



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

In past years St. Catherine's operated fiscally in faith and fear. We budgeted to break even or lose money. Every year, you faithfully gave, and every year our needs were exceeded leaving us with a surplus.

Recognizing our responsibility to God and our responsibility to St. Catherine's requires that we be stewards of what He has provided. We are developing a three year plan to invest our surplus back into the parish. By investing, we mean to develop St. Catherine's to ensure a sustainable future where the English-speaking peoples of Stuttgart can come together and worship. Here are a few "investments" currently taking place:

- 1) Paying a full salary for a priest – a 3 year goal accomplished
- 2) Paying all Parish Center costs, which previously were subsidized via subletting
- 3) Further renovations to the Parish Center to allow for expanded ministry opportunities
- 4) Developing our Christian Education programs

So why pledge and give? I have three compelling reasons. First, pledging and then giving what was pledged reminds us that all we have comes from God. Giving of our worldly wealth helps free us from the addictions and enticements money may offer. Secondly, giving is a fundamental form of worship which demonstrates our dependence on Him. Thirdly, St. Catherine's still needs money to operate. While it is true that a surplus exists, the surplus is not being used for church maintenance. Your weekly giving is needed for this purpose.

A final thought: please don't stop with just pledging. Opportunities for all kinds of ministry abound. Be part of our development over the next three years. Don't wait for the vicar to ask. Volunteer your time and your talents for the building up of the church.

We have the potential to accomplish amazing things as a Parish! Join in! Worship God! Make friends! Build and expand God's kingdom in the English speaking community of Stuttgart! Exercise your "Stewardship"!

With Warmest Regards,

Nathan Ramquist

Treasurer of St. Catherine's Church

Pledge Form – 2010

I/We _____ pledge _____ €(Monthly/Annually) to be donated during the calendar year of 2010.

Please send me a reminder of pledged versus donated in October, 2010.

Email: _____

Address: _____

Any donations received by bank transfer or in an envelope marked with your name will receive a German tax receipt. Donations to St. Catherine's do not count as United States charitable tax deductions per IRS Pub 54.

Church bank details for transfers or regular standing orders: Friends of the English Church e.V. (F.E.C. e.V)

Account no. 402222. Sort code (BLZ) 520 604 10 Evangelische Kreditgenossenschaft (EKK)

Please return by placing in the collection plate. Alternatively you can mail by post to Nathan Ramquist, Olgastr. 145, 70180 Stuttgart or Email: treasurer@stcatherines-stuttgart.de.