



Dear Friend,

This year has been full of challenges, from the pandemic to economic trouble, to calls for racial justice and equality, to political upheaval and debate. We put our faith and hope in a God of unconditional love. We are all sadly feeling the temporary suspension of in-person worship and fellowship that is so elemental to Grace's church family life. It may even seem that Grace has gone into hibernation – *but nothing could be further from the truth!*

Despite current challenges, we are moving **forward in grace**. With the spiritual support and dedication of Vicar Scott Painter, our Bishop's Committee, assisting clergy and lay leaders, church and school staff, and all of us rank-and-file parishioners, we have shared and strengthened our faith through a growing number of virtual gatherings. We have developed very effective virtual worship and shared fellowship online, even as we also begin to reconstitute some small in-person events on campus. Grace Episcopal School continues to care for young children of our neighborhood and spark the love of learning. We all continue to find new ways to reach our community in need.

"Forward in Grace"

Our 2021 Stewardship Campaign, **Forward in Grace**, reflects Grace's unwavering faith in uncertain times to continue moving into God's future for us. We thank you for your faithfulness and generosity, especially amidst the current challenges. Your generosity enriches and changes lives. Your offerings of *time, talent, and treasure* ensure that we will continue as God's people to grow in our commitment to worship, connection, and outreach.

It's true that your financial pledge is essential to developing a budget for the operation and mission of Grace in the coming year. But this is so much more than that. Living a generous life and being good stewards of our resources is something that God wants **for** us and not just *from* us. It is the way to a fuller experience of Grace in our own lives. We invite you to prayerfully consider your pledge of financial and participatory support in the next year. With your generosity, we will move **Forward in Grace!**

We give thanks for the abundant growth God is bringing to Grace. We especially give thanks for your part in it.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only son..." John 3:16. We move **Forward in Grace**, as we give, because God gave first.

With you in Christ,



Suzanne Woodard, Stewardship Committee Chair