP NEW GENERATIONS



Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center nurtures faith and community (con't)

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looking back. As I lost sight of him, I was praying that he would be safe, that the people around him would be loving and kind, that he would make friends and great memories and, most of all, that he would find a place where his faith would be nurtured and deepened. Every summer since, that has become my prayer for every camper, and it seems to me that that prayer has been answered. I am keenly aware that parents and guardians entrust their children to the camp, and I am deeply grateful and proud to be able to say that those children return to their families and their congregations safe and

happy, and, in many cases, with their lives changed by a deepened appreciation for God's gorgeous creation and a greater commitment to a life of faith in community. As a parent, I am convinced that my sons are still a part of our church in large part because of their experiences at camp.

This summer, The Camp will welcome nearly 1,000 campers from affluent congregations, difficult urban settings and everywhere in between. Kids engage in traditional camp activities such as swimming and water sports, boating, archery, soccer and crafts. They hike and sing camp songs and test their mettle on the ropes course. Campers make friendships that endure all year long. Unlike at secular camps, though, our campers participate in engaging worship and music and explore faith through Bible study and prayer. Young people from all over the church and the Anglican Communion work at The Camp, developing leadership skills as counselors and becoming trusted mentors and guides.

Our conference center is used by diocesan groups for retreats as well, allowing clergy and lay leaders a renewing and peaceful place to do their work before they return to their congregations rejuvenated and ready to lead. The center welcomes diverse groups who are drawn to our hospitality and beautiful setting. It is also used by churches from other denominations, nonprofit and educational organizations and even family reunion groups.

Simply put, our camp and conference center is a place of transformation and healing. I have had the privilege of serving as a chaplain at The Camp, and I have watched young people who began as campers grow into leaders in their congregations, in our diocese and in the Episcopal Church. And as a parish priest, I have seen families strengthened through Family Camp.

Recently, I was visiting with a young person whom I have known since she was in middle school. She is now in a profession in which she serves others, and she talks

openly about how her faith forms her life and work. "It was The Camp," she said, grinning. "It made me realize how important my faith is to me."

In a time when other Episcopal camps and conference centers are closing or reducing their ministries, we are moving into the future with a bold vision, led in all things by the Holy Spirit. Through \$2 million from the Together Now campaign, we will support and even expand our existing ministry by: ensuring that no camper is turned away due to need, increasing our operating endowment and building the Bishop Cederholm Retreat House.

Together, we can make certain that our camp and conference center—this magnificent jewel—continues to offer a joyful witness to God's abundant creation and the opportunity we all have for our faith to be nurtured and deepened.

—The Rev. Mary Scott Wagner,
President, Barbara C. Harris
Camp and Conference
Center Board of Directors



SUCCESS!

TRINITY CHURCH, HAVERHILL

Trinity Church in Haverhill is riding high on the mountaintop experience of a successful collaborative campaign as part of the Together Now effort. With a plate and pledge income of \$32,000 and an average Sunday attendance of 37, Trinity Church proved that even a small congregation can raise an extraordinary amount of money to do bold things in the service of God's mission. Its collaborative campaign goal was \$80,000, and to date, the members of this congregation in an economically depressed city at the geographic edge of the diocese have offered nearly \$100,000 in gifts and pledges, out of which approximately \$30,000 goes to the diocesan campaign. "I am genuinely humbled at the radical generosity of our parishioners," the Rev. Jane Bearden, Trinity's rector, said. "That we could ever raise this kind of money, at this time, astounds me, and reminds me that when we live our lives from a place of abundance, God shows the way for miracles to happen."

Trinity Church also designated from the amount it raised a tithe for mission and outreach, though the primary focus of its campaign was rebuilding its endowment, the principal of which, in recent years, had been used for budget support and roof repair. "As we planned for this campaign, we knew that we had a responsibility to both previous and future generations of parishioners



TRINITY

Visit www.diomass.org/together-now-campaign for more information on parish participation options.

to ensure our endowment was replenished. We thought this would be a difficult sell since endowments don't typically generate a lot of enthusiasm," Bearden said. "But we told the story in an honest and inspiring way and followed the campaign plan, and people responded. God is very good!"

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE

When the Rev. Leslie Sterling, Priest-in-Charge of St. Bartholomew's Church in Cambridge, heard that \$40,000 was her parish's in-pew collection goal for the Together Now campaign, she gasped.

"It was beyond my wildest expectation of what we could raise in these hard times. But every journey starts with small steps," she said. "I realized that the goal could be reached if 40 individuals or families each agreed to give \$200 a year for five years, noting that was less than \$5 per week for diocesan mission and ministry.

"I knew some might give more, but I did not concentrate on the possibility of large gifts. I acknowledged that for some families even \$5 per week would be difficult, and that some people

might not be able to participate at all. Still, I kept repeating that I believed St. Bartholomew's had 40 families or individuals who were willing to make the sacrifice of \$5 per week to support the Episcopal Church we love.

"When we announced on the commitment Sunday that we had \$43,000 in pledges, I gasped again, this time in astonishment and delight," Sterling said. When parishioners who had been away sent in additional pledges, the total was revised to \$58,550.

Sterling said: "The parishioners at St. Bartholomew's are expressing gratitude for all the ways the Spirit of God has blessed our parish with renewed energy and vitality in recent years. We are also making a faith statement about the future. Meeting our Together Now goal gives us a stake in the continued vitality of the Diocese of Massachusetts, and a direct connection to local, national and international mission and ministry sponsored by diocesan efforts.

"If St. Bartholomew's can make this kind of commitment to the future of our diocese, perhaps we can inspire other small parishes and traditionally black parishes to do the same."

Christ Church, Medway and Pace Willisson: Expanded generosity, renewed optimism

As the co-chair of the collaborative campaign at Christ Church in Medway, Pace Willisson knew he would have to lead the way in this effort. And lead the way he did, by offering a leadership gift before the vestry had committed to a campaign. "It was obvious we needed to do it. We had to raise enough money to fix the roof and attend to the other needs at our parish," Willisson said. He felt that if he demonstrated how serious he was about

this effort by making an early gift, the rest of the parish would get behind it as well.

Willisson said that he thought it was going to be difficult to ask people to stretch beyond their current levels of giving to the church. "But it turned out that in meetings with parishioners, it wasn't scary to ask for the gift. We just talked about our dreams and of the diocesan partnership. People responded and gave

generously, even though they had to make sacrifices," he said.

Christ Church has nearly met its \$150,000 goal, with pledges of almost \$140,000 in hand. Willisson said that for a number of years the parish barely made its annual stewardship goal. However, this year, there's a renewed optimism. "We feel great going into the fall stewardship campaign. There's a feeling that with the success of this campaign,



and with our new ability to talk about money, we'll be able to exceed our goal and build on our momentum. It's a great time for Christ Church."

TOGETHER NOW CAMPAIGN

TOGETHER NOW CAMPAIGN GOAL

Amount raised from leadership gifts

\$20,000,000

\$9,914,260

Diocesan share from collaborative campaigns

\$3,308,519

Parish pledges to date

\$210,625

Amount raised to date from in-pew collections

\$858,997

Gifts to diocesan campaign from independently run parish campaigns

\$312,500

Total amount raised to date

\$14,604,901

Total amount raised in parish collaborative campaigns
30% of this amount is offered to the overall diocesan goal, while 70% stays in the congregations

\$11,028,398

Total number of gifts to Together Now

1,877

Average gift to in-pew collections

\$1,103

Average gift to parish collaborative campaigns

\$9,856

Average parish pledge

\$17,552

Statistics as of 8-1-12



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