



Celebrating Our Past
Honoring the Present
Committing to the Future

Dear Family and Friends of St. Mark's Parish,

Remember the Beach Boys? They were a popular rock band from the 60s and 70s, singing about surfing safaris and generally having a good time. Brian Wilson was the mastermind of many of their songs, but behind the public image of the cool and carefree group he promoted, he would also occasionally mix in some serious and thought-provoking ballads to reveal another side. A more vulnerable and fearful side. Someone looking for some comfort...someone looking for some peace.

One of those songs that always struck a chord in that way describes a teenager who is sometimes overcome by the pace of the world and what is going on, and needs to step back, get away from it all and retreat to a safe haven...a place of comfort, a world he can go and tell his secrets to, lock out all his worries and fears, lie awake and pray, laugh at yesterday..." In My Room".

Sound familiar? Think of how blessed we are through God's grace and our mutual commitment, we are able to individually and collectively share that place of peace and comfort, "In My Room". God's house is St. Mark's church; through Jesus's love for us, we are able to have this "room" to worship, share our sorrows and our joys, find collective strength to go on, do our dreaming, find comfort, and not be afraid.

Our theme for this year's stewardship campaign resonates with this message. With joy, **we celebrated the past** earlier this year for 60 years of having our very own "room" for worship, comfort, and peace. **We honor the present** with the gift of God's house that is entrusted to us to provide for its continued use. With anticipation, **we commit to the future** to keep God's

house available not only for us now...but for those to come who will also be seeking solace and comfort. to find their “room” to speak to and worship our Lord and Savior.

Our financial goal for this year’s campaign is \$110,000. As stewards of God’s house and the “room” he has allowed us to use, it is important to note what that means. Being a steward means managing or caring for something valuable that has been entrusted to one’s care, acting as a responsible caretaker, rather than an owner. Right now, we are stewards of God’s gifts, in the position to manage money, possessions, skills, time, and all given to us to help in caring for His House and the room He lets us use.

Stewardship is about realizing, in an important sense of caretaking, that we belong to God. Our time, talent, and treasure are ours to manage for God’s sake. What we do with what God has given us is what we will all be accountable for someday. Please join us in reaching this goal to help take care of His House with a pledge commitment... For now, and for the future.

Thank You,

Mark and Ellen Tremblay
2025-2026 Stewardship Chairs
St. Mark’s Episcopal Church