

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Our 2018 stewardship campaign “Let’s Celebrate St. Mark’s!” kicked off with a well-attended cocktail party in late September. For the next month, we all were invited to share a thanksgiving about our Parish on our bulletin boards. It was wonderful to read about the many people and activities that fill us with gratitude for our St. Mark’s family! During our Stewardship Coffee Hours after each service on October 15, the Stewardship Committee gave a slide show presentation about our financial situation and our goals for the next few years. As we heard once again, our endowment is not infinite, and our annual withdrawals are not sustainable at the current rate. Two scenarios were presented: 1) a Visionary Goal, where giving increased by \$155,000 (the approximate amount that would necessitate the withdrawal of only “interest” from the endowment) and 2) an Achievable Objective, in which giving increased by \$26,000 year over year for the next 8 years, when the gap between revenues and expenses would be completely closed. Although we didn’t quite meet the Achievable Objective, we are happy to report we made some progress, which is very important because the less we have to withdraw from the endowment in the near term, the longer the “interest” (i.e., total return) accrual period on the endowment balance.

As of today, we have received 75 pledges (up from 70 in 2017) for a total of \$168,551 (up from \$154,591.50 in 2017). We are grateful to all of you for your pledges and gifts, both monetary, and of your time and talent, to our Parish. And of course, it is never too late to make a pledge or try out the ACH automatic debit process.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Fitton
Stewardship Committee Chair