



October 20, 2024

Dear Friends,

Our 2025 Stewardship Campaign is underway, and Sunday, November 10 is our designated "Pledge Sunday." This campaign is particularly significant, since we are in the midst of searching for a new Rector. As the search process continues, we expect that some attractive priest candidates will appear. We want our 2025 operating budget to be able to allow us to offer and sustain a competitive salary and benefits package. The Vestry and our treasurer, Keith Salmon, will develop the operating budget, based on your completed pledge cards. While we all resist "commitment," the 2025 pledge to donate to St. John's operating budget is essential for us to construct a responsible and realistic budget.

As Christians, we believe that not only are we a gift from God, but that all we possess are gifts from God. We all possess time (in varying amounts), talent (of varying types), and treasure (our income and assets). At this time of the year we are asked to reflect and project how we can return these gifts to preserve, protect, and sustain the life of St. John's Episcopal Church of Melbourne.

How much should I pledge? Early budget estimates suggest that an average annual pledge in the neighborhood of \$3500 to \$4000 (\$70 to \$80 weekly) would sustain our budget. Some are in a position to pledge significantly more than that and do. Some are not able and do the best they can (even a little bit is encouraged). Everyone's contribution is equally important.

Included with this letter is your official 2025 pledge card. You can place the completed card in the enclosed envelope and place the envelope in the offering plate at church. You can also mail the completed card to St. John's on or before Sunday, November 10, 2025. You can also submit your completed pledge card online by going to St. John's website: stjohnsmlb.org

The Stewardship Committee's purpose is to promote the long-term health and vitality of St. John's, and your financial contributions are an integral part of building that legacy.

Thank you for your prayerful and generous support.

The Stewardship Team
Katie Codlin-Wilson, Jack Kenworthy