



St. John's Lutheran Church
Sharing God's Grace, Serving Through Love

CELEBRATING OUR CALLING

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2026

APPEAL GOAL: Increased generosity
of \$1300 or more per week

Helping Our Neighbors

At St. John's, we give thanks that God has showered us with grace and we pour out grace upon others. When neighbors face hardship, we respond with love in action.

When we serve and help those in our community who are in need, we embody the love of God. Our increased giving will expand outreach projects that directly help those in need, such as care kits for the Good Neighbor Clinic, our annual Chili Cookoff, pumpkins for CAPA youth to carve, and shipping quilts to Lutheran World Relief for disaster relief worldwide.

Our gifts will also increase our support to organizations serving our most vulnerable neighbors, from local agencies like HELP of Beaufort, to places farther away like The Dwelling in Winston-Salem, NC and the Nuru Daycare Center in Kenya. Together, our generosity extends God's grace beyond our walls to transform lives and proclaim the reign of God's love.

Commitment Sunday will be October 19. We invite you to celebrate our calling as God's people at St. John's by sharing your gifts, so that together we might live into the Good News of God's love!



CAROL RUFF *St. John's Member*

Carol was raised in Ohio. When she met a boy named Harley, her journey toward Beaufort began, leading to marriage, the Ruff & Ruff law practice, and three children, Clayton, Graham, and Mary.

When Carol began looking for a new church home, she started with churches that celebrated holy communion weekly. That search started – and ended – with St. John's. From the first she was taken with the absolute love for all people which she witnessed and experienced. "I was amazed at how genuinely sweet the people were." She found the congregation's focus on following Jesus just what she needed.

She says that St. John's stripped her of the notion that there are checklists or tasks that must be completed to be faithful. She found the emphasis on simple reflection on being accountable to Christ's teaching to be life giving, and she appreciates the way this focus was a support to her family in raising children in the faith.

Carol also loves the fact that the building is used for more than worship. Mentioning the many musical and 12-step groups which use St. John's building, she says, "Our church is not a sacred space for worship only, it's a place where we can serve and be generous to our community." She finds necessities such as having to replace carpet because it is worn out not to be a burden, but rather a sign that God's work is being done!

This graph displays two charts of our giving. The first shows how many gifts are currently being given at the indicated weekly amounts. The other shows how many gifts are needed in each level to reach our goal. As you look over the charts, prayerfully ask yourself the following:

- “How does my giving level compare with other ways I use my money?”
- “How adequately does my weekly giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I have received?”
- “Where would I be if I doubled my weekly offerings? And can I consider doing that?”
- “How much more could I give if I really wanted to?”

