

## St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705

Tel: 301-937-7292; Fax: 301-937-0116; Email: [office@saintjohnsbeltsville.org](mailto:office@saintjohnsbeltsville.org)

Website: [www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org](http://www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org)

*The Rev. Joseph M. Constant, Rector*

Grace and Peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

As we begin our 2025 Annual Pledge Campaign, we are grateful for your generous support of our beloved parish, St. John's. Without a doubt, our church continues to provide meaningful worship embodying sermons and music, empowering Christian Formation for all ages, and engaging community and international outreach beyond our church walls. St. John's has accomplished this because of the faithful sharing of time, talent, and treasure of parishioners like you.

This year's annual giving theme, *Courageous Discipleship*, focuses on the powerful relationship between being a follower of Jesus Christ, a disciple, and being a good steward. Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde writes, "The goal of discipleship is to become more like Jesus – loving as he loves, forgiving as he forgives, being merciful as he is merciful – and to join him in caring for others and healing our world." Being a disciple requires us to be both grateful and to share generously all that we have. As disciples, we are encouraged to approach financial decisions knowing that we are humble stewards of God's possessions, not the outright owner. We are called to dedicate a portion of our financial resources to build and sustain the kingdom of God.

During the coming year at St. John's, we seek to deepen and sustain the kingdom of God as we engage our neighbors in the Beltsville and Greenbelt communities through expanded efforts of our Outreach Ministry. Your continued financial support will be crucial in our ability to accomplish our goals. We know that it is not enough to simply believe, but that we must act on that faith to serve our neighbors. You consistently accomplish this act of faith in so many ways.

Included with this mailing is a pledge card for 2025. We ask for your continued financial support so that St. John's can continue to join Jesus in caring for others and healing our world. On Sunday, December 1st, 2024, at the 10:00 a.m. service, we will present our pledge offering to the altar in thanksgiving for God's blessings in our lives. Your pledge helps us live into our mission "To share God's love with everyone to bring hope and change lives."

If you have any questions or would like to further discuss making a financial pledge to St. John's, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us by email: [jconstant@saintjohnsbeltsville.org](mailto:jconstant@saintjohnsbeltsville.org) or [elsiek@aol.com](mailto:elsiek@aol.com).

Faithfully,



The Rev. Joseph M. Constant, Rector

Elsie Kirton and Suzanne Hurge-Moore, Co-Chairs, Stewardship Committee