



*Behold, I am doing a new thing*

— Isaiah 43:19

Dear St. Thomas's Parishioners,

Annual Giving occurs once a year when parishioners are asked to pledge their financial gifts for the upcoming year. Our parish budget is based on our gift giving.

The theme this year is **"Behold, I am doing a new thing."** Let's look at how we've been doing and see what other new things are out there. Here are some of our accomplishments over the last year:

- Annual Giving last year remained strong, supporting our budget.
- Attendance at Sunday worship rose, in person and online via YouTube.
- Parishioners responded generously to requests for Blue Hen Bounty, Hope Dining Room and other outreach projects farther afield.
- Our Strategic Planning committee looked with fresh eyes at what we value most and how we connect resources with mission and ministry.
- Facilities improvements included a major clean up and renewal of church spaces, upgrading our cemetery walkways, and making our space safer.

Doing a new thing can be scary, but it can also produce new ways for us to engage in God's work. We will look at current ministries and see which ones we feel are most fruitful and meet current needs in our community. We will look too, to see how ministries that have been on hold or have gone quiet during COVID might be reimaged. And finally, we will look to see where God is calling us into future ministry in this parish. This may be the time for us to take on something new. Opportunities welcome us if we seek them.

The prophet Isaiah says **"Behold, I am doing a new thing. Do you not perceive it?"** This will take financial commitments from each of us. An opportunity before us is examining how much we give and whether we can do more. Enclosed is a pledge card with financial information on the back, which may help you make your decision, as you prayerfully determine how to give back that which has been given to you. Won't you please pledge your financial gifts on the enclosed pledge card and return it by October 30, 2022?

In Christ's Love we ask,

Kristin Sausville  
Senior Warden

Joy Lynam  
Annual Giving Chair

Rev. Dr. Howell Sasser  
Rector