



**ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH**
Unitarian Universalist

Tiffany Capital Campaign

Polly Latham

Parish Highlights

December 7, 2014

There are two things that I really dislike: public speaking and asking for money. But here I am. It is because of the importance of the project our church community is about to undertake. The capital campaign for the preservation and restoration of our Tiffany stained glass windows: rip off that ugly old sheeting on the outside, clean them (after 50 years they must need a good wash), repair any cracks, and "let the light shine through!"

This is a project that has been talked about for years, and then last year, Herb Gleason and Doug Fiero, along with Peter Zalewski and Susie Nacco, began taking a more serious look at the feasibility and costs. Herb is no longer with us, and Doug and Sharon moved to Denver. It is time for us to take up their mantle and Just Do It!! We can't afford to procrastinate any longer. Money won't just magically appear. Estimates have been done: it will cost approximately \$125,000 to fund this effort. We are looking for pledges to be paid over a two year period.

Our windows, the largest single-themed Tiffany stained glass collection in the world, is our greatest aesthetic and financial asset. For years I hadn't really seen them. I had grown up in a Unitarian Church on the village green. Clear glass windows opened to a world of green grass, trees, graveyards, and sky; nice in its own simple New England way. But our windows speak to a larger world of art, history, color, and story. Look at them.... Really look.... Notice the variation in color and shading, the myriad of shapes of each piece. Feel the texture, the depth of the glass. They are exquisite! None can compare.

Recently, on my way to work, I walked into five churches to see if our windows were all that great. Yes, they are! None can come close! Yet these great works of art are the best-kept secret in the city. Who knows that they exist? Who can see them as they walk down the street? All that is visible is a dirty old covering. It is only by replacing it with a clear protective glass that we will see just what the Tiffany craftsmen wanted the world to see: magnificent color and design! While the glass itself is in quite good shape, there are some minor cracks that require sealing; cracks travel and can become larger breaks. Then the costs become prohibitive. Let's do it now!!

Our team will pass out pledge cards, and we invite you to join in this effort. So work can be done this summer, we need to have them returned by the end of January. If you feel comfortable and can make a speedy decision, please give your card to Kim on the way out of church, or to one of us. If

not, think about it, take it home, stretch, and mail it to the church office. Don't forget, you have 2 years to pay it!

When work is complete and the windows are properly lit, we will not only be

preserving our legacy, but insuring a future income stream. We are caretakers of some very, very valuable art which should be a Beacon to the City.

Help as you can ... and Let the Light Shine Through!!

Please

* save editable pdf form to computer first, fill out, and email form to JBouchard@ASCBoston.org; or

* print it out and fax it to 617.536-7051; or

* print it out and mail it to ASC, 351 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116.

Pledge forms are also available in the church office!

Tiffany Stained Glass Windows Capital Campaign

To make a gift for the conservation of the Tiffany windows at Arlington Street Church

I/we pledge a total of \$ _____ to be paid over a period of 2 years.

Name(s) _____ Total pledge \$ _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Enclosed is my check payable to ASC Tiffany Campaign _____.

Please charge my credit card: _____ Visa _____ MasterCard

Card Number _____

Name on Card _____ Exp. _____ CCV _____

To be paid _____ all at once _____ monthly _____ quarterly _____ annually

Signature _____

Your gift is tax deductible. *Thank you for your generous support!*

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