

And Mary said,
*"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..."*
— Luke 1:46-47



Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

As we look ahead to the start of the Stewardship campaign for 2026, we feel awed and grateful for the energy and generosity we see in our beloved church community. From the response to the school supply drive, to the growing attendance at church services and music events, to the palpable excitement at the Ministry Fair last week, we see the enthusiasm for worshipping together in church and doing God's work both in our church community and in the outside world. While many churches face declining attendance and fading energy, St. Paul's stands out as a vibrant and growing community.

Our Stewardship campaign this year calls us to share in many ways and, true to our theme, to "tell out," like Mary, the stories that feed our souls. We are each asked to be part of the Body of Christ, an active, living community that prays, worships and sings together in thanksgiving. As members of this body we are invited to "tell out our soul" in many ways, sharing God's love through giving of our time, our talents and our treasure.

We give of our time and our talents when we volunteer within the church and when we support just causes and institutions that lift up the poor, the oppressed and the marginalized in our wider community. We also give through our financial support, which allows St Paul's to employ our wonderful staff, care for our beautiful buildings and campus, and sustain the robust program of worship and activities that nourish us all.

If you are a pledging member of St. Paul's this year, thank you! Your commitment makes possible all that we are able to achieve. As you prayerfully consider your pledge for 2026, we invite you to reflect on Fr. Daniel's message and his challenge to us all to increase the percentage of our income we give by 1 percent or more in gratitude for God's blessings. If you are a non-pledging regular contributor to St. Paul's, we encourage you to commit to an annual pledge that the church can rely on, knowing of course that you can adjust it at any time. If you give to St. Paul's periodically, but do not pledge, please remember that pledged gifts enable us to provide the regular services and programs that enrich our lives as Christians, from worship and music to outreach and fellowship.

Soon you will receive a letter from the Stewardship Committee with more information about pledging, along with your pledge card. We ask that you spend some time praying and discerning how you can share from your abundant gifts. In doing so, you will help us to "tell out" the story of St. Paul's - a story of faith, hope, and love shared with the world.

"Tell out my soul! The Greatness of the Lord!"

In God's love,
Ginny Balser and Gail Bindley-Taylor
Co-Wardens