

St. Mark's 2026 Stewardship Campaign



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
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October 17, 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31

When I read this piece of scripture, I'm reminded of our own St. Mark's and all that we do. I continue to see new ways where God is present in our worship, in our outreach and in the faith of our parish family. And for the most part, we are fed by what we are called to do.

In a season where many are feeling uneasy and fearful, it is good to remind ourselves that God is at work amongst us and that God gives us hope through faith.

Our stewardship theme this year is **Finding Hope in a New Season**. As we celebrate the work we have done together, we cannot be blind to seeing the opportunities and needs around us. We have finished our building renovation, we have grown our pantry and outreach ministries, and we welcomed new members to our parish family. We came out of MAP (Mission Action Parish) and were restored to a full parish status, and you called me as your Rector.

As we face a new year, 2026 is a year of pause. We will update our Strategic Plan to reflect the growing needs of the community. We will discern our future and how to best utilize our building and resources. We will explore new ways to protect and serve our neighbors.

With increasing costs, we have a target of increasing giving by 10% during this year's stewardship campaign. We are living in a world of uncertainty and 10% will allow us to cover more of our growing expenses.

I invite you to prayerfully consider the abundance of gifts that you have in your life and spend time discerning how you can share some of those gifts to keep St. Mark's in **Finding Hope in a New Season**.

I now ask that each of us reflect on our part in St. Mark's ministries, their reach, and their success. As part of our work of **Finding Hope in a New Season**, our pledge is an outward and visible sign of our commitment to sharing God's love and helps us plan for the year ahead. Please prayerfully consider what your 2026 commitment will be so we can plan and build our budget for next year. Please return the enclosed pledge card by hand, mail, email or text by Dec 1st, 2025.

Thank you for all you do for St. Mark's,

Fr. Richard Lee
Rector