



## ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1333 Jamestown Road  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185  
Telephone: 757 229-1111

October 10, 2011

Dear Parish Family,

St. Martin's undoubtedly provides benefits to you as it regularly does for us. As we encounter various situations each week, perhaps it's the constant assurance of reflection, worship, and readjustment on Sunday morning or, while many in our community, nation, and world are in need, perhaps it's the powerful and reassuring link to God through prayer and communion with others. Maybe it's simply the gift of helping others through our Parish's external and internal outreach ministries, actions that give back in ways we never imagined - - or expected. Whatever the appeal, St. Martin's is the steadfast entity that binds us together and moves us forward in the body of Christ.

As our Parish plans for 2012, gift pledges received this fall will enable our future annual ministries together. It is also important that you are made aware of three areas of our annual strategic action plan that have not been funded at the desired level during 2011:

- \* Our clergy is paid below the median of the recommended professional/diocesan standard for their positions; *meanwhile, we recognize Shirley and Clay's worth and we all continue to feel the blessings and promise that lie ahead in our work with and growth together.*
- \* St. Martin's was not able to increase our diocesan pledge this year. Our parish goal is a small increase in annual giving annually to eventually meet a 10% tithe in the future.
- \* Outreach, a founding principle of our parish, was slated for a modest increase in funding that we were not able to fulfill this year.

Your 2012 pledge card is enclosed and we ask you to join us in enthusiastically increasing and committing vital financial support to allow us to meet our strategic action plan in addition to growing your active involvement in other essential areas of our Parish home.

Please think and act prayerfully in this important regard and please let us hear from you by returning your confidential pledge card in the offering plate on or before Ingathering Sunday, November 13.

Furthermore, please consider a charitable bequest provision for the long-term benefit of St. Martin's ministries. A member of the endowment committee will be pleased to contact you if a legacy option like this is of interest. Please make note of this on your pledge card if so.

With sincere appreciation for your thoughtful consideration - - and vital action.

Sincerely,

The Vestry of St. Martin's Episcopal Church

*P.S. Pledges may also be confidentially made through our website at [www.stmartinswmbg.org](http://www.stmartinswmbg.org).*