

September 2026

Dear Friends and Family of St. Andrew's,

On September 28<sup>th</sup>, we will begin our annual Canvass Pledge Drive to gather Pledges to fulfill our Operating expenses and obligations in the coming year. Through your hard work during the Canvass of last year in yielding \$458,994 over 116 pledges, along with the prudent fiscal stewardship of our Vestry, Finance Committee and Staff, we are on track to finishing 2026 with a modest surplus, which hasn't happened in many years. Our goal for 2027 is to continue this trend of meeting our ministry expenses while mitigating steep increases that are forecasted in the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and healthcare coverage by raising a relatively modest \$40,000 above the 2026 yield, an 8.7% increase for all current pledges.

In reaching our goal for 2026, we were able put away a multi-year structural deficit by rightly aligning our giving with the cost of ministry in this place, freeing us to be open to God's call in our neighborhood. This spring and summer alone have seen the fruits of pure Outreach and Evangelism in our unflinchingly hosting the indigenous Xukulem Ceremonia in preparation for the Prayer Walk in May. We also organized and hosted several speakers and events as part of our Summer of Palestinian Visibility 2.0, which has introduced us to several new parish partners who wish to plan programming with us for further outreach. Most recently we partnered to make tamale's and raise money for the family of a man abducted by ICE providing near instant support in the face of raw oppression. And these are just a small fraction of the examples of the good work being done which also include advances in our youth ministry, creation care, accessibility, and direct care through feeding and emergency aid to the most vulnerable of our neighbors.

St. Andrew's has proven that by trusting God's guidance and living into the Holy Spirit, miracles do happen. We've also proven that through financial wellness, the parish is free to creatively engage what God would have us to do without distraction or desperation. Like Public Radio, your pledge makes it all possible.

If you currently Pledge, please consider increasing for 2027 what you pledged in 2026 by a minimum of 8.7% (rounding up to an even 10% also works well and helps all the more). If you do not currently Pledge, please consider doing so. The Good that the parish does in Building the Kingdom of God is a "many hands effort". It is our collective effort in stretching into God's call that makes all things possible at St. Andrew's. If you believe in God's grace and goodness and if you believe St. Andrew's is a place that reflects God's love, then prayerful Pledging is right for you.

Thank you for receiving this packet. Please know, members of the Vestry and the Canvass Team are always available for questions and comments. We look forward to receiving your 2027 Pledge Card in time to have it blessed on All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> as we reach our goal of \$498,994 Pledged in 2027!

In Christ,

Will Lewis  
Canvass Team Co-Chair

Charles Stahl  
Canvass Team Co-Chair