



September 2018

Dear St. John's Friends,

In a letter to the people of Corinth, Paul wrote

Each of us should give what we have decided in our heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

As a faith community, we collectively believe that God leads us in the best way to live. It is our responsibility as believers to follow this guidance. So now we need to consider this:

What does God want us to do at St. John's?

This year St. John's has worked in the community in many ways: feeding the hungry through our food pantry and community breakfasts, caring for the children and teachers at Fulton Elementary through Eagle's Nest, providing educational programs for adults and children including Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Vacation Bible School, collecting gifts through the Angel Tree project, and offering meeting space for those dealing with addiction. Is this what God wants us to do next year? Are we called to do more? Are we called in new directions?

This past year, St. John's has also supported its members' growth, development, and spiritual formation. The services, music, and education on any given Sunday feed our St. John's family. Our members who cannot make it to worship with us are cared for with the work of our Lay Eucharistic Visitors and sermons and other information on our website and Facebook page. Do we have bigger dreams for ourselves? Do we have new ways we want to care for one another?

To help you with your consideration of how God is leading you, this packet includes

- Pledge card and return envelope
- A visual summary of our budgeted expenses and revenues 2018
- Proportional giving chart, an aid for analyzing your current giving and/or setting goals

On October 14th, Ingathering Sunday, we will join together and offer our pledges. We ask you to consider your pledge prior to Sunday, October 14th but bring your pledge card to complete during our 8:00 or 10:15 service. If you miss this opportunity, you can place your pledge card in the offering plate on any following Sunday or mail it in the enclosed envelope. Additional pledge cards can be obtained from an usher, the church office, or the website.

Your Vestry and Stewardship team have already pledged their financial support of God's plans for St. John's. Please join them in prayerfully considering how God is leading you.

Faithfully yours,

Pam Loose, Stewardship Chair

Webb Cook, Vestry Steward