

"And I tell you that you are Peter, And upon this rock I will build my church." Matthew 16:18

Dear Friend,

In the scripture above, Jesus proclaims that Peter's faith is the rock upon which the Church is built. During the month of October, the stewardship team will be providing many opportunities for you to reflect on this year's campaign theme: *Upon This Rock*.

The psalms proclaim God as our rock, our refuge, our crag and stronghold, our protector and provider. In the New Testament, we look to Jesus as our cornerstone, and the Holy Spirit as one who empowers and sustains us to do God's work.

One of our team members said: Ascension is built on a rock known as Shades Mountain. How fitting then for us to focus our campaign on the many ways Ascension is helping us grow in the faith of Christ who is our Rock and Foundation.

As Chair of the Stewardship Committee, I ask you to reflect on how the Rock of our faith strengthens the foundation of your faith; how the Rock of our faith helps you be better stewards of all God has given you, how the Rock of our faith invites you to use your time, talent, and treasure to become the living stones God uses to build his kingdom on earth as it is in heaven and to *make Christ known by our love for all*.

The stewardship committee will be hosting gatherings to individual Peer Groups on October 5th (Pier 60+ for lunch), and October 19th (Piers 34 & 45 for lunch; Pier 23 for dinner). I invite each of you to attend one as we break bread together, enjoy fellowship and benefit from the inspiring program offerings which will help us reflect on what God is doing at Ascension.

Kickoff Sunday is October 5th and will end on Celebration Sunday November 2nd. Throughout the campaign, there will be Sunday morning speakers, Sunday school classes, gatherings, and information available in a variety of mediums.

It is an honor for me to serve as Chair of the Stewardship Committee, and I am excited to take this journey with you to continue to build on Ascension's foundation for the future. I look forward to seeing you at our gatherings and hope you will take advantage of all we have to offer during the campaign.

Faithfully,

Elizabeth Tanner Stewardship Chair