Vestry Members

Teri Pollitt	*Andrew Hoybach*
Bruce Auld	*Martha Irmer*
Karl Belgum	*Marisa Jennings*
Gretchen Busterud	*Dan Little*
Lance Dalzell-Piper	*Mike Peters*
Jan Gullett	*Donald Sung*

Stewardship 2017
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

September 6, 2016

Dear Members of St. Stephen's,

This is a year of new beginnings for St. Stephen's as we welcome Father Phil Ellsworth as our new rector. We now face the challenge of funding this next chapter of great promise in St. Stephen's parish life.

Pledges to the Church fell last year by 9% to $530,000. To make the needed investments in children and adult education, family ministries and pastoral care, will require 2017 annual pledges of $585,000, which was our pledge level in 2015.

A frequently asked question is **"How much is an appropriate amount to pledge to my church?"** We offer two perspectives to help with this very personal decision:

- We are enclosing a table which shows the giving levels of our parish members this past year by ranges of giving.
- We encourage our members to contribute as a way of giving thanks for the many blessings in our lives and for the role that our parish church and faith community play in the lives of our families.

Our goal is to increase the overall level of giving to at least $585,000. Thus, **we are asking you to consider increasing the amount of your pledge to a higher range than what you pledged last year.**

We are also enclosing a brochure which illustrates how St. Stephen's uses its revenue for the support of the Church and its various programs. Our Vestry welcomes your input on how to improve St. Stephen's in the year ahead of us.

We need your help to plan St. Stephen's future by submitting your pledge by September 30th. Please know that whatever amount you pledge is sincerely appreciated. By simply making a pledge of any amount, you cast your heart and thoughtful support for St. Stephen's and the church community you want it to be.

With gratitude,

Joe   *Bob*

Joe Jennings and Bob McCaskill
Stewardship Co-Chairs