

# ANNUAL PARISH REPORT

2025 | SAINT-JOHN.ORG





# MESSAGE FROM THE Rector

Dear St. John's,

Looking back on 2025 at St. John's, I cannot help but see it as a year of building. Not hurried or anxious building, but the steady, faithful work God does when a community is being shaped for the long haul.

This was the year we named what God has been growing here in our shared vision and mission: Deep Roots. True Belonging. Abundant Grace. Those words gave voice to a parish already alive with grace and belonging.

We saw that life in our worship and in the expanding world of adult formation, where people gathered to learn, ask hard questions, and grow in faith together. We saw it on summer Sundays in Alfrend, when we were reminded that church is not finally a building, but a people gathered by God.

And yet this was also a year of tangible, hands-on building. We cleaned, repaired, and renewed our spaces, most visibly through the mold remediation and deep cleaning of the sanctuary, but also through long-deferred maintenance and needed updates across the campus. Walking back into that restored sanctuary felt like a quiet resurrection. The Foundation's new policies now help us care for this place with greater stability in the years ahead.

We also built a new way of practicing stewardship through Consecration Sunday, grounding our giving not in pressure or anxiety, but in worship, transparency, and shared mission and joy.

We are still learning how to build wisely together, but God has been faithful. God keeps giving us one another. And God is building something here that feels full of life and hope for the new year and all the years to come.

Grace and peace,

*Lonnie Lacy* +  
Fr. Lonnie







# LEADERSHIP REPORTS





# LEADERSHIP REPORTS

## ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S REPORT

*The Rev. Leslie Roraback*

When I think back on 2025, it is easy to be overwhelmed with the goodness God has guided us to. This year in Pastoral Care we have grown. The sisters of the Daughters of the King has grown and are much more active in prayer, service, and evangelism.

The Stephen Ministry has also grown in number and heart. We had a small group complete their training in Community of Hope International which equips lay people to serve in all forms of pastoral care. They are "present" in a listening, compassionate, non-controlling manner to an individuals or groups for the purpose of consciously or unconsciously representing God to them and seeking to respond to their spiritual needs.

From growing our external community, we are excited to welcome our Seminarian, Melanie Salsgiver, to the team! Melanie has strengthened our ranks and has been able to provide leadership for our small-group of caregivers for aging parents.

Our need in Pastoral Care is one area where we have been able to focus this year. God continues to go with us in Pastoral Care, Parish Life, and Outreach.

*Commissioned  
in 2025:*

*8 COHI-trained Lay Ministers  
8 Daughters of the King  
7 Stephen Ministers*





# LEADERSHIP REPORTS

## DEACONS' REPORT

*The Rev. Deacons Joe Bakker,  
Linda Liebert-Hall, & Mike Hall*

2025 saw a continued outpouring of love from St. John's parish for those in our community struggling to make ends meet. When SNAP benefits ended in the fall, St. John's issued a call to support Deacon Joe's Discretionary Fund, and parishioners responded generously. Several thousand dollars were given, providing vital assistance to many in our community—support that continues to make a difference.

This year we also said a heartfelt farewell to Deacons Mike and Linda Hall, who moved from Tallahassee to be closer to family in central Florida. We are deeply grateful for their ministry, presence, and faithful service to our parish. Thanks to the strong foundation they established, the St. Francis Ministry carried on their work and hosted a wonderfully well-attended Blessing of the Animals in October.

Our prison ministry continued with Bible classes, Eucharistic Visits, and mentoring to inmates, and support for ex-offenders as they re-integrate into society. At the Wakulla Correctional Institution, the Jefferson Correctional Institution, and the Gadsden Re-Entry Center, we facilitated 78 Bible Classes, made 23 Eucharistic Visits, and held 43 mentoring sessions with inmates. Winifred Williams continues to support our prison Eucharistic Visit ministry. We continue to be grateful for the opportunity to share St. John's love of Christ with our neighbors.





# LEADERSHIP REPORTS

## SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

*Leslie Redding, Senior Warden*

2025 has been a very productive year at St. John's. The biggest project of the year for me as Sr. Warden was renovating the main suite of offices. This construction project and furniture upgrade was long overdue. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous St. John's family, we were able to make our reception area, mail center, work room and staff offices into bright, updated and functional workspace. A big thank you to the generous donors and to the Renovation committee members Cindi Briley, Jan Porter and Lynn Solomon who all worked tirelessly to help accomplish this project. Thank you to the staff for putting up with the constant disruption to your workspace.

Jan & Bob Porter and Tom & Mary Ellen Bateman continue to work cleaning up, cleaning out and organizing our storage areas. Cataloging all the historical artifacts and records will help us as we plan for our upcoming Bicentennial celebration. Getting everything else organized into labeled bins will help staff and volunteers be more efficient.

As Senior Warden, I have had the opportunity to work with the Vestry, Executive Committee, Finance committee, St. John's Foundation, Property Commission and the St. John's Evening Under the Stars Market Committee and to interact with so many volunteers. It has been the pleasure of my life to work with these groups of devoted St. John's parishioners. Thank you all for the support for our community and for our St. John's Family.





# LEADERSHIP REPORTS

## JUNIOR WARDEN & PROPERTY COMMISSION'S REPORT

*Kathy Bye, Junior Warden*

In 2025, the Junior Warden and Property Commission faced a series of critical maintenance and repair challenges, underscoring the importance of proactive stewardship for our historic 200-year-old building.

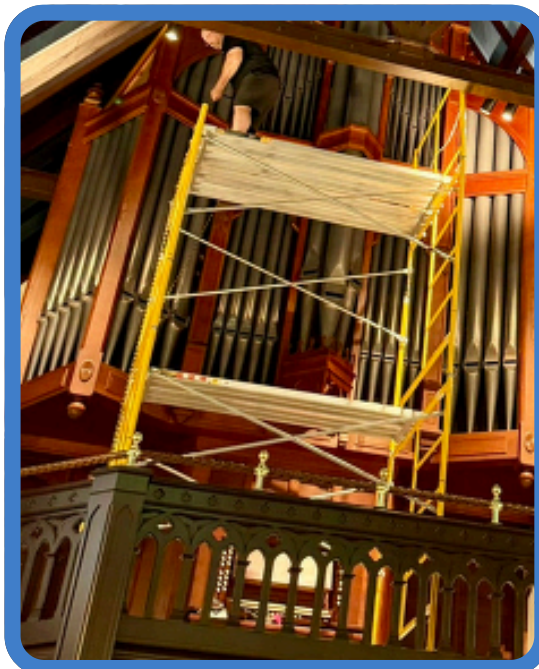
Major projects included the commissioning of a new chiller in late 2024 and the integration of all heating and cooling systems (standalone a/c units, boilers, sensors and controls) into a centralized monitoring platform. A maintenance contract with Facilities Solutions & Management (FSM) now ensures regular preventive care for these systems.

During the summer, mold remediation on the sanctuary ceiling was completed over six weeks, accompanied by repairs to pews and comprehensive floor cleaning. Additional issues addressed included termite damage near the chapel doors and basement, as well as water-damaged soffits in Eve's Garden. Prolonged rainfall and a broken irrigation line resulted in basement water leaks.

These unforeseen repairs have resulted in substantial unbudgeted expenses, over and above the funds raised for the chiller replacement.

The Cemetery Committee has been hard at work improving the cemetery grounds and overseeing the repair of markers. The Gifts and Memorials Committee pursued state approval for a historic marker to be placed at the corner of church property on Monroe St. A committee is investigating options for the Marshall House.

In 2026, we will continue to carefully monitor all systems and ensure that a preventive maintenance schedule is adhered to. We will also carefully identify and prioritize needed repairs throughout the St. John's campus.





# ST. JOHN'S FOUNDATION



**St. John's  
Foundation**

**Sarah Ball Miller,**  
*Chair of the Foundation Board*

The St. John's Foundation receives gifts, most often after a donor's death, and invests them into a professionally-managed endowment for long-term growth. Our funds under management ("FUM") have grown from \$1.605 million in 2020 to \$3.238 million at the end of 2025. In 2025, our FUM grew by \$469,000, \$158,000 of which were new gifts received and the remainder net investment return. The Foundation's Spending Policy allows us to annually spend 4% of the FUM, averaged over the past twenty quarters. Therefore, as the endowment increases, the amount we are able to contribute to St. John's also increases. In 2025, the Foundation contributed \$63,340 to efforts prioritized in the Vestry budget, and in 2026, we will contribute \$74,335.\*

\*This includes Foundation expenses, primarily our annual audit.

**\$63,340**

*contributed to St. John's  
in 2025*

**\$74,335**

*WILL be contributed to  
St. John's in 2026*

**\$3.238M**

*total funds under  
management*

**142**

*members of the  
1829 Legacy Society*

**200**

*members is our GOAL by  
St. John's 200th birthday in  
2029!*

Please consider joining the St. John's Foundation Legacy Society by letting us know of your intention to include the Foundation in your estate plans. Any gift is welcome, and you do not need to share the amount.

As the Foundation plans for continued endowment growth and the increasing needs of our historic church building, a new reserve fund was created in 2025 with input from the Vestry and Finance Committee. Beginning in 2027, the Foundation will continue to distribute funds using its 4% spending policy. The first \$75,000 of the annual unrestricted distribution will support the Vestry's operating budget, and any amount above that will be placed in a Capital Improvement and Preservation reserve fund. When major property needs arise (over \$100,000), the Vestry may request funds from this reserve or allow it to grow in anticipation of future projects. Over time, this fund is intended to help reduce the need for capital campaigns.

Thank you to those who have already shared their intention to leave a bequest to the Foundation. We hope others will consider joining in this lasting gift to the life and future of our church.



# PARISH FINANCES

## BALANCE SHEET – December 31, 2025

*Jen Garretson, Vestry Finance Chair*

*Cindy Sessions, Treasurer*

Assets					
	Cash and petty cash				\$ 1,236,866
<b>Total Assets</b>					<b>\$ 1,236,866</b>
Liabilities					
	Accounts Payable				\$ (674)
	Nehemiah Fund				\$ 302,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>					\$ 301,326
Fund Principal					
	Unrestricted capital				\$ 231,763
<b>Total unrestricted capital</b>					<b>\$ 231,736</b>
Restricted Funds					
	Total Temporarily Restricted funds				\$ 703,777
		Cemetery		\$ 53,638	
		Chapel		\$ 11,541	
		Clergy Discretionary		\$ 24,134	
		Outreach Missions		\$ 32,952	
		Flowers		\$ 8,057	
		Gifts of Grace		\$ 141,908	
		Global Philanthropy Leaders		\$ 4,814	
		HVAC Project		\$ 7,794	
		Music Ministry & Choir School		\$ 162,705	
		St. Francis Ministry		\$ 822	
		St. John's Historical Society		\$ 595	
		St. Mary's General Fund		\$ 7,221	
		St. Mary's Scholarship Fund		\$ 4,358	
		Needlepoint		\$ 751	
		Donor Restricted		\$ 125,517	
		Children's Ministry		\$ 7,751	
		Memorial Garden		\$ 61,343	
		Property		\$ 34,396	
		Youth		\$ 13,480	
<b>Total Liabilities, Unrestricted capital &amp; Restricted Funds</b>					<b>\$ 1,236,866</b>



# PARISH FINANCES

## COMMON MINISTRY BUDGET

Income	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
<i>Pledge Income</i>	\$ 1,411,750	\$ 1,431,696	\$ 1,565,000
<i>Non Pledge Income</i>	\$ 218,000	\$ 209,769	\$ 230,000
<i>Food/Café Income</i>	\$ 321,600	\$ 375,614	\$ 380,000
<i>Parking Lot Rentals</i>	\$ 3,096	\$ 2,343	\$ 2,160
<i>Interest/Trust Income</i>	\$ 77,000	\$ 87,699	\$ 78,621
<i>Miscellaneous Income</i>	\$ 12,000	\$ 9,904	\$ 12,000
<i>Market Income</i>	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000
<i>Rental Income</i>	\$ 16,600	\$ 10,085	\$ 14,625
<i>Release from Restriction</i>	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ 15,000
<i>St. John's Foundation Support</i>	\$ 63,340	\$ 63,340	\$ 74,335
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,173,386</b>	<b>\$ 2,225,450</b>	<b>\$ 2,406,741</b>
Expenses	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
<i>Diocesan</i>	\$ 163,093	\$ 162,780	\$ 172,528
<i>Worship</i>	\$ 6,400	\$ 5,140	\$ 8,830
<i>Music</i>	\$ 43,042	\$ 40,124	\$ 17,490
<i>Children Ministry</i>	\$ 12,536	\$ 7,394	\$ 12,375
<i>Youth Ministry</i>	\$ 19,385	\$ 11,075	\$ 19,200
<i>Adult Education Ministry</i>	\$ 8,300	\$ 1,881	\$ 6,165
<i>Pastoral Care Ministry</i>	\$ 5,957	\$ 6,081	\$ 6,943
<i>Outreach Ministry</i>	\$ 93,500	\$ 95,524	\$ 97,645
<i>Parish Life Ministry</i>	\$ 238,625	\$ 257,931	\$ 261,825
<i>Communications</i>	\$ 48,650	\$ 52,099	\$ 63,454
<i>Clergy Compensation</i>	\$ 310,182	\$ 303,544	\$ 319,923
<i>Lay Compensation</i>	\$ 795,977	\$ 813,272	\$ 887,782
<i>Lay Insurance</i>	\$ 102,858	\$ 106,571	\$ 120,639
<i>Property Management</i>	\$ 285,926	\$ 327,832	\$ 323,547
<i>Other Expenses</i>	\$ 32,225	\$ 35,695	\$ 88,395
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,166,656</b>	<b>\$ 2,226,943</b>	<b>\$ 2,406,741</b>
<b>Income Over/Under Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,730</b>	<b>\$ (1,493)</b>	<b>\$ (0)</b>





# VESTRY COMMISSION REPORTS





## ADULT FORMATION

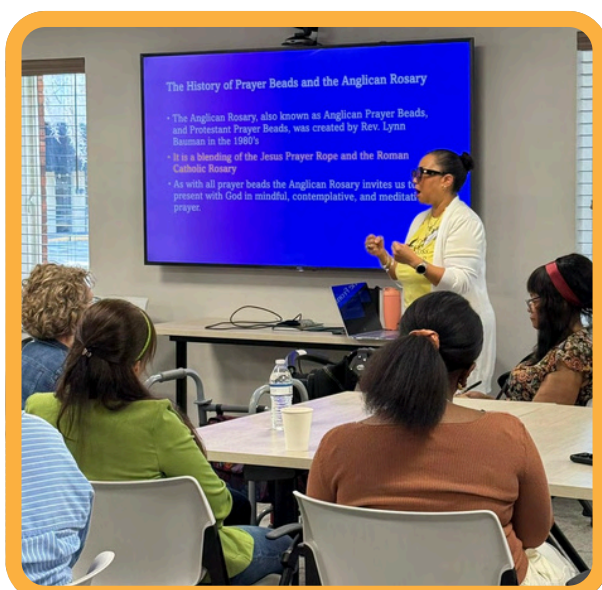
*Sara Beth Shippen, Vestry Chair*

The Adult Formation ministry at St. John's experienced tremendous growth in 2025. Adult Sunday School, the Front Porch, Contemplative Prayer, EfM (Education for Ministry), and several book studies thrived on campus throughout the year. In the fall, an exciting new weekly women's study, "A Beautiful Year in the Bible," was launched. This study has been a wonderful addition to our programming and has grown to include more than 20 women who meet weekly to discuss Scripture and pray together. Overall, our adult ministries are marked by energy, engagement, and deepening community.

Adult Sunday School has flourished, with average class attendance ranging from 10 to 20 adults each Sunday. Classes explored a wide array of topics, from "The Big Relief" by David Zahl, to Confessions by St. Augustine, to "Learning to Speak God from Scratch" by Jonathan Merritt. It has been deeply encouraging to witness this ministry grow as parishioners deepen their spiritual lives and theological understanding.

A major highlight of Adult Formation this year has been the rejuvenation of the Front Porch ministry. Designed to welcome participants from both our church and the surrounding community, the Front Porch invites people into fellowship, learning, and community-building regardless of church affiliation. Events included a Prayer Beads Workshop, Sound Baths, and a visit from Jonathan Rich, author of "Spires in the Sun." The Front Porch is a tangible expression of our call to "welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you" (Romans 15:7).

As we look ahead, Adult Formation at St. John's remains committed to nurturing spiritual growth, fostering meaningful relationships, and creating welcoming spaces for learning and prayer. We are grateful for the leadership, teachers, and participants whose dedication continues to shape these ministries, and we look forward with hope and anticipation to the ways God will continue to work among us in the coming year.







7

children celebrated  
at Festal Eucharist

75

Backpacks blessed

15

infants, children  
and adults baptized  
this year



## CHILDREN & FAMILIES

*Steve Rogers, Vestry Chair*

In 2025, St. John's Children and Families Ministries experienced a vibrant and faith-filled year marked by growth, creativity, and community. Under the continued leadership of Tyree Jordan, Director of Youth & Family Ministries, the program fostered a welcoming environment rooted in love, inclusion, and care for children, families, and visitors alike.

Sunday School thrived thanks to a devoted team of volunteers who faithfully engaged children of all ages in the stories and traditions of our faith. Offerings included Godly Play for our youngest learners, First Grade Festal Eucharist preparation, and the imaginative "StoryMakers" program for elementary students, blending storytelling, art, and hands-on exploration.

Vacation Bible School, Camp Firelight, was a highlight of the year, welcoming 34 children and supported by 25 volunteers under the leadership of Jay Lacy.

Throughout the year, families gathered for beloved activities such as Backpack Blessings, Children's Chapel, Trunk or Treat, Posada, and the Epiphany Pageant—strengthening connections and nurturing faith across generations.







# St. John's Lively Café

## LIVELY CAFÉ

*Dina Foster, Vestry Chair*

The Lively Café continues to be a vibrant and welcoming hub at the heart of St. John's and downtown Tallahassee. The café brings together a remarkable cross-section of our community—from state workers and Supreme Court Justices to Leon High School students and neighbors from every walk of life.

In 2025, The Lively Café proudly celebrated its 27th year of service and experienced notable growth. Increased foot traffic and a rise in online orders led to food service income that exceeded expectations by 17%, a clear sign of the café's expanding reach and continued relevance as a downtown gathering place.

This success is made possible by our dedicated full-time team: Fran Doxsee, our cherished Culinary Director; Vivian Leonard; and Ioan Paquay. Their creativity, hospitality, and commitment ensure that The Lively Café remains not just a place to eat, but a place to connect. We are deeply grateful for the community's ongoing support and look forward to another year of serving as a welcoming table for all.



*We Sold:*

*43,080*

*Individual Pita Chips*

*Our income grew by:*

*17%*

*We served:*

*3,230 people  
last year*



## MUSIC MINISTRY

*Marissa Hall, Director of Music*

The St. John's Music Ministry gives thanks for the dedicated music staff, choirs, choristers, bell-ringers, and instrumentalists who sustain a busy and expanding musical life at St. John's. Throughout 2025, music continued to support worship, formation, and community connection across the parish.

Special services included Choral Evensongs, Stations of the Cross, the All Souls' Requiem Mass, and Advent Lessons & Carols. On February 14, the parish offered a hymn festival in thanksgiving for the ministry of Betsy Calhoun, who retired in June after serving St. John's since 1990. The festival featured a brass quintet and guest director Richard Webster, who also led the choir in the St. John's Service at Evensong on Sunday, February 16. Betsy's last day as Director of Music was on Pentecost (June 8), and Assistant Director of Music Marissa Hall was appointed Director and commissioned on Sunday, June 15.

The choral ensembles at St. John's currently include the Adult Choir, Compline Choir, and choristers of the St. John's Choir School, who sing weekly with the Adult Choir. Six new adult choir members joined this year.

In November, the parish observed a full day of worship on All Saints Sunday, followed by the All Souls' Requiem Mass featuring the complete Requiem by Maurice Duruflé. The service drew participation from Florida State University College of Music faculty and alumni and marked a significant collaborative and musical undertaking.

The Tower Bell Guild rang consistently for Sunday services, weddings, funerals, and parades. Tower Bell Concerts and Tours were held in May and October.

In June, the 10th annual Choir Camp welcomed 28 children for a week of music-making, marking a decade of sustained summer music formation.

The Tallahassee Bach Parley, held three signature Bach Parley concerts, and held four Bach's Lunch concerts on Fridays. Four more are scheduled for spring 2026 on Thursdays, aiming to expand the series to at least eight concerts in 2026. Additionally, String Academy students and faculty continue to share their music with the community during the annual "Bach to School" service each August.





## ST. JOHN'S CHOIR SCHOOL

*Marissa Hall, Director of Music*

In 2025, the St. John's Choir School served 30 children, including 9 Joyful Noisemakers (ages 5–7) and 21 Choristers (ages 8 and up), representing 16 different schools across Leon County. Choristers received a total of 248 hours of individual piano instruction, supporting their musical development alongside rehearsals (3x weekly) and services on Wednesday and Sunday.

In February 2025, the Choir School joined in a Hymn Festival and Choral Evensong with guest conductor and composer Richard Webster. At the Evensong, the choir sang the St. John's Service for the first time, a setting composed in 2020 in honor of Betsy Calhoun's service to the music ministry. The program also marked a milestone by hosting the 10th Annual Summer Choir Camp, continuing a long-standing tradition of musical learning and community.

In 2026, the Choir School looks forward to building on this foundation through continued musical instruction, worship leadership, and outreach to young singers in the community.

# 198

*Rehearsal hours logged by  
the average chorister  
(The equivalent of 30 full  
school days of rehearsing!)*

*Most popular choir  
school snack:*

*Goldfish Birthday  
Cake Crackers*







## OUTREACH MINISTRIES

*Martha Ray Brooks & Mike Stewart-Meza, Vestry Co-Chairs*

**A Full Summer** completed distribution of appliances and equipment to all 14 Leon County school pantries just as SNAP benefits were interrupted during the government shutdown, making these pantries vital lifelines for families facing food insecurity. The ministry organized 18 certified volunteers, with St. John's parishioners faithfully serving at Woodville K-8 and Oak Ridge Elementary. We give thanks for the generous grant from the Capital City Women's Group that made this expansion possible.

**Big Bend Hospice** continued its sacred ministry of compassionate care to approximately 400 individuals and families daily across eight counties. Highlights include the opening of Oak Tree Treasure thrift store, funding for a Health Care Mobile Unit, and a partnership with the Leon County Sheriff's Department to provide end-of-life care for incarcerated individuals.

**Capital Area Justice Ministry** continued its prophetic work calling leaders toward a more just future. St. John's parishioners remained engaged throughout the year through advocacy, prayer, and presence.

**Grace Mission** received tremendous support through parish fundraisers, special appeals, and hosted events. The Thanksgiving luncheon fed and clothed many, and partnerships with CAJM and local churches ensured year-round meal coverage. New staff members and a six-month board development process strengthened the ministry's foundation.

**Kearney Center** volunteers maintained a faithful presence every fourth Thursday, serving through a year of significant transitions. Volunteers also served on Thanksgiving night alongside FSU students. The weekly Bun Run continues every Friday, with the signup list full through 2025.

# 125

*Meals on Wheels  
delivered on Christmas Eve*

# 9,000

*Snacks packed  
at "A Full Summer"*

# Over 1500lbs

*Of supplies sent to  
Cuba*





**Our missionaries in Ecuador, John & Caroline Allen** continue their faithful service through Education Equals Hope while raising their young child, Carter. John coordinated seven teams this year and is preparing for nine more arriving in Spring 2026, including TWO from St. John's!. Please keep the Allens in your prayers as they discern God's guidance for the future of their ministry.

**Cuba Mission** responded swiftly when seven mosquito-borne viruses struck the province, with leaders finding creative ways to deliver essential medicines and supplies. The ministry presented to Christ Church Monticello and strengthened coordination among companion parishes through Living Waters for the World.

We now fund monthly phone and internet access for the senior warden at San Pedro Apostol and look ahead to a mission trip in early 2026.



**School Mentor/Volunteer Program** brings joy to Riley Elementary students as volunteers read with children and build meaningful relationships. The program donated school supplies and supported Riley's Trunk or Treat event.

**Second Harvest** received an outpouring of support during the federal government's partial shutdown, with St. John's organizing an immediate donation drive. In 2026, we hope to expand volunteer opportunities for food sorting and packaging.

**Episcopal Relief & Development** continues to receive support through the Bertha Munks Fund, extending our outreach to disaster relief and sustainable development worldwide.

**Episcopal University Center/Ruge Hall** continues to welcome FSU students with weekly gatherings, with St. John's remaining the only church in the region providing monthly financial support. A coffee shop now operates in the historic building, creating a welcoming space while generating rental income.







## ST. JOHN'S MARKET

*Cindi Briley, David Campbell  
& Susan Gwynn, Co-Chairs*

St. John's Market looked a little different this year. While we took a pause to discern how Market may operate in the future, this year, we transformed Market into Market Under the Stars, a one-night-only event complete with Chef Fran's delicious hors d'oeuvres and festive music, a silent auction, and Market favorites, such as, handmade gifts & jewelry, holiday centerpieces and arrangements, sauces, jams, and jellies, homemade chili to-go, and plenty of sweet treats.



It was a rousing success! Thanks to our incredible booth teams, youth volunteers, and many helping hands, the 2025 St. John's Market Under the Stars took in \$34.9K after expenses, which enabled us to award \$16K in grants to local organizations.

### **Congratulations to our 2025 Market Grant Recipients!**

The Alliance Française de Tallahassee  
Big Bend AFTER Reentry Coalition  
Big Bend Hospice  
The Blessing Cup  
Elder Care Services  
Forgotten Coast K-9  
Holocaust Education Resource Council  
Humble House  
Ghazvini Learning Center  
Goodwood Museum and Gardens  
KidSafe  
Safe Families for Children  
Second Harvest of the Big Bend  
St. Francis Wildlife Association  
Tallahassee Bach Parley  
Tallahassee Bail Fund





## PARISH LIFE

*Alex Boler, Dina Foster  
& Kelly Kibbey Smith,  
Vestry Co-Chairs*

As we look back on 2025, the Parish Life Commission is grateful for a year that fostered connection across generations at St. John's. Our reception committee supported joyful post-service celebrations—including Advent Carols and Lessons, Easter Vigil, Easter Day, Confirmation Sunday, Betsy Calhoun's Retirement Celebration & Pentecost, and the Daughters of the King installation.

Eleven lay-led small groups with 87 participants continue to meet and foster conversation, reporting meaningful discussions and a deeper sense of true belonging. Affinity groups, including SPUDS (St. John's Parishioners United for Dining and Spirit), MASH (Munchkins and Spiritual Harmony), SALT (Senior Adults Living Triumphantly), and St. Mary's Circle, regularly offered spaces for honest conversation, shared meals, and prayer. Lenten Prayer Partners matched 42 parishioners to pray for and mail letters of support throughout Lent.

Behind the scenes, working alongside Claire Dodd, the Parish Life Commission began work on a new model for welcoming and integrating prospective members, launching a New Member Open House in November.

The Commission is also building a team to plan a Parish Retreat Day at Goodwood next spring to extend the table of St. John's beyond our campus.



# 87

*Small Group Participants*

# 42

*Lenten Prayer Partners*

# 50

*Members of the  
Reception Committee*







## PASTORAL CARE

*Debby McNamara & Erik Salsgiver,  
Vestry Co-Chairs*

In 2025, Pastoral Care prayerfully supported our faith community through establishing new ministries and by growing participation from laity called to serve in a variety of ministries, including Community of Hope International (COHI), Daughters of the King, and Stephen Ministry. Melanie Salsgiver joined our Pastoral Care Team in her role as Seminarian to lead the administration and coordination of Pastoral Care activities as well as directly provide pastoral care for those experiencing illness and other urgent pastoral care needs.

From Pastoral Care Person of the Day to flower and meal deliveries to comfort from a prayer square or shawl lovingly made by our Knitting Group, parishioners have connected with Pastoral Care in a variety of ways. Services at Westminster Oaks, prison outreach, and Eucharistic Visitors continued in 2025, and we are grateful for volunteers who bring St. John's outside of our campus and into our community.

2025 brought another session of Walking the Mourner's Path as well as a new small group for caregivers of aging parents. Pastoral Care also supported two services of Comfort and Healing – one for Lent and another for Advent.

In 2026, Pastoral Care looks forward to implementing Intercessory Prayer with pastoral care ministers during communion as well as regular support through COHI for parishioners who are no longer able to attend St. John's in person.

# 60

*Eucharistic Home Visits*

# 38

*Stephen Ministers*

# Unceasing

*Prayers for all*



# STEWARDSHIP

*Chuck Hinson, Vestry Chair*

## Why Consecration Sunday?

In 2025, St. John's made a deliberate and prayerful decision to change how we talk about stewardship. This decision emerged from a season of growth and the recognition that growth calls for formation, not simply expansion.

For years, St. John's has been marked by strong worship, expanding ministries, and a widening circle of belonging. Attendance has increased, new households have found a home, and energy and momentum are palpable throughout the life of the parish. Yet this same growth surfaced a deeper concern. Even as the parish was flourishing in many ways, participation in stewardship was declining each year, both in the number of households engaged and in overall giving.

While financial sustainability mattered, the deeper and more faithful question before us was this: How do we invite people into mature, joyful, shared discipleship?

Consecration Sunday was a way forward, introduced to us by Fr. Lonnie and adopted by the Vestry. We deepened a shared understanding that generosity is a joyful part of our baptismal life together.

Rather than a prolonged pledge drive or a series of private requests, Consecration Sunday places generosity where it belongs: inside worship, grounded in gratitude, and held by community. It treats giving not as a transaction, but as a spiritual practice—an act of trust, intention, and shared commitment.

This was not a fundraising tactic. It was a theological decision.



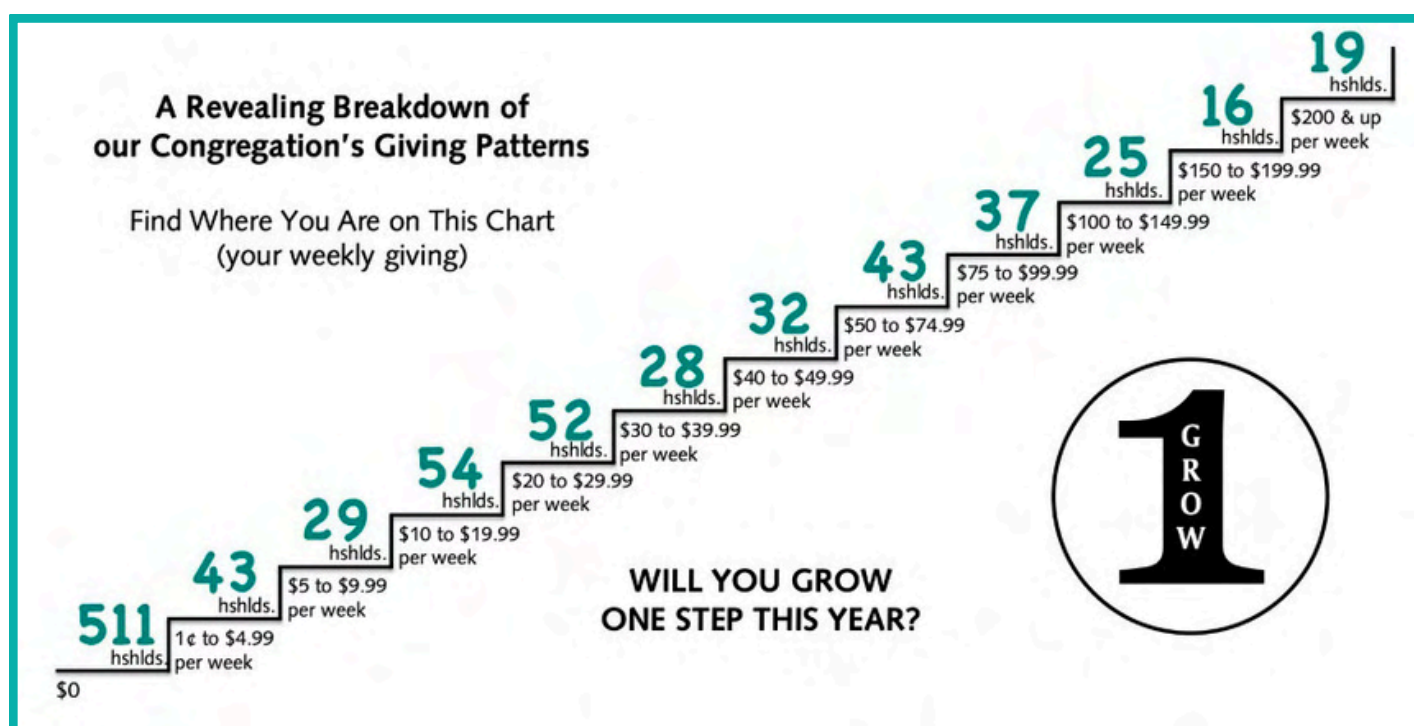


# STEWARDSHIP con't

## What Made Consecration Sunday Different

- Commitments were made in worship, not by mail or follow-up calls
- Pledges were offered confidentially at the altar, as an act of prayer
- There was no dollar goal, only an invitation to discern and grow
- Every household was invited to take one faithful step forward
- The day concluded with a parish-wide celebratory meal, reinforcing that this was about community, not compliance

Consecration Sunday had a clear beginning, a clear moment of commitment, and a clear conclusion, which allowed the parish to move forward together with shared confidence.





## STEWARDSHIP con't

### What Happened

The response was extraordinary.

- 359 households pledged, up 37 households over last year (+11.5%)
- 186 households increased their pledges
- 88 households pledged who did not pledge last year
- 60 households remained steady year over year
- Total pledged increased by \$177,440, a 13.56% increase over last year

Even more telling than the total is how that growth occurred.

The increase was not driven by a small number of dramatic gifts. It was the cumulative effect of hundreds of households choosing intentional generosity, many by taking just one step forward.

That outcome is exactly what Consecration Sunday was designed to encourage.

Total pledged for 2026:  
**\$1,485,645**



## CONSECRATION SUNDAY

**359**

*Households participated*

**88**

*Households pledged for  
the first time*

**186**

*Households increased  
their pledge*



# STEWARDSHIP con't

## Leadership and Gratitude

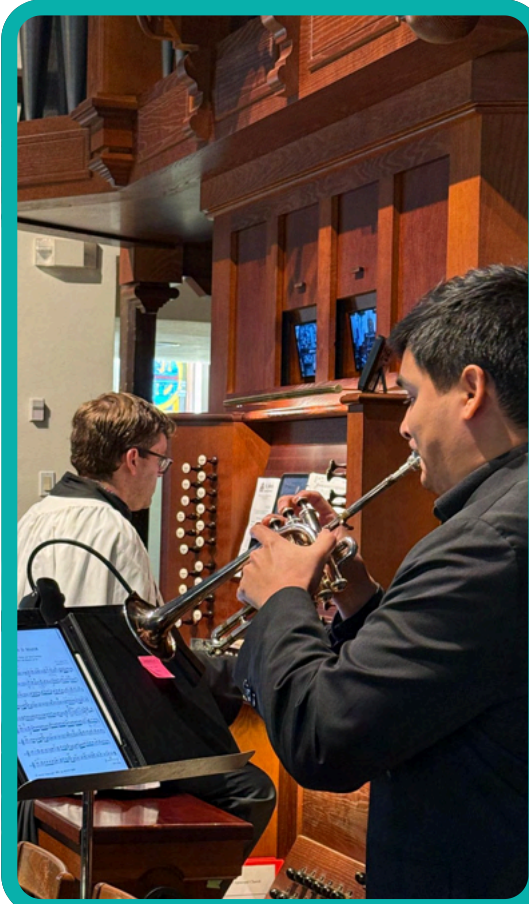
This season was shaped and sustained by the prayer, leadership, and witness of many across the parish, including:

- Leadership by Mahaska Whitley and Fran Doxsee, along with a dedicated team of volunteers and executive staff, culminating in a Consecration Sunday banquet attended by approximately 350 parishioners
- A prayer group formed and led by Betty Lou Joanos
- Scriptural reflections offered by Fr. Lonnie, with personal stewardship testimonials from Kyle Griffis and Mary Call Proctor
- A moving testimonial from Ali Liby-Schoonover, who also guided the congregation through the Grow One Step chart
- A powerful witness of faith, courage, and perseverance shared by the Rev. Bill Trexler
- Communications and numbers by Claire Dodd, Kristi Leger, and Nancy Barfield
- Coordination and championing of this yearlong leadup and implementation by Vestry Commissioner for Stewardship Chuck Hinson

## Conclusion

Perhaps most importantly, Consecration Sunday deepened the tone of stewardship at St. John's.

By placing generosity squarely within worship and communal life, it became reverent, hopeful, and communal. The parish did not simply fund a budget. We deepened a shared understanding that generosity is joyful part of our baptismal life together.







6

*youth went  
to Happening  
at Camp Weed*

14

*Youth graduated in 2025!*

## YOUTH MINISTRIES

*Jeff Couch, David Grimes  
& Steve Rogers, Vestry Co-Chairs*

2025 was a wonderful year for youth at St. John's, marked by growth, service, and plenty of fun under the leadership of Youth Director Tyree Jordan. The year began with a joyful milestone as three youth were confirmed, and the parish looks forward to continuing to support them in their life of faith.

Throughout the year, youth participated in a wide variety of engaging events that combined learning, fellowship, and service. Highlights included helping serve at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, hosting a spring parking fundraiser in Tallahassee, attending an impactful film screening at the Challenger Center with the Holocaust Education Resource Council, and enjoying bowling at the FSU Student Union.

Summer brought adventure with trips to Wild Adventures, Florida Caverns State Park, and tubing outings. Youth also took part in a meaningful domestic mission trip to Nashville, partnering with St. Augustine's Episcopal Chapel to serve at the East Nashville Hope Exchange summer literacy camp.

Youth Sunday School in both spring and fall offered creative curriculum, guest speakers, and thoughtful conversations about faith in action.







**The Rev. Lonnie Lacy**  
*Rector*

**The Rev. Leslie Roraback**  
*Associate Rector*

**The Rev. Deacon Joseph H. Bakker**  
*Deacon*

**Melanie Salsgiver**  
*Seminarian*

**Leslie Redding**  
*Senior Warden*

**Kathy Bye**  
*Junior Warden*

**Cindy Sessions**  
*Treasurer*

**Jen Garretson**  
*Finance Chairperson*

**Taska Zorn**  
*Secretary*

**George Gwynn**  
*Chancellor*

**TERM ENDING 2026**

Chuck Hinson  
Debby McNamara  
Leslie Redding  
Steve Rogers  
Erik Salsgiver  
Mike Stewart-Meza

**TERM ENDING 2027**

Kathy Bye  
Jen Garretson  
Sara Beth Shippen  
Kelly Kibbey Smith

**TERM ENDING 2028**

Alex Boler  
Jeff Couch  
Dina Foster  
David Grimes  
Martha Ray Brooks



*Special thanks to Phil Ashler, Emily Garretson, Shannon Hartsfield, Jim Ogorek, and many more for sharing their love for St. John's through photography.*





**Deep Roots.  
True Belonging.  
Abundant Grace.**