



5555 Clayton Road  
Clayton, CA 94517



July 23, 2017

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

We need your help!

The setting for St. John's is one of the most beautiful in the Diocese - a church and accompanying buildings set back from a busy road - inviting the passing person to come into our space and find rest and comfort, a place to worship and encounter God - hopefully!

Unfortunately our church grounds have deteriorated over the last several years, to the point that a passer-by might mistake St. John's for an abandoned church that is no longer attended. Despite the best attempts of our sweepers and junior wardens - the weeds, junk, dying flower beds and broken fences have gotten away from us. Very simply, given the size of the property and the size of our active congregation - we (our volunteers) are unable to keep up the grounds of St. John's any longer.

We had expected to use the funds from the sale of the lower lot to do all of this but we've been waiting for 3+ years while the city of Clayton slowly drags it feet! Unfortunately we can wait no longer, we need to start fixing things now. So, consider this a "Capital Campaign". To those who are able, please consider making an extra donation, with the annotation "Capital Campaign", so we can start moving forward on these long delayed projects.

We would like to begin now to restore the property to its former attractive landscaping, and then continue regular maintenance. Accordingly we have obtained bids for various sections of this project as follows:

### **Restoration Project:**

1. Comprehensive General Clean-up by L & J Maintenance (the company that provides similar services for St. Michael's). This

includes cleanup from Clayton Road to the fence line at the back of the parking lot. The portion of St. John's property that is now in escrow is not included in any of these bids. Work includes:

- Remove weeds
- Remove ivy from trees
- Trim shrubs
- Weed flower boxes and prepare for replanting
- Trim and cut back oleanders to even hedge
- Spray ground after removal of weeds to retard new growth
- Disposal of all plant/grass/weeds and hauling to dump

Estimate \$5000-\$5500 (Crew of 4, 2-3 days)

2. Junk Removal by 1-800-Got Junk?

Estimated 3 truckloads to remove contents of shed, lumber around shed, plus tear-down and removal of shed

Estimate: \$2000 (one time cost)

3. New Storage Shed

Estimate: \$500-\$1000 plus assembly fee (one-time cost)

Cost is completely dependent on size and what we want to store outside.

4. Tree Trimming and potential removal

Estimate \$3000 (detailed estimate to come)

**Total estimate for Restoration Project: \$10,500 - \$11,500**

**Ongoing Maintenance:**

After the restoration work is completed a monthly maintenance fee (\$250/mo) can be covered by our existing budget. This work would include:

- Maintain courtyard and all flower and shrub (islands) beds
- Continue to spray weed retardant on unused front property
- Maintain water system including adjustments as needed
- Dispose of all weeds, plant material, trash each visit.

We are asking for your participation in raising funds for our "Restoration Project" during the next month so we can begin this process. We are anxious to move forward on this as soon as possible, so that our beautiful church and grounds will be an inviting place to those seeking God.

Our first priority is the cleanup (step 1) and the shed removal (step 2) and as the funds come into the church we will begin these projects We will keep you apprised of the funds raised and the process of restoration.

We are thankful for your commitment to St. John's and appreciate your considering your participation in this project which we believe to be critical to our growing parish!

Faithfully,

Jacquie Whitehurst for  
The Bishop's Committee of St. John's Episcopal Church

John Ferrante, Senior Warden  
Corky Francis, Junior Warden  
Jim McDougald, Treasurer  
Ann Ferrante, Clerk  
The Rev. Amanda May, Vicar

Alan Altorfer  
Sherrie Hidalgo  
Barbara Fester  
Laurel McDermott  
Cindy Molander

[St John's Website](#)

STAY CONNECTED:



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