

October 28, 2020

Dear St. Peter's Church:

I have been a member of St. Peter's for 47 years. In my youth, I attended this church weekly with my parents, Chip and Cynthia, and my brother, Ryan. I participated in Sunday School, Christmas pageants, youth trips, and EYC, where I made many lifelong friends and was ministered to and cared for by countless adults. I also was an acolyte, where I began to see and appreciate church from a different perspective. Reverend Don Black officiated my father's funeral in this church, and you held us up during an incredibly difficult time.

After Stephen and I started dating, we began to worship here together. In 2002, Reverend Roger Ard officiated our marriage here, and you celebrated with us during this joyous time. I joined Altar Guild, where I continue to learn and appreciate more about our church and the meaning behind everything that happens during our beautiful services. I have learned from and become friends with many wonderful women willing to patiently teach me.

This church faithfully prayed for us and "Baby Moseley" during our pregnancy with Blair when we were unsure of his health. Later, you welcomed him into this world and then into the church at his baptism. Eight years later, you welcomed Murphy Grace and my nephew, Collier, into the church at their baptisms.

When we look at St. Peter's, we see the beautiful structure that we are lucky to worship inside. When we are inside St. Peter's, we are surrounded by more beauty. When we are in the sanctuary, we feel many different emotions. We have celebrated life and mourned death and sat in the pews with family and friends during happy and joyous times and during sad and anxious times. And, more recently, while we have not been able to be in the sanctuary together, we sit in front of a radio or computer listening and knowing that we all are still worshiping together, reading the same scriptures, saying the same prayers, and hearing the same liturgy.

Regardless of where we are in our lives, we are comforted by knowing that St. Peter's is always here.

So, why do we give? A simple answer could be because we are supposed to give. The seemingly practical answer is that we give to support St. Peter's, the clergy, and the many programs that help not only our church but also our community, and we know these

programs would not be possible without our support. The feel-good answer is that we give because we have so many memories and big emotions when we think about St. Peter's and the people of St. Peter's.

But, as we pray about this every year to determine how we should give of our time, talent, and yes, our treasure, the answer really is we give because of Jesus. As we look at that beautiful stained glass window above the altar every Sunday, we are reminded of why we are there—Jesus. Everything that we have belongs to the Lord. Without Him, we have nothing. We need Him every second of our lives—the good times, the seemingly mundane times, the anxious times, and the extremely difficult times. As we heard this past Sunday, when Jesus was asked: “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?,” Jesus said “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”
Matthew 22:36-39

So, we have everything because of Him and because we love Him, we give. And because we love our neighbors, we give. Thank you for being our neighbors and for worshiping and praying with and for us. We ask that you prayerfully think about how you can give of your time, talent, and treasure.

Best,

Kimberly & Stephen

Kimberly and Stephen Moseley