

June 24, 2025

Dear Siblings in Christ,

There is a wonderful adage that goes, "threads break, but cloth can be mended." This wisdom reminds us that no tear is too wide for God to stitch back together –and that we are each a part of a Divine tapestry. We are woven together.

In a world unraveling from war, climate crisis, and deepening divisions, it is easy to feel frayed at the edges. Yet in the midst of this unraveling, God is doing something beautiful: weaving us together with abiding grace, caring compassion, and holy purpose.

In this season in the life of the church and the world, we remember: we are not alone. We are each, cherished threads in God's grand design. Each one of us bears the imprint of God's love, and each of us has a unique part to play in weaving healing, justice, and hope into the fabric of our communities.

When we lift the voices of those silenced, we weave hope.

When we work to heal racial injustice, we weave justice.

When we nourish bodies, minds, and spirits, we weave love.

This is holy work. This is our work. And none of us weaves alone.

Through the Bishop's Annual Appeal, we join in this sacred weaving. Our gifts become threads of transformation, strengthening ministries that serve those most in need:

- The Chester Hines Racial Reconciliation Fund, building a future rooted in repair and equity.
- Hunger ministries, offering sustenance and dignity to our neighbors.
- Congregational leadership development, equipping leaders in underserved communities.

I invite you to join me in supporting the Bishop's Annual Appeal—to share your thread in this sacred tapestry of justice, compassion, and resurrection. Together, we are repairing the fabric of our world, not with might, but with small acts of steadfast love.

Thank you for your gracious generosity, your steadfast faith, and above all your eager willingness to be part of God's unfolding story. You are a vital thread in this vision of hope—and I am honored to walk alongside you. With gratitude and hope,

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson

Eleventh Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

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