

# A LETTER FROM THE BISHOP

MARCH 12, 2025

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

BISHOP AND THEOLOGIAN, 604



The Rev. Laurie Anzilotti  
St. Francis' Episcopal Church  
602 Rockwood Arbor Drive  
Eureka, MO 63025

Dear Laurie and Members of St. Francis',

Grace and peace to you in Christ Jesus our Savior. Upon the receipt of your petition to become a parish within the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee of said Diocese, and in accordance with the Canons of this Diocese, I am pleased to advance your petition to the 186th Diocesan Convention for ratification and approval.

Congratulations on this tremendous milestone in the life of St. Francis' Episcopal Church! Yours has been a journey of seeking to serve Christ in all persons, as you gather each week to love, worship, and serve the people of God. As you embark on this new adventure, know that you carry the hopes and aspirations of those who took a chance to dream of something new in Eureka. Know also that you are called to plant seeds of hope for the generations to come who will call St. Francis' their spiritual home.

St. Francis of Assis once said, "A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows." In many ways, you have been a bright beacon of hope dispelling the shadows of difference, despair, and division so often found in our world. Continue to let your light so shine that you give glory to God!

Know that you have the prayers, well-wishes and support of your siblings across the Diocese of Missouri and you will continue to be in my prayers along the way. May God continue to richly bless and keep you in all ways.

Yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson,  
XI Bishop of Missouri

