



Friends,

2024 Every Member Canvass campaign invites members of St. Francis in the Fields to recognize the source of all blessings and to respond with gratitude and generosity through their financial giving. This year's stewardship campaign theme, "All Things Come of Thee, O Lord," is rooted in the biblical truth that all good things come from God, and that our financial resources are also a gift from Him.

In 1 Chronicles 29:14, King David declares, *"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."* Similarly, in James 1:17, we read that *"every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."* The baseline assumption of Holy Scripture is that God stands as the generative source of all that is good in our lives, giving us grace and enabling us to make, grow, earn, and build to the glory of His name. Indeed, generations in our church have borne witness to this truth through their faithful generosity.

It is my hope to cultivate an even deeper culture of generosity and faithfulness in our church community, as we recognize that all things come from God and respond with joyful giving. By giving generously and joyfully, we participate in God's mission to love and serve the world, stewarding the resources He has given us to make a tangible difference in the lives of others.

Our Hymnal offers numerous hymns that speak to our 2024 EMC theme. One such hymn is "All Creatures of our God and King," which was inspired by the life of St. Francis of Assisi, our patron saint. Francis was a man who recognized the goodness of God in all of creation and lived a life of deep gratitude and simplicity. As Christian disciples we are also called to live with a spirit of gratitude and simplicity.

Therefore, I invite you to examine your giving habits and commit to giving in a way that reflects your gratitude for the manifold ways God has blessed us, chiefly in Jesus Christ. May this pledge campaign inspire us to live with a spirit of generosity, gratitude, and simplicity, as we recognize that "all things come of Thee, O Lord...and of thine own have we given thee."

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clint+'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Clint+