SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Transforming lives through Christ

November 11, 2025

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Welcome to Stewardship 2026 at St. Michael's! The theme for our Stewardship Campaign this year is "Pathways of Gratitude and Generosity." It springs out of scriptures like Psalm 136:1 "Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good." Hopefully you have heard all about "Spiritual Pathways: Practices for Embracing the Journey at St. Michael's." It was launched earlier this fall. The six pathways have practices that help us to grow in our faith. That's how faith deepens and grows: through practice.

Generosity is also a practice. Generous stewardship of our time, talent and treasure springs out of gratitude. Gratitude isn't just a feeling; it's a practice that shapes and forms us. As we practice generosity at St. Michael's, our pledges keep worship vibrant, equip adults and children for faith, strengthen and fuel pastoral care, nurture small groups, feed neighbors, deepen connections with God and others and strengthen community partnerships.

The spirit in our church is excellent. We have weathered the recent hurricanes and come back strong. Our openness, hospitality and community engagement efforts have resulted in our being better known on our islands. As a result, we are seeing new faces, and seeing people deepen their engagement. We continue to expand our offerings so that every individual finds an entry point to experience the welcoming spirit of St. Michael's and the love of God in Jesus.

In order to keep going strong, we need your support. As our programs grow, so do our costs. Our expenses, especially health and property insurance, keep rising. Your financial support ensures that St. Michael's remains a beacon of hope, and that it continues to thrive.

Included in this letter is a pledge card that we ask you to prayerfully consider and then return via mail, drop in the collection basket during a church service or pledge online at <u>saintmichaels-sanibel.org/donate</u> by **December 20**. Your pledge is a crucial part of our budgeting process as we look at our income and expenses for the coming year.

We have much to be grateful for this year at St. Michael's due to the generous support of your time, talent and treasure. We thank you in advance for continuing that support in 2026.

With heartfelt thanks for all you already do and give,

St. Michael & All Angels Stewardship Team

Questions? Email parishsecretary@saintmichaels-sanibel.org or call (239) 472-2173.

Bill Van Oss+

Rector

Sue Sterrett

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Susie Wilson

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