

September 24, 2010

Dear St. Mark's Parents, Families, and Friends of St. Mark's,

What an exciting way to start the new school year with the "Groundshaking" for the fully funded St. Mark's Youth Center and Gymnasium at Robb Field! It was special to be able to celebrate and thank all the former parents, grandparents, and friends of St. Mark's who had helped raise the money through our annual fund drives and Parents' Association auctions. This project is a reality after many years of planning and of being good stewards of all funds raised. You may have already noticed that the construction fences have gone up, and the actual construction will begin shortly.

The advancement committee has chosen to kick off the 2010-2011 Annual Fund Campaign by sending a letter to each of you to request your continued support. Hopefully, you are aware that the Annual Fund is a yearly opportunity to make a tax-deductible donation of cash, check, or appreciated securities to St. Mark's Episcopal School. Contributions to the Annual Fund provide the school with essential, generally unrestricted funds that can be directed toward the greatest need. For example, over nine years ago funds raised enabled the school to purchase the land across the street and build the Robb Field Complex totally mortgage free.

Be sure to check with your employer regarding **Matching Gift** programs which could double your gift through the employer's Human Resources Office. The St. Mark's annual fund campaign runs during the school's fiscal year of July 1 through June 30. All gifts to the Annual Fund are 100% tax-deductible based on the school's 501 (c)(3) status. Gifts received by December 31st are eligible for the current tax-year benefits.

We seek and welcome your contributions to this year's Annual Fund and sincerely hope we can count on your commitment to our children and to our school. Contributions to the Annual Fund are important not only for the dollars raised but also for the level of participation achieved. A high level of participation is a show of loyalty and belief in our programs, and it sends a strong message to others who may consider investing in the St. Mark's educational experience. Every gift is a blessing that enables St. Mark's to continue to build a future for generations to come.

Sincerely,

The St. Mark's Advancement Committee

Julie Kirvin, School Advisory Board
Cheryl Martell, School Advisory Board
Trish Cushmore, School Parent
Lynne Mullins, Admission Director
Ann Fernandez, School Administrative Assistant
Kay Carnes, Head of School