

*"They shall be like trees planted by water,*



*...sending out its roots by the stream..." ~Jeremiah 17:8*

Dear St. Anne's,

October 15, 2023

I wonder... Where are you experiencing God's abundance in your life?

*Rooted in Abundance*, the theme for our 2024 Stewardship Campaign, comes from the prophet Jeremiah (Jeremiah 17:8). This scripture reminds us that God plants us—individually and as a faith community—like trees by the Spirit's living waters that nourish our souls. God's abundance of love, grace, and generosity are always right at our fingertips—root tips—inviting us to dig deeper into God's presence and to reach out our branches to our neighbors.

Here at St. Anne's we are incredibly blessed by God's abundance flowing through *your* generosity! Over the past year, we have expanded our Food Pantry to better serve our community, we have enhanced our staff by welcoming Sheri Schaffer as our new parish administrator, and we have consecrated and celebrated our new sanctuary furniture. God's abundance is palpable in the ministry we bring to our neighbors, the impact we have on our community, the ways in which, week after week, we come together to celebrate our faith and be transformed by the Spirit.

Our stewardship season launches on Sunday October 15. We ask that you prayerfully consider pledging a portion of your income to support the mission and ministries at St. Anne's. With your generosity in making a financial promise to St. Anne's for 2024, we will be able to dig our roots deeper in caring for our neighbors and helping our community, in expanding our music ministry and hiring a Music Director, in flourishing fellowship and formation opportunities, and in being stewards of our building, grounds, and Memorial Garden woods.

If you are new to pledging, know that most members of our parish make an annual financial pledge. Some contribute a traditional tithe, committing ten percent of their income to St. Anne's. Others give proportionally by pledging a certain percentage. Still others give as they are able. What is most important is that everyone gives prayerfully and faithfully in gratitude for God's abundance.

As you make your pledge, we invite you to visit the *Rooted in Abundance* display at church to write on an acorn where you are experiencing God's abundance— in your life, at St. Anne's, or in the world around us. God's abundance, like acorns, become seeds for new life and food for creation. Your financial commitment plants seeds of new life at St. Anne's, and feeds our ministries that embody Jesus's mission of spreading God's love, mercy, and justice.

In abundant gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "The Reverend Jessica Holthus".

The Reverend Jessica Holthus  
Rector