

FOUNDED ON FAITH. STRENGTHENED BY STEWARDSHIP.

The rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon the rock. - Matthew 7:25



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we look to the year ahead, I humbly ask you to reflect on what Stewardship means and what we envision for the future of our St. George community. The two are linked, because we can only reach our potential – whether in service, growth, expansion or beyond – if we have an engaged and generous community.

A steward is one entrusted with the care and nurturing of something precious. For each of us, this includes our time, talents and treasure gifted to us by God. The parable of the talents reminds us that those who trust and use their gifts to grow His kingdom are declared good and faithful stewards welcomed into the joy of their Master – not those who hide and hoard their wealth. When we give generously, we open our hearts to receive even greater blessings and deepen our connection with God.

Since transitioning from the \$600 dues system to a pledge-based system, our annual giving has increased from under \$200,000 per year to nearly \$300,000 where will finish this year. Glory to God! However, there is still much work to be done.

Our goal is to double our pledged giving to over \$600,000 in the next three years. We will do this in two ways: The first is to increase our base of pledging families to over 300, and the second is to raise the average family gift to \$2,000 per year. Bringing us to a pledged income of \$600,000 will allow us to fully fund our operating expenses in this era of rapidly rising prices. That means our community events – the Festival, International Coffee Hours, New Years Eve party, Hafllis, Tricky Trays, etc. – will no longer be needed to simply make ends meet but will support critical projects and the growth and expansion of our ministry.

Please prayerfully consider what a sacrifice is to you. If you give but don't pledge, please register a pledge with the office. If you have been giving the same amount for years, please consider increasing it. If you are stretching already but can do more, please do more.

This is our home and we want it to thrive for future generations.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me.

Mike Kaufman
Parish Council Chairman

