



St. CHRISTOPHER

Episcopal Church

Brothers and Sisters of St. Christopher,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. This letter is written to you on the cusp of what hopes to be a season of cooler weather. Fall is blooming, and the air temperature is dropping ever so slightly. One can smell the sweetness of change. Yet culturally, it may feel as though we are amid a record-breaking heatwave.

In just four short weeks, our country will elect a new president. Statistically, about half of the country will celebrate the result, and the other half will be less than thrilled. The campaign leading up to the election has left little (if anything) to be desired. Full of rancor, discord, half-truths and outright lies, this season of politicking has grown increasingly divisive, leaving many to ask if this is the best we as a country can do.

However, I know this to objectively true... our church family does not reflect the current “temperature” of the season. Quite the contrary. Despite the influence of media, social media, and those who seek power, St. Christopher reflects something counter. We live a different sort of reality and we know a different sort of result.

It's in this objective truth that the Holy Spirit inspired our stewardship theme for 2025. Coming from Micah 6:8, we read that **“The Lord requires of us to Do Justice, Love Kindness, and Walk Humbly with your God.”** Indeed! This **is** what St. Christopher does! This **is** who St. Christopher is! This **is** how St. Christopher is called to live!

In 2025, the Holy Spirit is calling our congregation to push through the division and hopelessness that ensnares the world around us, dispelling these broken conditions through sacramentally promoting justice, kindness, and humbleness into our community. We will do this work in part, through our stewardship to The Church.

Throughout the month of October, we will be diving deep into Micah 6:8 in a Sunday sermons series preached by the clergy and laity of St. Christopher, discerning what it means to Do Justice, Love Kindness, and Walk Humbly, and how our giving empowers this amazing family to do so.

On Sunday, October 27th, what we call Ingathering Sunday, during both services, we will celebrate your faithful pledged giving for 2025 by asking God’s blessings upon the stewardship of this community. It’s on this Sunday that we ask you to turn in your pledge card that accompanies this letter.

The vestry and I challenge every St. Christopher household to pledge in 2025, not out of obligation or in any specific amount, but out of gratitude for God’s blessings and your excitement for how the Holy Spirit is calling us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the world in 2025! You’ll hear more about that on the 27th at our Annual Parish Meeting immediately following the 10:30am service!

Now well into our 9th year serving side by side as rector and congregation, I continue to remain forever blessed to be a part of this amazing family!

Fr. Brian+