



## Affordable Housing is a Priority

*Please complete an Assets Inventory Survey by February 11*

for Interfaith Affordable Housing Initiative (IAHI) of Greensboro.

The Diocese of North Carolina has made affordable housing a priority ministry. Great! Now what do we do? Fortunately, Greensboro clergy, including our rector, have already been discussing how churches can respond to our local housing crisis, and our Deacon Pam has been closely involved with the Bishop's Committee on Affordable Housing. Their preparedness has made it easy for St. Andrew's to take the small step of joining discussions with Greensboro faith communities who, over several months of listening and learning about housing problems and solutions, have formed a bond as a working group. Now called **Interfaith Affordable Housing Initiative (IAHI)**, with an active and growing membership from churches and temples all over Greensboro, the group has built mutually supportive relationships, including with local government, and identified roles for the faith community. Ready to go to work!

**ACTION ITEM:** As 2024 begins, IAHI invites Greensboro congregations of all faiths each to prepare a letter stating their willingness to participate in the work ahead. For each congregation, a necessary next step is the preparation of an **inventory of relevant interests, skills, and knowledge among its members**. No commitment is implied; the inventory serves both to introduce the possibilities for service to people of faith, and to inform leadership about where resources exist. We are asking St. Andrew's parishioners to complete a short outline of questions in an Assets Inventory survey we are making available online and in print (handouts are available at the church entrance and in the Parish Hall). *Please respond to the survey questions thoughtfully and with a prayer in your heart. Receipt of inventory forms by February 11. If submitting a paper survey, place the completed survey in the labeled collection spot in the Parish Hall, or hand it to Virginia Haskett.*

Meanwhile, IAHI will be setting up its structure. Each participating congregation will send a representative to the IAHI board, which will have a smaller executive committee. And there will be three working groups, where volunteers from all congregations can meet to share ideas and plan, pool resources, and define projects—in short, to carry out the work of ministry. The three working groups will be **Building Projects** (seek opportunities for the IAHI to lead or participate in projects building additional affordable housing in our community), **Family Support** (discover ways for congregations to support families seeking to transition into or maintain safe and affordable housing), and **Advocacy** (inform participating congregations and encourage advocacy efforts with the city, neighbors, or others to support efforts to increase available affordable housing in our community).

*If you would like to learn more about this work, contact Virginia Haskett at [vbhaskett@yahoo.com](mailto:vbhaskett@yahoo.com).*