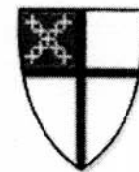


# The St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church Pledge Drive: Supporting our Faith Community in the Year of our Lord 2008

2175 1<sup>st</sup> Street at Clark Avenue White Bear Lake, MN 55110 [www.stjohnwilderness.org](http://www.stjohnwilderness.org) 651/429-5351



Dear Member of the Community of St. John in the Wilderness:

We are writing to ask you to consider making a commitment to the St. John in the Wilderness 2008 Pledge Drive. In the 2007 campaign, 61% of our generous members made a pledge to ensure that St. John's remains a growing and thriving congregation. Our goal is to increase participation to 70% by encouraging every household to make a gift at a level that is appropriate for them.

The strength of St. John's lies in the extraordinary partnership between the clergy, congregation and staff who share the vision of making our church a "Program Centered" faith community that values education and outreach. St. John's provides a multitude of services and support groups to meet the needs of members in every stage of their spiritual journey. We could not do this without our incredible clergy under the leadership of Father Mark Kelm.

St. John's annual budget is in the top five of the Episcopal churches in our diocese because generous members are willing to commit the resources necessary to support the ministries that are at the core of our faith. In addition to our Rector, Fr. Mark, we are blessed to have two associate pastors, 2 deacons, a Youth and Children's Minister and a music director. Because of this remarkable staff, St. John's is able to support programs such as the African Friends in Need Network, Habitat for Humanity and unique musical offerings that complement our traditional ministries.

Commitment Sunday is September 30, and we encourage you to reflect on the blessings you have received in your life and consider making a pledge at a level that is comfortable for you. We also understand that some of our members find it difficult to make a specific commitment, but plan on making gifts throughout the year. If you are unable, or prefer not to make a pledge, but would like to demonstrate your support for St. John's, please return your pledge card and simply note, "I will be a contributor this year." You need not include an amount, but by this act you are demonstrating that you value our faith community, and plan to support it.

Support for St. John's is an investment that demonstrates that you believe in our mission to "provide a spiritual home for children, youth and adults as they travel on their journey of faith," and you trust that St. John's will steward your gift wisely.

With your help, St. John in the Wilderness will have the resources necessary to grow, thrive and serve the spiritual needs of its members as it has since 1860.

Your Stewardship Committee, Dr. John Fennig, Chair

Ministries,  
Committees,  
& Groups

Acolytes  
Adult Formation  
Adventurers  
Altar Guild  
Befrienders  
Cancer Support Groups  
Caring Meals  
Cemetery  
Children's Ministry  
Chancel Choir  
Communications  
Episcopal Church Women  
Families in Christ  
Fellowship  
Finance  
Funeral Reception Teams  
Gardening  
Good Grief  
Greeters  
Habitat for Humanity  
Healing Team  
Heritage Society  
Hospitality  
House Groups  
Kids Hope USA  
Lay Eucharistic Visitors  
Lay Liturgical Ministers  
Light Suppers  
Liturgy & Music  
Memorials & Gifts  
Ministry Forum  
Needleworkers  
Outreach  
Out to Lunch  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Property  
Retired Men's Group  
Spiritual Spa Group  
St. John's Moms  
Stewardship  
Ushers  
Vergers  
Welcoming & Evangelism  
Young Adults  
Youth Choir  
Youth Ministry