Dear Friends of St. James'

As I sit down to write to you today, my thoughts shift to the theme of our stewardship campaign which is "Plenty of Room". In God's house there is always room for more ideas, more people, more ways to share, and more stories to tell. In the world God has created for us there is room for more love, more connection, more peace, and more creativity. The ways we steward our relationships, responses, and resources to grow our ministries and help our neighbors are the ways we connect our gratitude to our generosity.

This is a time for celebration for our church. A time when we reflect together on how we can be stewards of God's will. It is a time to think of how best we can use our time, talent, and treasure to help St. James' continue to be a beacon of hope.

We should all be proud of our accomplishments, and the difference we are making for the members of our church and our surrounding community. This year we are going to focus on children and youth services by providing Sunday School, a youth group, and a nursery service to make it easier for parents to come to church. There will also be a children's choir which has been missing for many years. These are exciting times. We hope some of you will see this as an opportunity to invite people to our church, and to share your time and talents to help make these programs a success.

The continuation of all these ministries requires your contributions of time, talent, and treasure. We are asking for your prayerful consideration of an additional 6% as you determine your pledge amount for this year. This represents the additional revenue needed to fund the budget for 2027.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for making these past three years a wonderful experience for me. It was inspiring to see the dedication of this parish to do God's work. It will be exciting to watch what we are able to achieve in the future.

With gratitude,

David Parille
Stewardship Chair

BEACON OF HOPE

September 27, 2026

Dear St. James' Family,

It is an honor to be Rector of a faithful parish who truly exemplifies this year's Stewardship theme, ***Plenty of Room***. I've witnessed it often—a table full of people connecting, and when someone else approaches, chairs are quickly moved aside to make room for one more.

Our theme, ***Plenty of Room***, invites us to think not simply about what we give to St. James', but what God might be calling us to make room for - in our lives, our worship, our ministries, our buildings and grounds, and our community.

This year, the Vestry spent time doing just that and concluded that three areas beg attention:

• Worship — including some contemporary music and different ways to gather.

• Stewardship — exploring how we give of our time and talent throughout the year.

• Long-range planning — envisioning how St. James' will accommodate its certain growth in the coming years, including campus improvements.

Each area opens room for people to grow spiritually, give in ways they might not have thought possible, and imagine a flourishing future for St. James'.

I feel confident saying, "certain growth"! In the last 18 months, our church, with its incredibly welcoming culture, has seen over 60 visitors. While they may not all be staying, the fact that they were moved to come in, or return to, our church is inspiring. And we're showing these newcomers and returning parishioners that we have ***Plenty of Room***. So yes, I feel that our growth is certain.

Please take some time with the brochure to discover where there is room for you, and what's new. I am personally increasing my pledge this year. Please join me in considering how comfortably you can pledge for next year, generously and joyfully, as we continue to pull up chairs and say, "Come, join us, and let's consider how God is calling us now!" Your financial commitment, volunteerism and passions make this bright future possible.

Faithfully yours,

Rev. Gina Gore

The Rev. Gina Gore
Rector