

October 21, 2026

Dear St. Michael's Members & Friends

Every message about our pledge campaign begins with **gratitude**, and I am deeply grateful for all the ways this community has met the challenges of this past year. Through those challenges, we have continued to find common ground and to share a community grounded in love, joy, compassion, and service to our neighbors. Thank you for all that you have contributed to making St. Michael's the community it is today.

Our stewardship theme this year is *Faith in Giving*. Those words speak to me in two ways.

First, *Faith in Giving* means having faith and confidence that our gifts will be well used and will support something that is vitally important to us. Our pledges and donations sustain the many ministries of St. Michael's—our worship, pastoral care, outreach, formation, music, and our work in the wider community. In supporting these ministries, we are helping sustain a community where people can find welcome, companionship, spiritual nourishment, and opportunities to serve others.

Cindy and I have resonated deeply with this community since we came to St. Michael's four years ago. We still think of ourselves as “newcomers,” but St. Michael's has truly become our spiritual home. We have found here a community at St. Michael's we can share our spiritual journey with.

The second—and much deeper—meaning of *Faith in Giving* is that **giving is itself an expression of our faith**. Giving is Christian. It is part of the life Jesus calls us to live. Jesus teaches us to be generous servants to our neighbors and to our community.

Stewardship, therefore, is more than a financial goal or a building project. It is an opportunity to reflect on the blessings we have received and to consider how we might share those blessings with others. Our giving becomes an act of gratitude, an expression of love, and a tangible way of participating in God's work in the world.

As you receive your pledge materials this year and learn more about *Faith in Giving*, I hope you will reflect on what St. Michael's means to you and on the many ways this community touches the lives of others. Your guidance, participation, and financial support are deeply appreciated by me and by this entire community.

Thank you for sharing your gifts with us, for being part of the life of St. Michael's, and for being part of ministry.

With gratitude and faith,

Greg Dewey, Senior Warden