

2020 Grow In Faith

— Strengthening Our Roots to Grow Our Future



Letter from the Rector



The Rev. Brian Sullivan,
Rector

The excitement of being at St. Benedict's has been an incredible journey for me. As I dreamt about the ideal church, I imagined a place that was developing its identity, centrally located in the community, filled with children, and most importantly excited about growing. The word growth has so many different meanings. For some of us it may mean growing in numbers, for others it means growing deeper in faith, and for others still, it means growing in quality of programs. The momentum of St. B's is clearly to grow in all these ways.

In order to grow, the biggest challenge for this community was making a statement early in its life. The clear decision was made to do it all at once. During economic downturns there are two schools of thought: be conservative and wait, or take advantage of the situation. The Holy Spirit made that decision for us; we were a community ready and poised for what God had in store for us.

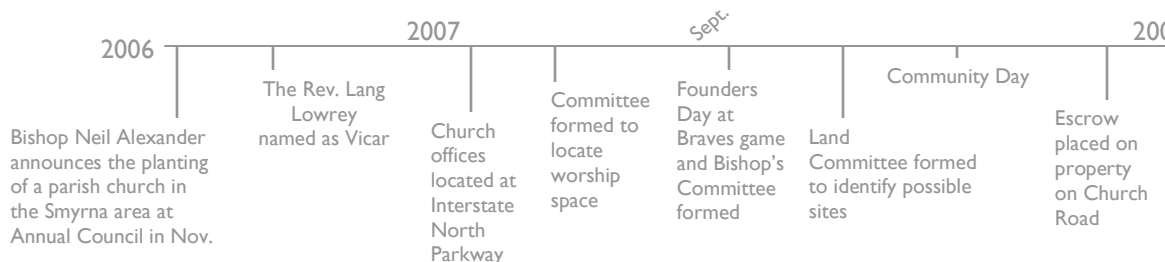
We created this beautiful campus with trust that God was going to provide. Hearing the daily sounds of children learning and playing, seeing the Sunday scene of pews filled with eager faces to experience the mystery of God, and reaching out in the Smyrna community to the poor, the friendless and the needy; I can say, God has truly provided us with a wonderful foundation to continue preaching the Gospel in word and deed.



Now we are faced with the one need that was caused by the economic downturn, an outstanding promissory note of \$700,000. In order to grow on this foundation, God has provided abundantly. Now it is our chance to give back and link ourselves to the vision God has for St. B's. What an opportunity God has given us! We can be intimately linked with God's plan for St. B's by offering ourselves in the form of this capital campaign.

As with most campaign's it is not so much what you give, but that you give. We look forward to taking this journey together.

Brian +



The Foundation

By the grace of God, in just four years, St. Benedict's Episcopal Church has grown from a concept in the minds of a few people to a vibrant, diverse and welcoming congregation. A vision of the Diocese of Atlanta in 2006, St. B's has grown to a vibrant community, including over 30 ministries and a Day School. From humble beginnings in a



strong oak trees that line our church campus. St. Benedict's, like the oak trees, must grow stronger branches expand our ministries and spread the seed of Christ in the community.

As men and women of faith, it is our desire to continue and foster this growth. We are thankful for the generosity and support of the Diocese of Atlanta. We are grateful for the gifts of time, talent and treasure of our founders, without which the seed of St. Benedict's would have withered and died.

It is now our mission to take St. Benedict's to the next level, both within our hearts, within our church and within the



Smyrna community. God has done wonderful things at St. Benedict's, but our church is

also of the world. Our beautiful church building and spacious classroom building came at a price; the purchase of the land and the cost of the renovation of this place we call home. We are all called to be the cornerstones of the church;



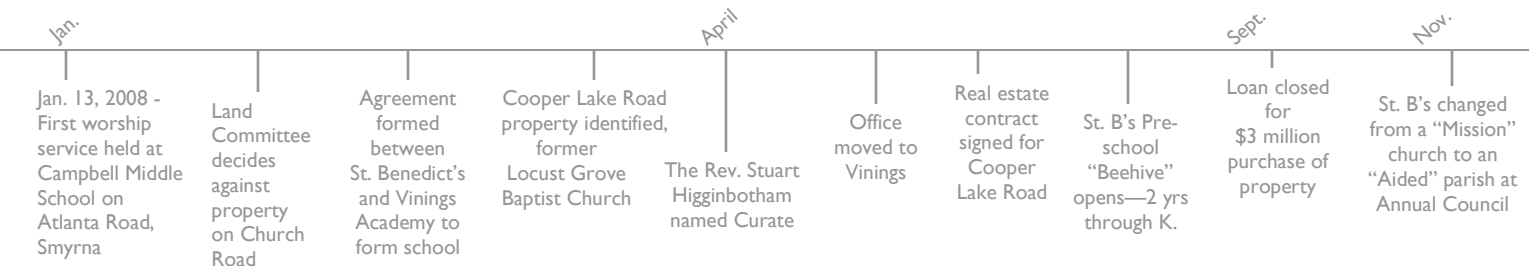
to build it, to grow it, to cherish it. We have built it, we continue to grow it and it is up to all of us to cherish it.

What we have now is a beacon of faith, a mainspring of hope, the beginning of a journey. We cannot lose momentum.

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middle school gym to the exquisite renovation of a historical church, worship at St. B's has brought the Word of God to a new community and fostered its spiritual growth. The mission of St. Benedict's brings together people from diverse backgrounds and plants common ground for them to grow in faith together.

St. Benedict's has grown from a seed to a sapling. Now it is time for the sapling to grow into the tree, like the



St. Benedict's Ways of Life

Strengthening Our Roots To Grow Our Future

Worship

Sharing a rich liturgical tradition with the Eucharistic celebration, music and singing.



Spiritual Formation and Christian Education

Cultivating a deeper awareness of the presence of God with us, around us and in our midst.



Pastoral Care

Encouraging and supporting experiences of the fullness of God's love through prayer and acts of loving kindness.



Parish Life

Seeking to be a vibrant community of faith and encouraging everyone to serve Christ and connect with others in the parish.



2009

May

Aug.

Oct.

Nov.

Agreement signed with architect for renovation of Cooper Lake Road property

Builder contracted for the renovation of the South Office Wing

South office wing space opens

St. B's Day School opens this year with grades K—2nd Grade

Builder contracted for renovation of Nave and classroom wing

The Rev. Chip Davis named as Parochial Vicar

Renovation complete on Nave and classroom wing

All Saints Day—Nov. 1st
First worship service held in Nave on Cooper Lake Road property

Education



Mission & Outreach

Sharing the sacramental love of God in Christ to those who are in need.

F.A.R.M



Day School

Starting as a vision to bring quality primary education with an Episcopal tradition to the Smyrna area, St. Benedict's Day School has grown to an enrollment of 208 providing an educational alternative for families in the community.



2010

July

Nov.

Day School moves into first floor classrooms

Renovation completed of 2nd and 3rd floor of the classrooms

Bishop Alexander consecrates the Church Building

July 10th marked the 100th year of the original church building

The Rev. Lang Lowrey completes his time as Vicar

St. Benedict's Day School opens with the addition of 3rd Grade

The Rev. Brian Sullivan called as our 1st Rector on August 15th

Membership reaches 500

Why Give?

HOW MUCH DID THE PROPERTY COST?

The original purchase price of the 4 acre property including the 40,000 square foot building was \$3,000,000. St. B's was able to acquire a loan for \$2,300,000. The remaining \$700,000 was loaned to St. Benedict's directly by the owner of the property at 3.00%. The renovation of the building cost \$3,000,000.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE DIOCESE?

The Diocese of Atlanta, under the leadership of Bishop Neil Alexander, has provided abundant financial assistance over the years to plant the ministry of St. B's. From paying all the expenses the first two years, including salaries, office space and all the costs of worship supplies, the Diocese has been and continues to be generous and supportive. When the original loans were negotiated, the Diocese of Atlanta graciously agreed to guarantee the loans. However, it was always the plan and expectation that St. Benedict's would repay the debt from the generosity and faithfulness of its parish membership.

WHAT IS MY ROLE?

We are currently paying \$21,000 a year in interest on this \$700,000... Next year, the interest rate on the note



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE GROW IN FAITH CAMPAIGN?

The Grow in Faith Capital Campaign is designated to repay the \$700,000 loan to the former owner of the property. The original plan was to utilize future real estate appreciation to refinance the entire purchase price. Unfortunately, timing was not on our side, and the real estate market stalled. Our beautiful piece of property continues to hold its value, but the \$700,000 note comes due in October.

increases to 10% and our interest payment would total \$71,000 in 2012. This figure represents 18% of the annual budget of our church! If this \$71,000 was made available, imagine the enrichment programs and outreach missions we could add to our parish life.

By combining our individual efforts, the branches of St. B's will be able to grow and deepen. Eliminating this debt will allow our mission and ministries to further spread the seed of Christ in the community into the future.

We must increase our collective share of ownership in the property to secure our future. In doing so, we strengthen the platform from which we reach out into the world.

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WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE DAY SCHOOL?

The prosperity of St. Benedict's Day School has certainly helped the Church's financial stability. It has provided the means to service the debt (pay the interest) on our loans to purchase and renovate the property. The Grow in Faith Campaign is earmarked specifically for the \$700,000 principal payment.

Sept.

2011

2012 and beyond

Refinanced debt to a fixed rate loan

Paid \$21,000 in interest for the property

Grow In Faith Capital Campaign

The Future . . . Depends on us . . . The possibilities are limitless

Not Why but How?

The annual pledges that you have already generously offered are designated for the annual budget for the operation of the church. This funds the programs, the ministries, worship costs and the staff salaries of the church of which we hold dear.

The Grow in Faith Capital Campaign raises money specifically to repay a promissory note acquired to purchase the property. There are many ways we can direct our treasure.

One-time cash donations.

These help achieve our goal the most efficiently. As soon as we receive a check, we can reduce our debt and subsequent interest expense.

Two or three year commitments.

Sometimes we are able to make a larger contribution if we can make it over a longer period of time. You can make your

donation in one, two or three yearly payments.

Gifts of appreciated stock or bonds.

You can transfer investments of stock or bonds without incurring a capital gain. Just transfer the asset directly to the church account and St. B's will receive the benefit of the current market value and you will receive a tax deduction

for that market value.

Naming opportunities.

Wouldn't it be nice to honor a grandparent or remember that



Photo: Bill M

special person who has guided your walk with Christ? Maybe your family could "adopt" a classroom and preserve it as a reminder of your continuing commitment to St. B's Day School. Maybe you could dedicate the library to the Glory of God or a church pew to the abiding love of Christ. St. Benedict's has created wonderful ways to commemorate your gift.

Matching Contributions.

By asking your employer to back your commitment, you are making your contribution even more meaningful.



Campaign Chair



Allen Hanahan,
Capital Campaign Chair

Four years ago, a seed was planted in Smyrna. St. Benedict's Church was born and it has been amazing to be part of such an incredible journey. The seed has sprouted and the growth in the faithfulness of our families and in our community is alive and well. Worshiping with all of the extraordinary people involved in this wonderful transformation has been one of the most inspiring experiences of my life. I had to get involved to grow my faith around my new friends in this place.

My past church life was marked by irregular attendance with an occasional acolyte duty at an Episcopal Church that my grandfather help build over 100 years ago. Little did I know the incredible amount of work involved in building a church from the ground up. Now I understand that it will take all of us together to reach this very important goal of the Grow in Faith Capital Campaign. A successful campaign will allow us to unleash and share our love and faith in a new and growing community.

Can I count on you to continue with me the journey that Christ has set forth?

Allen A. Hanahan



Nave



Church Building



Parish Hall



St. Benedict's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2160 Cooper Lake Road
Smyrna, Georgia 30080
678-279-4300



Printed on 10%
postconsumer waste

Payment Breakdown

| Payment Breakdown for 3 Year Pledges | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|--------|---------|----------|
| Total Pledge | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Annually |
| \$25,000 | \$23 | \$160 | \$694 | \$8,333 |
| | 14 | 96 | 417 | 5,000 |
| | 9 | 64 | 278 | 3,333 |
| | 5 | 32 | 139 | 1,667 |
| | 2 | 16 | 69 | 833 |
| | 1.37 | 10 | 42 | 500 |
| | 0.91 | 6 | 28 | 333 |
| 500 | 0.46 | 3 | 14 | 167 |
| Payment Breakdown for 2 Year Pledges | | | | |
| Total Pledge | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Annually |
| \$25,000 | \$34 | \$240 | \$1,042 | \$12,500 |
| | 21 | 144 | 625 | 7,500 |
| | 14 | 96 | 417 | 5,000 |
| | 7 | 48 | 208 | 2,500 |
| | 3 | 24 | 104 | 1,250 |
| | 2 | 14 | 63 | 750 |
| | 1.37 | 10 | 42 | 500 |
| 500 | 0.68 | 5 | 21 | 250 |
| Payment Breakdown for 1 Year Pledges | | | | |
| Total Pledge | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Annually |
| \$25,000 | \$68 | \$481 | \$2,083 | \$25,000 |
| | 41 | 288 | 1,250 | 15,000 |
| | 27 | 192 | 833 | 10,000 |
| | 14 | 96 | 417 | 5,000 |
| | 7 | 48 | 208 | 2,500 |
| | 4 | 29 | 125 | 1,500 |
| | 3 | 19 | 83 | 1,000 |
| 500 | 1.37 | 10 | 42 | 500 |

Range of Gifts



St. Benedict's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

| | Number | | Amount | | Total | |
|---------|--------|---|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| KEY | 1 | @ | \$100,000 | = | \$100,000 | \$200,000 |
| | 2 | @ | \$50,000 | = | \$100,000 | |
| MAJOR | 2 | @ | \$25,000 | = | \$50,000 | \$225,000 |
| | 5 | @ | \$15,000 | = | \$75,000 | |
| | 10 | @ | \$10,000 | = | \$100,000 | |
| GENERAL | 25 | @ | \$6,000 | = | \$150,000 | \$275,000 |
| | 30 | @ | \$3,000 | = | \$90,000 | |
| | Many | ≤ | \$1,000 | = | \$35,000 | |
| TOTAL | 75 | + | | = | \$700,000 | |



Grow In Faith Campaign

Outright Cash Gift/ Campaign Pledge: We are asking that pledges be paid in full by December 2013. By allowing a three-year term for payment of gifts, many families can afford to make a larger contribution. Since our interest rate on the \$700,000 note increases significantly in 2012, we encourage accelerating these payments as much as possible.

Transfer of Securities: Many people find that donating appreciated stocks, bonds or shares in mutual funds can lead to a gift much larger than they thought they could give. An added benefit of this type of gift is that the income tax deduction is generally the market value of the security at the time of the gift, without any capital gains tax on the appreciation. Such transfers can be initiated by contacting Betsy Shuford in the Church office at 678-279-4302.

Stock Gift Example: You own stock that was purchased for \$7,500 and is now worth \$25,000. You give the stock to St. Benedict's and receive a charitable income tax deduction for the \$25,000 fair market value of the stock. In addition, you save capital gains tax on the \$17,500 appreciation. The benefit to the Church is the same whether you give cash or stock, the tax savings to you is likely to be greater if you give stock.

Planned Giving Opportunities: You may also choose to include the Church in your estate planning and receive significant tax and financial benefits. Some common planned giving vehicles include bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable lead trusts, life insurance and retirement plan assets.

Donors are advised to consult with their own legal, tax and estate planning professional when considering gifts other than cash.

Other Creative Ideas

You might be wondering how you can possibly support a capital campaign when you are already giving all that you can to the Church for the annual stewardship effort. Following are some creative ideas that you may not have considered:

Ask your Employer about Matching Gift Opportunities:

- While many company matching gift policies exclude religious organizations, they will support educational programs, and capital funds were also used for the purposes of our Day School.

Make Gifts in Honor or Memory of Someone or Ask for Gifts in Your Honor:

- Honor a family member, friend, classmate, or faculty member with a gift in support of the campaign.
- Similarly, you could raise money for the campaign by asking family and friends to support this effort by making a contribution in your honor – in lieu of gifts for a birthday, anniversary or Christmas. Consider offering this as a sacrifice to God in addition to your own personal gift.

Give Up Lunch or Dinner Out:

- By packing a lunch vs. eating out at a restaurant two times per week, you can give \$1,000 to the Church over the course of a year, or \$3,000 over 3 years: ($\$10 / \text{meal} \times 2 \text{ times per week} \times 52 \text{ weeks} = \$1,048 / \text{year}$).
- By spending an extra night eating dinner at home as a family vs. going out to a restaurant, you can give \$2,500 to the Church over the course of a given year, or \$7,500 + over three years: ($\text{Dinner for 4 @ } \$50 \times 52 \text{ weeks} = \$2,600 / \text{year}$).