

# walk in Love

## A Prayer for Discerning Your Pledge

Gracious God, giver of all good gifts: grant me the grace, wisdom, and insight to discern how you are calling me to use my time, talent, and financial resources to live more fully into my identity as a disciple of your Son Jesus Christ and as an apostle sent out into the world in peace to love and serve you. Give me the strength and courage to trust you in all things, and the gladness and singleness of heart to discover when I have enough, knowing that I walk in your love. Lord, please move the collective heart and mind of the people of St. Andrew's to use my gift to further your mission in Madison and throughout the world. Amen.

## A FINANCIAL AND FAITH COMMITMENT FOR 2019 IN SUPPORT OF GOD'S MISSION AT ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Name(s)

For 2018, you pledged a total of \$  to God's mission at St. Andrew's. Thank you!

*We invite you to join individuals and families in making a financial and faith commitment to growing God's mission at St. Andrew's.*

In support of God's mission at St. Andrew's in 2019 and in grateful response to God's blessings, I/we pledge:

### OPTION A

- \$50 per week (\$2,600/year)  
 \$75 per week (\$3,900/year)  
 \$100 per week (\$5,200/year)  
 \$150 per week (\$7,800/year)

### OPTION B

\$\_\_\_\_\_ to be paid  
 Weekly       Monthly  
 Quarterly       One Time  
for a yearly total of \$\_\_\_\_\_

### OPTION C

I/we will support the mission of St. Andrew's in 2019 but I/we prefer to keep this pledge private.

Signature(s)

Date

*In the event of a financial challenge, I/we recognize that this pledge may be adjusted confidentially by speaking with the clergy.*

Email

Phone

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT

You will receive a letter confirming your pledge in November 2018. You will also receive a letter for your tax use reflecting your tax deductible 2019 contributions in January 2020.

Please contact me about giving to the St. Andrew's Endowment in my will.



St. Andrew's  
Episcopal Church

232 Durham Road, Madison, CT 06443  
203-245-2584 standrewsmadison.org

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the purpose of the “Walk in Love” pledge drive?

While God calls us to be good stewards of God’s blessings year round, we focus on monetary giving this time of year in order to invite our members to contribute their financial resources back to God’s mission at St. Andrew’s, as well as to help deepen their commitment to God in Christ.

## How do I determine the amount of my pledge?

Financial commitment to God’s work at St. Andrew’s is a personal, intentional, spiritual decision that we hope you make after much thought, prayer, and in consultation with a spouse or trusted friend. One way to determine your pledge is through the action of incremental increase; that is, increase your pledge by a percentage over last year. For example, if you pledged \$3,400 for 2018, you might increase by 10% to pledge \$3,740 for 2019. Another method is proportional giving.

## What is proportional giving?

The Biblical tithe (10% of income) is the basis of the idea of proportional giving, though any proportion can be used. Proportional giving allows everyone to give at a level that reflects his or her resources. The average pledge in the Connecticut diocese in 2017 was \$2,576. The average pledge in 2018 at St. Andrew’s was \$2,146. Here’s a chart with some examples.

Sample Proportional Giving Percentages				
Income	3%	5%	7%	10%
\$10,000	\$300	\$500	\$700	\$1,000
\$20,000	\$600	\$1,000	\$1,400	\$2,000
\$50,000	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$3,500	\$5,000
\$100,000	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$7,000	\$10,000
\$250,000	\$7,500	\$12,500	\$17,500	\$25,000

## Why is a pledge preferred to a one-time donation?

For most, spreading a pledge out over twelve months (or 52 weeks) allows for a more substantial gift than a single donation and turns the act of giving into a frequent spiritual discipline. Making a pledge also helps us plan next year’s budget and helps with monthly cash flow.

## What if I can’t fulfill my pledge?

Life situations change and sometimes such change involves shifting financial realities. If for some reason, you must amend your pledged amount, please let Shariya know. This happens once or twice every year, so please do not feel uncomfortable making such an adjustment.

## Are there ways besides cash and checks by which to fulfill my pledge?

Yes. Some may prefer to give from their capital assets. Appreciated securities, for example, may offer a tax advantage not available in a cash gift. In addition, qualified charitable distributions from an IRA to St. Andrew’s could satisfy required minimum distributions for those over age 70 ½.

## What does it cost to run St. Andrew’s?

St. Andrew’s total church operating expenses for 2018 are budgeted at \$397,540. Assuming a standard 4% draw (\$80,000) from the endowment, \$317,540 or \$4,178 per pledge will cover the costs of running St. Andrew’s.

## What about planned giving in my will?

In addition to current yearly giving, notifying the church that one’s will includes a bequest facilitates long-term financial planning. Check the box on the front side of this sheet for more information about planned giving to the St. Andrew’s Endowment.

And

*walk  
in  
Love*

as Christ loved us and

gave himself up for us,

a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2.