



September 2019

Dear friends at St. John's,

Like many others, my husband Chris and I walked through the doors of St John's Church because we were new parents and wanted to have our son Ned baptized. Little did we know that we were embarking on a journey with a spiritual home that would become a central part of our lives in so many ways. Simply put, St. John's is a vibrant community that has nourished our family and enriches the lives of so many others.



We raised our sons at St. John's, where they were active participants in Sunday School and the J2A youth program; they both were regular acolytes, attended pilgrimages and participated in the Christmas pageant, where they graduated from lowly sheep to the angel Gabriel. Chris and I have become involved in all aspects of our special community, volunteering and engaging in many capacities. This faith community has supported us in hard times, given us refuge in times of uncertainty, and been a place to celebrate the joys of our lives.

Of the many friendships we have made in the Hartford area, the relationships we have with others at St John's are deeper because of the spiritual connectedness we share with our church friends. While individual prayer, study, and reflection can be meaningful, there is a special power in praying, singing, and worshipping with others.

We feel blessed to have walked through those big wooden doors so many years ago and arrived at our spiritual home. St John's has enriched our lives, and we give joyfully – in gratitude for all the blessings that have been bestowed on us and in recognition that all that we have is not truly ours, but God's. We also, on a practical note, give to support all our important ministries and ways that St. John's helps so many others in Hartford and elsewhere. Please join us in making an annual pledge to support this special place.

With gratitude,

Kim Byrd