

## FAQ ABOUT OUR PLEDGE-BASED BUDGET

As a member or regular attender of All Saints, you are invited to prayerfully consider what you will pledge financially to All Saints for 2023. We ask that you return your pledge form to the church on or before Sunday, November 20, which is our Pledge Ingathering Day. Since this pledge-based budget might be new for some people, below are some of the more frequently asked questions (FAQ) about how our pledge-based budget works.

**What is the significance of asking the parish to pledge their financial contributions for the upcoming year?** Most churches have their leadership determine each year's financial budget and then they ask the church to give to that budget. We instead ask our people to prayerfully make financial pledges for the upcoming year, the total of which becomes our church's budget. This approach takes seriously that God's Spirit is among the people of God, leading them to make these decisions. The leadership then trusts the Spirit's work among the people by operating within those parameters.

**What happens if next year I am (we are) unable to meet the amount of our pledge?** We understand that you cannot anticipate financial ups and downs in your future, and so we understand that if something unexpected occurs, you may fall short of (or go above) the pledge you made. But we do ask that, all things considered, you make a pledge that you anticipate fulfilling since our budget only works by counting on that money. It is better to under-pledge and go over than to over-pledge and go under. Do not pledge an amount that you know you will not be able to reach.

**Who will know the amount of my/our financial pledge?** Only Donna Taylor, our Parish Administrator, will know the amount of your pledge. A few times a year, she will mail you statements of your giving to help you keep track of your progress.

**What if I/we do not feel comfortable making a pledge?** We realize that not everyone feels comfortable making a financial pledge in advance for the upcoming year. While no one is required to give according to this system, please keep in mind that the amount of our annual budget is not based on non-pledge giving.

**How should I/we determine the amount of my/our pledge?** The Old Testament model of the tithe (10% of one's income) provides an appropriate starting point for believers today, who, according to the New Testament, should give regularly, generously, sacrificially, and joyfully. Whatever your current level of giving, be sure to make it a matter of family conversation and prayer, always striving to follow the Scripture's teaching and the Spirit's leading.