One of the twentieth century’s greatest theologians, Karl Barth, had a knack for rendering profound theological truth from uncomplicated phrases like the one above. Barth recognized a powerful connection between joy and gratitude – a connection that is tangible in our lives when we practice generosity.

There is much to be grateful for at St. Paul’s. We are a growing parish, and our ministries are thriving in this season of spiritual vitality. When people visit, the word “joy” is used to describe this place. I agree with them, which brings us back to Mr. Barth.

Joy is woven into our common life at St. Paul’s because we experience gratitude and put that gratitude into action. The theme of this year’s annual campaign captures this dynamic perfectly: Giving Hands, Grateful Hearts. It reminds us that we are grateful for the profound works of ministry that the hands of this parish do every day as they join God’s renewal of all things (Mt 19:28).

We have so much good work still to do at St. Paul’s, work that is not possible without your support. I hope that the stories of generosity in this brochure inspire you to contribute as a pledging member of this parish. What would 100% participation mean to the world we endeavor to heal? What lives would be made better?

May we all find a place to reach out our hands in grateful service. We are joyful as we give thanks and in giving thanks, we find real joy.

With Much Gratitude,

The Rev. D. Dixon Kinser, Rector

“Joy is the simplest form of gratitude.”
- Karl Barth
The Hands that Grow

Children and youth are not the future of the church. They are the church. At Vacation Bible School, an army of volunteers, staff, and clergy strive to teach our youngest parishioners what God’s love means for them. The children, in turn, grow the church through their faith and curiosity. Your pledge is what supports this vital spirit of love at St. Paul’s.
The Hands that Bless

From the anticipations of Advent to the fiery spirit of Pentecost, the church year moves through a blessed rhythm that is always made new. It is made new by the many ministries that work to plan, prepare, and participate in worship at St. Paul’s. Everything from buying liturgical supplies to keeping the lights on requires the support of pledging members. Printing leaflets, writing sermons, planning liturgy, choir practice, and so much more happens only because of your generosity.

Worship ministries spend countless hours in preparation for every service at St. Paul’s.
In the middle of the fall formation year, people at St. Paul’s pause to serve others. During this pause, parishioners help package 10,000 meals for those who most need it. This is just one of the many ways we look outward and work to build the kingdom of God in our midst. From Laundry Love to Kid’s Café, we are able to serve others only through the gifts of this parish.
For over five decades, Pat and Hal Brown have given generously both of their time and as pledging members of St. Paul's. Through times of tremendous joy and tremendous tragedy, this church has been their cornerstone. When asked why they are so generous to St. Paul's, Hal simply said, “What we do now, is out of gratitude. In my life God is first.”
Frequently Asked Questions

Each fall, St. Paul’s asks every parishioner to make a financial commitment to support the ongoing ministries of the church during the coming year. If you are new to the church or about to make your first-ever pledge, we hope these questions and answers will be helpful.

WHAT IS A PLEDGE? Your pledge is your heartfelt, documented financial commitment to support St. Paul’s ministries and programs in the year ahead.

WHY NOT SIMPLY GIVE AS I CAN THROUGH THE OFFERING COLLECTION PLATE? Campaign pledges provide the Vestry with an estimate of expected income essential to the preparation of the church’s annual budget. St. Paul’s simply cannot operate and thrive without a reasonable estimate of its financial resources. Your pledge reinforces the importance of God and St. Paul’s in your life.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I PLEDGE? Your pledge is a personal decision between God, you and your family. It should be grounded in your faith, love and commitment to God’s work through St. Paul’s. It requires reflection, prayer and priority.

IS MY PLEDGE CONFIDENTIAL? Yes. Pledges are kept confidential.

HOW CAN I PAY MY PLEDGE? There are several convenient ways to honor your pledge, including monthly credit card payments, monthly bank draft payments, personal checks using pledge envelopes or payments of appreciated stocks and IRA payments.

DO YOU ACCEPT PRE-PAYMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR’S PLEDGE? Yes. We are glad to accept pre-payments. Please let us know on your pledge card that you plan to pay your 2019 pledge in advance.

WHAT IF I NEED TO UPDATE AND CHANGE MY PLEDGE AMOUNT? We understand that life’s circumstances do change, often unexpectedly. Contact the church to have your pledge amount adjusted at any time during the year.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? Contact Margaret Turner, Director of Stewardship, at (336) 723-4391, ext. 1210, or mturner@stpauls-ws.org.
Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

1 Peter 4:10