



# Christ Episcopal Church

## Ridgewood

*transforming*  *generosity*

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Christ Church,

It is the time of year that I, along with your Vestry, Wardens and Clergy, ask you to prayerfully consider making a financial pledge to support the work of our community at Christ Church in 2019. Your pledge is a reflection of your gratitude for God's abundant grace in your life. Christ Church is self-sufficient, meaning that we receive no funds from the diocese or national church. We, the parishioners, ultimately sustain the ministries of Christ Church through our energy, spirit and financial support.

The theme of this year's pledge drive is "Transforming Generosity". I invite you to reflect on this theme from two different perspectives. First, consider that generosity can transform us, our community and our church. When we become financially generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given, we can empower the ministry of Christ Church and transform the wider community. Second, contemplate how we can transform what generosity looks like. We can define generosity as the way we live our Christian discipleship and the way our church works to respond to the needs of our community and world. Throughout the Bible, we are called to be generous financially, but also in the way we treat others and spend our time. Please also prayerfully consider pledging your time and talents in support of one of our ministries, which will be highlighted on this year's pledge card.

Over the next three Sundays, you will hear personal stewardship testimonials from fellow parishioners. Pledge packets will be mailed out in mid-November. There will also be a link available on the church's website to submit a pledge online. On **Sunday, November 18**, Fr. Tom will invite us to bring forward our pledges of time, talent and treasure as a sign of our commitment to our church community. This is a meaningful practice we began last year.

This year's pledge drive is about more than our parish budget, it is about how we transform generosity and allow generosity to transform us. I hope you'll join us as we work together to transform generosity in our church, our community and our lives.

Faithfully,

*Deanna Najork*  
Stewardship Chair, Christ Church