Dear **Annunciation Family**,

As we enter this season of stewardship, we are invited to reflect on our life in Christ and what it means to continue growing as disciples and living in God's love.

> *"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." — 1 Peter 4:10*

In his first letter, Peter reminds us that each of us has received gifts through God's abundant grace and is called to share those gifts in service to one another. His words in 1 Peter 4:10 speak directly to the heart of stewardship: we are entrusted with God's gifts, not simply for ourselves, but to be shared with others. This is both a privilege and a responsibility of our life in Christ.

As Episcopalians, we understand discipleship as a lifelong journey. It is not a destination, but an ever-changing and deepening response to God's call. Through the seasons of our lives, our faith is continually shaped by worship, prayer, scripture, the sacraments, and our relationships with one another. The promises of our Baptismal Covenant remind us that we are called to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, persevere in prayer, proclaim the Good News, and seek and serve Christ in all persons.

Each time we gather at the Lord's Table, we are nourished by God's grace and sent forth to love and serve in the world. As we grow in faith, we discover new ways to live out these promises and share the gifts God has entrusted to us.

Stewardship is one expression of this journey. It is more than an annual pledge or financial obligation; it is the prayerful offering of our whole selves in response to God's generosity. We offer our time through worship, prayer, fellowship, and presence. We share our talents through the gifts and abilities God has entrusted to us. We offer our treasure to sustain the worship, ministries, outreach, and mission of our parish.

As members of Christ's Body, we each have a part in the life and ministry of the Church. Our gifts and circumstances may differ, and our expressions of discipleship may change over time, but we share in the same calling: to love God, love our neighbors, and serve one another in Christ's name.

We are grateful for the progress we have made toward a balanced budget. Yet rising costs and the need to fully support our staff and ministries mean that increased giving is essential to sustain our worship, discipleship, and outreach. As you prayerfully consider your pledge for 2027, we invite you to take another step on your journey of generosity, at whatever level is right for you.

Please bring your personalized pledge card to church on Nov 22, 2026 – for the blessing of the pledges - or use the QR code to pledge online.

With gratitude and blessings,

Merriam Wyne (Chair), Mike Scharff (Vestry Liaison), Cindy Simpson-Scharff, John Bartkus

Thank you for your pledge this year and for the generosity that sustains our shared ministry. If you are able, we invite you to consider increasing your pledge for 2027, helping us build on our progress toward a balanced budget.