



## St. Andrew's United Methodist Church

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December 2021

Grace and peace to you. As we look back at 2021, we celebrate many blessings at St. Andrew's – the return to in-person worship and ministries, expanding our online presence, outreach and engagement with our community, and sharing the gospel with others. We also recognize the challenges of continuing to pivot in the ongoing pandemic, the passing of beloved church members, and some significant building maintenance issues. And God has been with us every step of the way.

We want to keep the church family informed of our current financial status. St. Andrew's current annual budget for expenses is approximately \$700,000 or a weekly income need of \$13,500. This amount reflects our commitment to our staff, worship, age level ministries, outreach, mission, connectional apportionments, our mortgage and care of our facility. And we want to ensure that our church continues to honor that commitment to provide for the needs of our congregation and community.

This is a gentle reminder that your regular giving matters. Your gifts ensure that the building is warm and lit as we welcome our community and ministry partners along with our own congregation. Your gifts ensure that our children and youth have a safe place to gather and opportunities to learn, grow and serve. Your gifts ensure that the Word is proclaimed, that praises are lifted and prayers are shared. Your gifts allow us to do kingdom work so that God's salvation story continues to be shared.

Enclosed you will find a revised commitment card for 2022. If you have already completed a commitment card, thank you. If not, please consider how you can commit to the ministries of St. Andrew's in 2022. Your pledge will allow us to better plan our budget for the upcoming year, and be better stewards of the resources available. We are also asking for you to consider your gifts between now and the end of the year. Enclosed is information on year end giving, and no gift is too small.

This Advent season, our focus has been *Come Home for Christmas*. We pray that St. Andrew's is a place you call home, and that it points you to our ultimate home with God through the loving sacrifice of his son, Jesus. We pledged when we became members of St. Andrew's that we would support it through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Let's finish 2021 strong by fulfilling our commitment to giving. Our St. Andrew's family has always been willing to step up whenever a need is revealed, and we are thankful for your generous response.

Blessings to you this Christmas season,

*Shanna Morales*

Shanna Morales, Chair of Finance

*Lisa Pool*

Lisa Pool, Church Council Chair 2022

*David Lisk*

David Lisk, Church Council Chair 2021