



*And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..."*
Luke 1:46-47, NRSV

Dear Friends at St John's,

This year our stewardship campaign focuses on the theme "Tell out My Soul!" That is, let us share our wonder and joy at the abundance of God's blessings in our lives and our community.

For me, a great blessing over the past year has been the deepening of our love and prayer for one another as we serve, worship, and share our lives (and struggles!) together at St. John's. We have sung and prayed, studied, offered healing blessings, baked cakes, eaten meals together, shared stories of our faith, celebrated milestones, and have reached out to the community through the thrift shop, Action lunches and offerings to Open Door. For a while there we were even knitting together!

As I prepared to leave for Paris to be with my daughter expecting her baby, on that last Sunday, I was offered so many prayers and good wishes and hugs. My heart was filled with the kindness and love of St. John's, which I carry with me. Thank you.

So, let's continue with warm enthusiasm to share our talents and our faith stories with each other and with our friends and neighbors in the Gloucester community. May our generous offerings of work, service, caring, and creating fun continue to flourish with God's wonderful blessings at St John's. May we continue to be inclusive, open minded and open hearted, eager to share our joy.

As the year is completed, with the annual church fair and Advent and Christmas coming along, we also look to this season of the stewardship campaign. Soon you will receive materials from the Stewardship committee asking you to consider your pledge for next year. Please take the time to pray and consider your gift to St John's.

Let us tell out our souls! Glory to God!

Your warden,
Katharine Newhouse