

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVE

Fairfax Presbyterian Church plans to build ten affordable housing units on their parking lot. **You can help - here's why and how:**

When the apartment complex across Main Street from the church was converted into condominiums, 200 units of affordable housing disappeared. Here at Providence we've been challenged by Matthew 25 to actively engage in efforts to eradicate systemic poverty, and members have been asking, "What can I **do**?" Lack of affordable housing is part of systemic poverty. The systems of zoning, homeowners' associations, tax benefits, etc. that serve to maintain our property values also work against maintaining a stock of affordable housing in Fairfax County.



Fairfax Presbyterian Church (FPC) underwent a discernment process not long after the condo conversion, and one of the outcomes was **Glebe View**: ten townhomes to be built on their property. Glebe View will provide eight Northern Virginia families earning less than 80% area median income (target is actually 50% - 70%) the opportunity to become first-time homebuyers. The other two townhomes will offer homeless families the neighborhood environment and support to reach self-sufficiency.



FPC has put together an impressive team to make this dream a reality. The church will lease the land for \$1 a year to *Habitat of Washington DC & Northern Virginia*, and will provide \$400,000 cash. Habitat will act as developer and will vet and arrange financing for the eight initial homebuyers and future resale purchasers. *HomeAid* of Northern Virginia will provide some skilled labor and building materials free or at reduced cost. *Homestretch* will work with homeless families, assisting their transition to self-sufficiency, with a 90% success rate five years after graduation.

How you can help right now:

- ◆ **Cash donations.** FPC has a donor who will match up to \$200,000 in donations, if received by April 30th. If you can help them hit that target, make your donation payable to Providence and note it for "Glebe View."
- ◆ **Zoning support.** If you are a Fairfax City resident, voicing your support for this project can help speed the final zoning approval. Contact Paul Krumhaus or Anna Jullien to find out how to help.