

FOR WHERE YOUR **TREASURE** IS,



THERE YOUR **HEART** WILL BE ALSO.





THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO....

I don't know about you, but sometimes the swirl of activities and obligations and the sheer pace of life leaves me a little bewildered. Or even a lot bewildered! I can think of times when life perpetually felt like being on I-95 North with a thousand other cars and you're all grouped closely together going 75+ miles an hour! It's crazy, but you better keep going – much faster than you'd like – or else you'll get run down or trapped behind a Winnebago in the slow lane. Pedal to the metal, don't let up, keep moving!

And I can think of times over the years when some occasion of great joy or even great sadness interrupted this relentless motion. A blessed moment allowed me to pull to the side and find myself no longer racing, but still for once, at a beautiful scenic overlook. A chance to stop and breathe, and remember what is important and what isn't; what do I value most, what do I treasure, and how can I align my life to what matters most? And always in those moments of pure grace, for me it begins with, 'thank you God for the gift of this life.'

Jesus' observation that 'for where your treasure

is, there your heart will be also' is an invitation to pull aside, out of the fever of life too many of us are caught in, stop and breathe, and see what your own heart tells you matters most. Which is really what this season of Stewardship can be: a place in each of our lives and in our lives together as the Beloved Community of Jesus at St. Mary's, to say what matters most and to align our lives to that.

What I want to align myself to – as best I can – is a life that says 'thank you' to God in word and deed. One of the most powerful ways I know of – to show where my heart is – is to say my prayers, ask God's guidance, and fill out my pledge card for the upcoming year. Every time I write my check to fulfill that pledge, I take time to stop and breathe and say, 'thank you, God, thank you'.

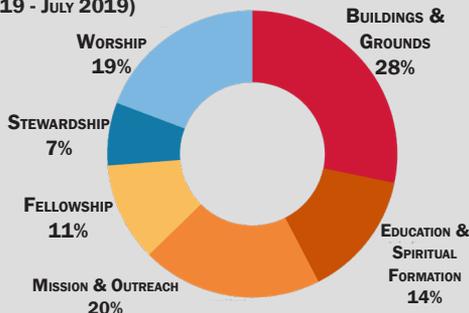
I hope you will join with your sisters and brothers here at St. Mary's in this most gracious time to say your prayers and see what your own heart tells you matters most, and together lift our lives up for God's work in this world, with thanksgiving.

Your brother in Christ,

\$1.1 MILLION

In 2019, the people of St. Mary's pledged \$1,067,000 for the mission and ministry of Christ. In 2020, let's look forward with hope to reach \$1.1 million for Christ and his Kingdom.

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN (JANUARY 2019 - JULY 2019)





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2019 YEARLY GIVING BY AMOUNTS



A NOTE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

St. Mary’s has accomplished much over the past year. We appreciate all that each one of you contributes with your involvement in our ministries. It is an exciting time to be a part of such a communal spiritual journey. Even though stewardship has grown, and participation is increasing, our giving levels are not keeping up with the rising costs that all organizations face. We hope that you will keep St. Mary’s in your prayers as we prepare for the future and invest in and protect the sacred grounds we share. Whether you have been at St. Mary’s for 50 years or 5 months, the stewardship campaign is the period for us to learn the needs associated with the budget for the upcoming year. Little St. Mary’s reminds us of the history that has led us to the expanded campus that we love and treasure today. Think of those who worshiped before you and committed their resources to making this happen. The theme reflects our commitment and engagement for our whole-selves to Christ. Matthew 6:21 says, “for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Thank you for the blessings that you continue to bestow upon this church and your congregation.

Karen Huenekeus *Dee H. Huenekeus*



F.A.Q.

WHAT IS A PLEDGE TO ST. MARY'S?

- ...the expression of a prayerful decision about what portion of our monetary means we will offer to God for this upcoming year (2020);
- ...a monetary offering which provides the means for the life and ministry of our church;
- ...a tangible means for each of us to offer thanksgiving to God for all of God's goodness and love and blessings in this life.

WAYS TO PLEDGE

BRING... your pledge card to church during the week or place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning by Sunday, November 17.

WRITE... return a pledge card by mail to 12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238.

CLICK... www.stmarysgoochland.org/pledge

EMAIL... chayslett@stmarysgoochland.org

CALL... (804) 784-5678 to speak with Carl Hayslett.



A PRAYER FOR CONSIDERING YOUR PLEDGE...

Gracious and Loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving; this pledge represents my life, my work, and my dreams. It is offered in thanksgiving for all that I have received, for all I have been inspired to be, for all I am challenged to become. May it be the first fruits of all I have and not what

is left over, so that I may live out as closely as possible how you give to me. May I see my gifts as sacred, holy, and filled with possibility. Guide my steps so I am a living offering to you and serve you with gladness each day. Amen.

THE RT. REV. GREG RICKEL, BISHOP OF OLYMPIA (ADOPTED)

