



Dear St. Andrew's Family,

As we reflect on this past year, we are grateful for the firm foundation God has laid at St. Andrew's; a foundation built on your ongoing prayers, presence, financial gifts, service, and witness. Because of your faithful stewardship, our shared mission of **Reaching People, Creating Community**, and **Serving the World** continues to grow deep roots and bear lasting fruit in Brandon and beyond.

In 2026, thanks to your faithful generosity, we built upon that foundation and are excited to share an update on two of our major church initiatives:

- **Revisiting Our Mission:** In February, a team gathered to prayerfully discern where God was calling us to expand our missional footprint. Those efforts led us to establish a new local partnership with Hope for Her right here in Brandon. Furthermore, our congregation continued its hands-on commitment to disaster recovery by sending two relief teams to Perry, Florida, for hurricane relief. Then, to honor our history as a sending church, we also returned to international missions by commissioning a team to serve alongside Steps of Hope in Guatemala.
- **New Small Groups:** Over the summer, a group of volunteers met to explore new ways to expand our small group offerings. Their work resulted in fresh ways for us to build relations and our faith, including the launch of *Dinners for 8*, the formation of a Young Adult Group, and new Bible study opportunities designed for conversation and community for people both inside and outside our walls.

As we thank God for guiding us through these initiatives, we also know that carrying out our mission requires a welcoming campus. To ensure that our facilities remain a comfortable space for worship and ministry, we launched the **'Keeping Our Cool!' Capital Campaign** over the next three years. Thanks to your remarkable generosity, we are thrilled to celebrate that we have already received **\$246,400** in 3-year pledges toward our \$300,000 goal; along with generous upfront cash gifts this year that are already sufficient to replace an entire AC unit outright as we continue updating our campus while fully protecting our daily operating budget!

Furthermore, alongside these initiatives, our ongoing ministries continue to flourish. From welcoming children to Vacation Bible School, growing our youth ministry, providing food and care through our Food Pantry and Respite Center, to celebrating 50 years of faithful service through Meals on Wheels. Every life touched is a direct result of your faithful support. Looking toward 2027, we will focus on Leadership Development and Spiritual Formation; building directly upon what we have done together over the past few years. (continued on back)





faithful

STEWARDSHIP IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

In the coming year, we are committing as a congregation to deepen our discipleship by increasing our personal and collective prayer lives, engaging Scripture together through increased Bible reading, and intentionally equipping, training, and mentoring leaders across all ages to guide the future of our church.

In these uncertain economic times, your faithful commitment is what allows St. Andrew's to remain a light of hope, grace, and transformation. As you prayerfully consider your response, we invite you to complete your **2027 Financial Pledge Card** as an investment in our shared mission. Please bring your pledge card with you to worship on or before **Commitment Sunday, November 8, 2026**, or submit your pledge securely online.

"Test me in this, says the Lord of heavenly forces. See if I won't open the windows of heaven for you and empty out a blessing until there is enough and more than enough." — Malachi 3:10 (CEB)

Thank you for your faithful partnership as we build on our foundation, grow in grace, and serve the mission of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church.

With Gratitude,

Jayne & Adam

