

Living Generously...

October 24, 2016

Dear St. Andrew's Friends,

For 60 years, St. Andrew's has been a place where people have come together to build stronger relationships with God, with the community, and with each other. Over the past few weeks, we've had the chance to hear from Father Mike and clergy, who have been ordained by St. Andrew's, about what the church means to them. We've been inspired by their gratitude for the parish as they discerned their call to ministry.

We have our own stories of gratitude, and we know that you do, too. Whether it's the work of our youth to identify opportunities to care for and enhance our property, sharing fellowship at Oasis Wednesday's, providing blood pressure checks and counseling through our health ministry or providing a temporary home for homeless families, St. Andrew's is a place where we come to worship, deepen our faith, and realize the grace of God.

We all play a role in sustaining and deepening our mission and ministries. Our presence, participation, and pledges of financial support are vital to the difference we make in each other's lives and our community.

As our vestry develops the 2017 budget to support our ministries within and beyond St. Andrew's, we hope you'll prayerfully consider expressing your gratitude in a pledge of financial support. If you don't currently pledge, we ask that you consider doing so in 2017. We also encourage you to think about giving proportionally as a percentage of your anticipated income and, if you are able, to increase your pledge over last year. For example, if you are currently giving 5 percent, we ask you to consider giving 6 percent. You can find a proportional giving chart on the "Gratitude 2017" page of the "Getting Involved" section of the St. Andrew's website (standrewsgr.org).

Over the past year, your generosity through our capital campaign has continued to enable us to make needed improvements to the interior of our physical space and construction of a new, more accessible parking lot is on the horizon. Through our 2017 Gratitude Campaign, we hope to strengthen our financial foundation for our ongoing programs and operations - today and for our future.

If you have questions about how your gifts make our ministries possible or have other questions about St. Andrew's finances, please join our Treasurer, Laura Macalka, for a question and answer session following the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, November 13th. Or, feel free to contact one of us.

We look forward to you joining us and Bishop Houglund as we celebrate 60 years of St. Andrew's on November 30th at the Feast of Thanks! Thank you for all you do to support our community!

In Christ's Name,

2017 Gratitude Committee

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