



Dear St. John's Family,

October 21, 2024

On behalf of the "All Creatures Great and Small" Stewardship Committee, we're writing to share the good news about this year's campaign and to invite you to help with this important, joyful work.

Last week you received a letter from Amanda+, reflecting on how being a "steward" isn't just about giving a gift - it's about protecting a path, watching over a house, and helping to take care of what matters most for the wider community.

In Psalm 104, an ancient song of celebration, the author praises God as the creator and caretaker of every creature. God blesses all of us with breath, life, nourishment, and a bright and beautiful world. In fact, in Psalm 104, the word "Hallelujah!" ("Praise God!") is used for the first time as an exclamation inspired by the beauty of creation.

Hallelujah for creating, redeeming, and sustaining all God's creatures. Hallelujah for creating human beings in the divine image, called to be stewards to protect the most vulnerable, care for those in need, and speak up for the unheard.

Hallelujah for creating the gift of the church, a community called to this protecting, caring, and speaking up - not only for our benefit, but for the benefit of the whole world. Hallelujah for our generous God who invites us into this life-giving and holy work! Hallelujah for the resources for which we've been entrusted and the open hearts that make up our parish family!

Will you please join us in proclaiming "Hallelujah!" through our annual giving campaign? The Vestry, in consultation with the Finance Committee, set a goal of \$442,000 (a slight increase over last year) to balance our "All Creatures Great and Small" budget. Please join us in praising God, with all the saints, on **Sunday, November 3, at 9:00 a.m.** Bring your pledge card to place in the offertory plates or mail it to the church office, as together we continue to protect, watch over, and care for the community God has entrusted into our care.

As a Stewardship Committee, we give thanks for each of you, and the sacred call to be good stewards, so all our neighbors, great and small, might thrive!

In Joy and Hope,
Pam Loose, Leslie Morgan, Debbie Carter, & Rosemary Coverly

P.S. Please check out the Atrium for a special offering that our youngest members have created!

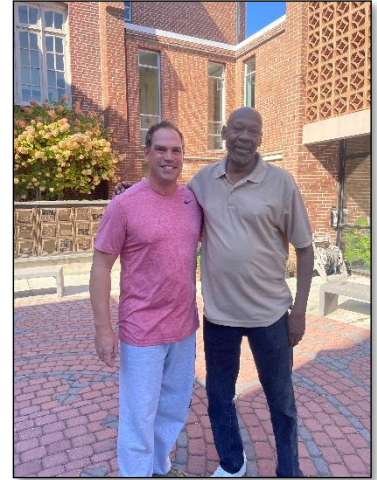


O God, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures. + Psalm 104:24



At St. John's there is a lot to praise God for, including:

The All Purpose Room: "We love the space off your courtyard - filled with light and warmth! One of the steps in the 12-step recovery program is 'being open to a higher power' - people gain power over their lives by coming to an AA meeting and you all provide us with that space." - John



Friendship and Dancing: "The friendship and trust of our ongoing relationship means a lot to me! It is an honor to use your beautiful auditorium!" - Valerie Henry, Dance Mosaic

The Food Pantry: "My sister just passed away unexpectedly, and everyone is coming to my house after her funeral. I didn't have enough food, until I came to St. John's. Now we can have dinner together."- A neighbor



I praise God for...



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