



ST. ANDREW'S-WESLEY
UNITED CHURCH

Over the past several months we have all learned what it means to be socially restricted, perhaps even isolated, and what it means to be without the connections we often take for granted. A crisis like the global health pandemic brings us to ask what we value and what's truly important. I've heard from many of you that the pandemic has helped clarify the value of our St. Andrew's-Wesley community now, and all the more so when we can worship together in an inspiring place of beauty and offer service to the world.

We are now at a pivotal moment for our congregation and our building.

Due to the foresight and good governance of our staff and church Board, in the fall of 2018, St. Andrew's-Wesley strategically leveraged the sale of our property just west of the sanctuary. Proceeds from that sale have been the main source of funds for the seismic upgrade and restoration, a massive project that revitalizes our almost 90-year-old sanctuary. We are incredibly fortunate for this sale and have planned for a financial stream to support the congregation for the next 100 years. But the only way we can protect the funds that are meant for our children and grandchildren is through strong stewardship and financial support today.

Over the past several months, Diane Mitchell and I have joined an energetic group of volunteers to begin raising additional funds in support of our revitalization and outreach programs. Together, we have identified a number of priorities as highlighted in the enclosed brochure that would truly benefit from extra support from you and your family.

Many congregations – like Christ Church down the street – have embarked upon several, very recent, multi-million-dollar campaigns. This is our first capital campaign since the 1970's and our aim is to extend an invitation to members, congregants and friends of St. Andrew's-Wesley to be part of this historic moment for our church. **We invite you and your family to support our outreach – like our refugee and LGBTQ2+ programming – or to the many aspects of our restoration.**

All gifts can be pledged over 3, or even 5 years, and recognition opportunities are available as well. One option is to dedicate a chair, or several, in honour of a family member or friend. All chair-dedications will be listed on our website (or remain anonymous) and in our bulletin (or remain anonymous) when we are all together again.

Each dollar you donate will go towards campaign projects, including community service. I invite you to call the church office to make your gift right away, or for more information or to discuss how you and your family might designate your gift. You can make your tax-deductible gift easily

from our home page's donate button <https://pushpay.com/g/standrewswesley> and in the memo section state the type of gift you intend to support:

- ◇ **St. Andrew's-Wesley's Community Programs**
- ◇ **Capital Improvements**
- ◇ **Dedicate a Chair, 1 for \$250, or 2 for \$450**
- ◇ **Area of Greatest Need**

We are also very pleased to share information about including St. Andrew's Wesley in your financial planning – either through a life insurance policy or bequest. These acts of kindness will have an immense impact for the next generation who will make the church their own, just as you have.

For nearly a century, St. Andrew's-Wesley has enriched the life of our city and we continue to serve and lead in an ever-changing world. **Recent world events convince me that stronger progressive, affirming, compassionate communities of faith like St. Andrew's-Wesley is essential to the future of our city.** Seeing so many smiling faces over Zoom these past few months, and speaking with many of you, I know our future is bright with hope.

Share the light. Be the light, and with a generous heart, join us in our "Light in the Heart of the City" campaign.

Rev. Dan Chambers

The Light in the Heart of the City Campaign Committee

Georgina Arntzen, Tom Carter, Rev. Dan Chambers, David Love, Alan Lowe, Diane Mitchell, Kathy Murphy, Roger Phelps, Barry Potvin, Margie & Wayne Savigny