

*Upon the Rock*

*On* Christ  
the solid **Rock**  
I stand,

All other ground  
is sinking sand.



St. Andrew's

✦ ANGLICAN CHURCH

# Easter 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

God has blessed us richly by providing this property, and the means by which to purchase and maintain it. Yes, we are “cozy” here, and it takes a collaborative effort — and sometimes more than a little patience with one another! — to make the current space work, not only for worship, but for discipleship, ministry and fellowship. But it’s a place to call home; a place where we can grow deeper in our relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and with one another as a community of faith. And it’s a foundation upon which to build.

## Counting the cost

*Jesus said, “Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?*

*Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.”*

*(Luke 14:27-30)*

This place is not for us alone, however. God calls us to reach out and invite others in. In Luke 14:23, Jesus tells a parable, which concludes with this command: “Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.”

In the Lewis Center ZIP Code alone, there are 18.6 square miles of “roads and lanes”; in the broader area of Orange Township, 23.2 square miles, and in the Olentangy School District, 95 square miles. In bordering ZIP Codes, there are yet another 258.2 square miles. That’s a lot of roads and lanes! And along those roads and lanes live a quarter of a million people.<sup>1</sup>

How many of those people do not yet know the Good News of God in Christ Jesus? How many are suffering in these

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<sup>1</sup> [www.city-data.com](http://www.city-data.com); based on 2008 estimated population of 225,583

uncertain economic times or battling sickness or barely surviving in broken relationships? How many have not yet discovered that while they are powerless in the face of these adversities, there is One who *is* powerful; One who has already overcome this world, and offers us life abundant in the next. How many do not yet call him Lord?

Woe to us who do know him, and do not reach out to those who have not yet heard, for Jesus himself says, *“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.”* (Matthew 7:21)

And what is the will of the Father? Jesus tells us:

*“Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock. Rain poured down, rivers flooded, and winds beat against that house. But it did not fall, because it was built on solid rock.”* (Matthew 7:24-25)

If you were blessed to have had a dedicated, caring Sunday School teacher, as do the children whose families make up this congregation, you may remember the “Parable of the Two Builders”, also known as the “Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders.” And if so, you’ll remember that while the wise man’s house upon the rock stood firm, the foolish man’s house — built on sinking sand — went “splat!”

It’s from this parable, also found in Luke 6:47-49, that we have adopted our Building Fund campaign theme — **“Upon the Rock.”** Let us, like the wise man, be responsible builders and stewards of the trust God has placed in us. Let us build both our physical house and our spiritual home on the Rock — the strong foundation that is Jesus Christ himself.

Let us both hear and obey his Word, and recommit ourselves to the work he has given us to do in this place — the work of transforming the world through Christ, one heart at a time. Then, on that day when we stand before the judgment throne of Christ and cry, “Lord, Lord!”, he will welcome us with these words: *“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge*

*of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"*  
(Matthew 25:21)

I want you to know of the unreserved support and confidence that your Vestry and clergy have in the Building Fund campaign we kick off this Easter season. Judy and I have already made our pledge of \$15,840 over the next three years to help assure that the foundation we are building in this place is laid on solid rock. Your Vestry and clergy together have pledged \$94,190! This means that we have already raised about 23 percent of our campaign goal of \$410,000 from just 15 families, or less than 10 percent of our pledging families!

We invite you to join us in this endeavor, so that the Church of God that meets in this place will stand firm for generations to come, and be for the people of Lewis Center and the surrounding community a beacon of hope in the storm of life, and a firm foundation in the shifting sands of an ever-changing world.

Please read carefully the details that follow in this brochure, and prayerfully consider what God is asking you to give to this campaign. Your gifts will go first toward paying off our existing second mortgage to strengthen our financial footing, and then to hire an architect to design a new building addition to expand our physical space, so that we will have room to welcome others into this house we are building on the Rock of Christ: a place for worship, room for fellowship with the family of God, and space for children, youth and adults to come to know and follow Jesus.

Thank you for your commitment to following God's will for the common life of this parish. It is my joy to work alongside you to accomplish his purpose for our church, and in our lives.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Ron +". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized "R" and a cross at the end.

The Rev. Ronald L. Baird  
Rector

# Upon the Rock of History

In late 2007, the congregation that would become St. Andrew's Anglican Church began the process of denominational realignment in answer to God's call to us to stand firm for the faith "once delivered to the saints." In our trust he placed the awesome responsibility of bringing to our community a renewed Anglicanism for the 21st century.

Our bold step for the Gospel has brought blessings beyond measure, but as Christians throughout the ages have discovered, our stand for Biblical truth was not

## *Build your foundation on the rock*

*"...everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock." (Matthew 7:24-26)*

without cost. In May 2008, we left the building where some in our congregation had worshipped for more than 40 years, and where many of us had celebrated marriages and baptisms, commended loved ones to God, matured as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, and ministered in his name.

As we began our search for a new home for worship, God was already working "for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:38)

In what can only be described as God's providence, a 13-acre piece of property just seven miles from our old church was about to become available. What's more, the property — which was not yet on the market — not only featured enough acreage for growth, but even had on it a fairly new, albeit small, church building!

While we were packing boxes, the congregation of Polaris Assembly of God in Lewis Center was beginning to look at new opportunities for ministry, as well. With a speed far exceeding that which is normal in the world of commercial real estate — and for most churches! — we reached an agreement with the

# *Upon the Rock of Stewardship*

Assembly of God to buy their property on South Old State Road in Orange Township, one of the fastest-growing areas in the state of Ohio.

The next step was to secure financing. Because we were starting anew with minimal cash assets, most banks would not have considered us a good loan risk. But again, God interceded for us.

Huntington Bank, which holds our first mortgage of \$1 million on a 25-year amortization, would loan us only 80 percent of the value of the property. Because we had no money for a down payment, Polaris Assembly of God graciously agreed to loan us \$350,000 on a second mortgage, enabling us to secure the bank financing. We thank God for them and their willingness to walk along side us in this endeavor.

The mortgage with Polaris Assembly is on a five-year balloon note, with interest-only payments for the first two years. As we come to the end of that two-year period, it is time to turn our attention to paying off that debt. It's the responsible thing to do, and it's the wise thing to do if we are to move forward with our long-term plans for expanding our facility, and further developing our property. With the second mortgage paid off, we will be in a much better position to secure additional financing to build in a few years time.

This campaign calls for us to raise \$410,000 over a three-year period. The funds raised will allow us to:

- Fulfill our commitment to Polaris Assembly of God by retiring the debt owed them within the agreed-upon five-year time frame.
- Hire an architect to design a building addition that will expand our worship space and provide additional classrooms and meeting space.
- Conduct a Building Fund campaign, beginning in 2013, to finance construction of a building addition, and, if possible, to exercise our option to purchase three acres adjacent to our property.

# *Upon the Rock of Christ*

God has been exceedingly faithful to us in the past two-and-a-half years. First, he led us into the dawn of a new day for Anglicanism in North America, and then he provided for us this facility, where we can worship him in spirit and in truth, and transform lives through discipleship, ministry and mission.

Now let us be faithful once again to his call; a call to wise stewardship of the gifts he has given us, and responsible use of the financial resources he's provided.

Let us build both our physical and spiritual houses upon the solid rock of Christ.

If we do that, then we will secure a future in this place for our children and their children, and for their children's children...for those in our neighborhood who do not yet believe, but whom God longs to reconcile to himself...and to the glory of the One who is himself the Master Architect — the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world — Christ our Cornerstone.

In the next few pages you will see a timeline of our plans for the monies raised in this campaign, as well as some goals for the future, which together, and with God's help, we shall accomplish.

We hope you will join us in laying the foundation for the future by considering a Building Fund gift over a three-year pledge period. You may trust that whatever you are able to give in support of this campaign will be most appreciated and appropriately used.

## *Christ himself is the Cornerstone*

*So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God. (Ephesians 2:19-22)*



## May 2008

### Purchased current building

- \$0 Down
- 6,500 square feet
- *Note: State Street property had 23,500 square feet*
- \$1.35 million

### 1st Mortgage (Huntington Bank)

- \$1 Million on a 25-year amortization with interest rate set for 5 years
- Payment = \$81,138 Annually (\$6,761.48 per month)

### 2nd Mortgage (Polaris Assembly of God Church)

- \$350,000 on a 5-year balloon note
- Interest only for first 2 years
- Interest and Principal for last 3 years

### 3-year option to buy adjacent 3 acres (Not yet exercised)

- Purchase price = \$275,000

## Spring 2010

### Initial Building Fund Drive

- Raise \$410,000 over 3-year period
  - \$379,000 to pay off principal and interest on 2nd Mortgage in 3 years
  - \$31,000 for architectural fees for the design of new building addition, plus campaign costs for a Building Fund Drive in 2013

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## Vestry Priorities

- 1) Pay off second mortgage by due date to establish 20% plus equity in property. (Necessary for collateral to borrow for building project.)
- 2) Build Phase 1 addition (6,500 square feet @ approximately \$1 million).
- 3) Buy 3-acre parcel next door.

# Timeline

## Spring 2013

### Phase 1 Building Fund Drive

- 6,500 square feet
- Approximately \$1 Million over a 5-year period to fund building addition through down payment and mortgage

## Future

- Purchase adjacent 3 acres
- Phase 2 Construction

## Table of Giving



Per Week (156 Weeks)	Per Quarter (12 quarters)	Semi-Annually (6 Payments)	Per Year (3 Years)	Total Pledge
300	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$30,000
150	1,950	\$3,900	\$7,800	\$23,400
100	1,300	\$2,600	\$5,200	\$15,600
75	975	1,950	3,900	\$11,700
50	650	1,300	2,600	\$7,800
25	325	650	1,300	3,900
10	130	260	520	1,560
5	65	130	260	780

# *Upon the Rock*

## *Q & A's*

### **What will happen to my previous pledge to the Building Fund?**

If you pledged to the Building Fund at our former location, and have been continuing your pledge here at St. Andrew's, your pledge will expire with this campaign. As of July 1, 2010 we will no longer track pledges to the old Building Fund, and all gifts received will be folded into the new Building Fund.

### **Can I set up my gift as an automatic withdrawal from my bank account?**

Yes, using the same process we use for the automatic withdrawals for General Fund pledges. Simply mark that option on your pledge card and the parish staff will send you instructions.

### **Will funds from this campaign pay our monthly mortgage?**

This campaign will retire our debt to Polaris Assembly of God, giving us the equity we need to be able to borrow additional monies to expand our facilities in the future. Our mortgage payments are built into our annual operating budget, with funds drawn from the Building Fund on a diminishing basis, with the goal being that beginning in 2013 General Fund pledges will support the entire mortgage.

### **Will all of the money I give go to the specific items listed in this brochure, or will some of it be used elsewhere?**

Every dollar you give to this campaign will be used exclusively for items as described. These are restricted funds and will not be used for any purpose other than what is designated here.

### **When does the payment period for this campaign begin?**

The pledge period for this General Fund campaign will run from July 1, 2010 through July 31, 2013.

### **What can I do to help with the campaign?**

The most important thing we all can do is pray for God's will to be done in this campaign. You can also help by discussing with others the importance of establishing this solid foundation.

**When do I turn in my pledge card?**

Now! An envelope is provided with this brochure, in which you may place the enclosed pledge card after you have filled it out. Please seal it and return it to the church by Pentecost Sunday, May 23. On that day, we will be dedicating our gifts to God at the Offertory at all four services.

**What if I have more questions?**

Please feel free to speak with Fr. Ron or any member of the Vestry if you have further questions. In addition, you may call the parish office with your questions, and someone will get back with you.

**How can I decide what I should give?**

The best way is to ask God to show you what he wants you to do for this campaign. And then trust him to make that possible! Don't measure your gift against anyone else's or against any averages. Every gift, large and small, will be greatly appreciated by us. We have learned the lesson of the widow's mite! Please God and you will have done all you need to do!

**Should I reduce my annual pledge to make a larger Building Fund pledge?**

No! We depend upon your annual giving to support the mission and ministry of the church. This pledge will be above and beyond your regular giving.

***God's firm foundation***

*Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness." (2 Timothy 2:19)*

# *My Hope is Built*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

## *Refrain*

On Christ the solid rock I stand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.  
All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness seems to hide His face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.

## *Refrain*

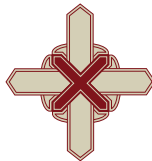
His oath, His covenant, His blood,  
Support me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my Hope and Stay.

## *Refrain*

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

## *Refrain*

*"My Hope is Built"; lyrics by Edward Mote,  
circa 1834; music: "Solid Rock", William B.  
Bradbury. CCLI #2997885*



## St. Andrew's

✦ ANGLICAN CHURCH

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