



## THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN

379 MOUNT HARMONY ROAD  
BERNARDSVILLE, NJ 07924  
908-766-2282  
WWW.SJOTM.ORG

29 October 2014

Dear Sisters and Brothers of St. John's:

*"All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee."* We say those words every week at the Rite I celebration of the Holy Eucharist in the Chapel and many of us grew up with those words in our worship. Few people know where they came from. King David first uttered them in the last days of his life. He had just completed a massive fundraiser to build a Temple to God. He saw the plans for the Temple, the majestic design, and he spontaneously offered a prayer of joy and blessing as the worshippers of the community surrounded him. The prayer erupted from this ancestor of ours.

*"Blessed are you, O God, to you belong the greatness and the might, the glory, the victory, the majesty, the splendor."*

He went on to pray, "But me—who am I, and who are these my people, that we should presume to be giving something to you? Everything comes from you; all we're doing is giving back what we've been given from your generous hand." Which was later translated by King James as *"All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee."* (I Chronicles 29:14)

This time of year every year we, the Stewardship team, ask you to join us in giving something to God, to further God's mission and nourish God's people. We need our community to help us support God's Temple here in Bernardsville and enrich God's family here in this place. Who are we that we should presume to be giving something to God? Everything comes from God. All we are doing is giving back what we've been given from God's generous hand. So, we are echoing the words of our ancestor King David, and asking you to give back to God what God has shared with you. God has knit us together in one fellowship, and has made us a Living Temple. God is actively using us to do great things in the lives of so many people. Together we reveal God's glory in the world, and, as always, we need your help.

Yours in Christ,

The Reverend Susan Ironside  
Rector

## Current Financial Picture

In 2014 St. John on the Mountain continues to be very good stewards of the gifts we have been given as we are forecasting a small operating surplus. Our capital campaign success will enable us to further pay down our mortgage debt which will free up cash to restore a higher level of outreach giving which we have been slowly increasing in the past few years as our financial situation has improved.

## 2015 Stewardship Goal and Initial Projections

After prayerful consideration we have set a goal of a 4% increase in our pledging dollars to \$358,000. We believe this is achievable given the foundation of long-term engaged parishioners combined with the new families that have joined our Community. If we are able to achieve our goal we plan to budget a significant increase in outreach spending as well as smaller increases to cover our other operating expenses and once again to operate with a small surplus.

	2014 Forecast	2015 Preliminary
Income		
Stewardship Pledges	\$344,000	\$358,000
Other/Contributions	<u>\$95,000</u>	<u>\$98,000</u>
Total Income	\$439,000	\$456,000
Expenses		
Personnel	\$232,000	\$239,000
Programs	\$20,000	\$21,000
Operations	\$116,000	\$120,000
Outreach	\$50,000	\$65,000
Debt Service	<u>\$20,000</u>	<u>\$7,000</u>
Total Expenses	\$438,000	\$452,000
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$1,000	\$4,000

We will have more to share about our finances and our 2015 Stewardship Campaign on three consecutive Sundays in November. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to either of us or our Treasurer Joe Ray if you have questions about the campaign or our finances in general. Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours in Christ,



Bob Courtemanche  
Stewardship Co-Chair



Jeff McKeon  
Stewardship Co-Chair