

Fall 2024



Dear parish family,

Looking back, I marvel at how this parish family has grown into a multigenerational church, with diversity and meaningful worship services. We have a future that looks brighter than ever!

The stewardship committee would like to say a big “thank you” for your outstanding support of our 2024 Stewardship campaign. With your support, we were able to fund our very lean budget and more with \$860,000 of pledges and special gifts, which is a 9% increase over our 2023 campaign results. In addition, we had 38 new pledging households, which is terrific!

With your time and financial help, we have:

- Continued family ministry growth, launched 24 Children’s Choir, and started a mom’s group
- Initiated a Stephen Ministry program as part of our Elderhood and caregiving work
- Continued our successful intergenerational efforts including Midweek Meals, Trunk or Treat, Advent Lessons & Carols, Advent Angels, Party Gras, Christmas Pageant, St. Nicholas Talent Show, Holy Week and Easter worship and Egg Hunt to mention a few
- Addressed the needs of our community and abroad through our outreach programs including The Gift of Sight Mission, Food Drives, Angel Tree and The Market
- Installed a brand-new church HVAC system, enhancing our worship and concert space
- Retained our talented and collaborative staff working toward the mission of the church; we truly have “rockstars” on our team!

None of this would be possible without your generosity as parishioners, giving time, effort and financial support. Together, we have built this church into what it is today. *Thank you!*

We hope you will offer your financial support in 2025. “**Pledging**” is a giving estimate of how much you intend to give during the year that provides church leadership with a firm idea of what we can fund. If you pledged last year, please pledge again this year. If you have never pledged, please consider doing so for 2025. Special gifts are always welcome and much appreciated! May God bless you in whatever you choose to do.

As we look forward to 2025, our theme is “**Walk in Love,**” quoting the Ephesians 5:2 passage said at the Offertory, “Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself an offering and sacrifice to God.” The stewardship team asks you to Walk in Love, with your time and dollars into strategy and ministry in 2025.

This year, we are in a season of **discernment** about our future in the Strategic Plan, we are **deepening** our relationships across generations, and keeping our **devotion** to God and the traditions that ground us in faith. We don’t know yet which path we’ll take together, but we know *how* we’ll get there: walking in love, as Christ loved us (Eph 5:2). Will you join us in this walk?

Many thanks,

Randy Stelt, *Stewardship Chair*

Stewardship Committee: Shanti Stone, Doug Eberle, Debbie Giordan, Ken Cote, Susan Roberts, Suzanne Thomas, Peter Kastner