

# ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Dear Friends,

In 2011, St. Michael's took a leap of faith to fulfill the dream of making our church building accessible to all, structurally sound, more energy efficient and ready to meet the needs of our present and wider community. The story is an amazing tribute to our faith community. We were discouraged from proceeding during the interim time while we prepared to search for a new rector, but we decided to proceed. Our consultant suggested a capital campaign goal of \$700,000; we decided to stretch and set a goal of \$800,000. We exceeded this goal by raising \$821,110 and in 2012, we began our construction project.

The scope of the project was large and the Vestry ultimately elected to faithfully proceed with a project that exceeded our Capital Campaign with the support of a \$450,000 loan from the Diocese of Vermont. The full project from the discovery phase to construction completion took 4 years, involving thousands of volunteer hours and ultimately cost 1.4 million to fulfill the hopes we had for our parish.

2016 was the final year that we received pledges toward this project, which has enriched our faith community tremendously and given St. Michael's the foundation to thrive for generations to come. After all the pledges have come in, we still owe \$125,000 on our loan from the Diocese of Vermont, which is due by April 1, 2019. The loan could be paid by taking monies from our endowment, but this would reduce income available to support our faith projects on an annual basis.

We are so grateful for the generous gifts of time, treasure and talent that we have already received from so many of our parishioners. However, we know that we would be missing an opportunity if we did not invite you to participate in this wonderful project if you have not already done so or to continue your pledge support for an additional gift.

We are truly blessed at St. Michael's with our accessible and renewed building, but also with the parishioners like yourself who truly love God and this community.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Judith McBean

*Building for the Future, Chair*

Wayne Cook

*Treasurer*

*Capital Campaign Committee*