

WE WILL

2012 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

Annual Giving Campaign 2012: We Will Support the Christ Church Community

by Penn & Brent Williams

At the rites of Baptism, Confirmation, and Marriage we are asked, as one body, to affirm that we as a community of faith “will do all in our power to support these persons in their life in Christ;” we respond with one voice: “WE WILL.” In the spirit of this expression of community, we invite every member of the community of Christ Church to join us in saying WE WILL share our individual gifts of time, talent, and treasure to do all in our power to support our joyful community sharing life in Jesus Christ.

We are both business people by trade. We deal with numbers, solve problems, chase sales goals, and negotiate terms, deals and contracts. Some of the best and most useful business training we have received has been in the art of negotiating. One of the core principles of negotiations is to “never give without getting.”

And so here we are, chairing the 2012 Annual Giving Campaign at Christ Church, asking you to give. We are negotiating with each one of you by asking you to give of yourselves to the church. Whether it’s your time, your talent or your treasure, many of you have the capacity and desire to give to this amazing community that is Christ Church. Our Christian faith puts giving at the central point in our relationship with God. There are numerous references to giving throughout the Bible –

Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back. Luke 6:30

One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes will himself be refreshed. Proverbs 11:24 – 25

Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Luke 6:38

And perhaps most powerful of all –

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in Him wouldn’t perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

In this negotiation with each of you this fall – asking you to prayerfully consider your pledge to Christ Church in 2012 – are we asking you to “give without getting?” In fact, it is just the opposite. We are not just asking you to GIVE . . . it is about much more than that. We are asking you to RECEIVE Jesus Christ into your life, become an enthusiastic and involved member of this parish, and be filled with the abundant blessings Christ Church has to offer you and your family.

By tithing, give your support to the church – our activities, our services, our education, our missions – and then be a part of this vibrant community by RECEIVING . . . receive teachings of Christ in church and Sunday School, receive the parish meal at Blue Jean Sunday, receive the warmth and camaraderie of a small group, receive amazing programs for children and youth, receive smiles and prayers from your fellow parishioners.

WE WILL all be better for it.

