



Joining Jesus:

A campaign for St. James' Episcopal Church



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

For over 250 years and through multiple generations, St. James' has served the community of Danbury as a source of service, public witness, and prayerful concern. Our gatherings welcome all and are occasions of ardent spirituality, true education, and cordial fellowship, where we are blessed with a venerable building with red doors in which to meet.

However, we are also charged with stretching our witness beyond the bounds of our parish campus. Our ministry continues to call us to break barriers so to welcome all, to speak of the passions and joys we have found through Jesus, and to live into our baptismal ministries through humble service to those in need in our own community and beyond.

With our Vestry's accord, we believe the time has come for us to enhance our ability to continue God's mission through St. James' Church. We invite you to read more about this historical milestone, and hope that you receive this message with openness and hospitality. This is a time of opportunity, and we feel confident that, with the intention and support of the St. James' community, we will safeguard our legacy and enable our mission to be active for generations to come.

Please know that as your new Rector, I treasure the gift of walking with you on this journey.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge, Rector

*“St James’ community
has a passion for sharing
God’s love and serving
God in our church and
our community.”*

Our Campaign

Through prayer, conversation, and research, we have decided to address St. James' needs through a \$450,000 campaign in conjunction with the Episcopal Church in Connecticut: *Joining Jesus*.

This extraordinary effort will be unlike any our parish has previously undertaken, and success will depend on the prayerful participation of our loyal families and friends. Our campaign will support the following priorities:



\$100,000

Address capital projects to preserve and protect our sacred space for worship and community

Beginning with the red doors, St. James' long celebrated and landmark buildings and grounds have always been a part of what make our parish such a warm, inviting, and welcoming community. In addition to **upgrading heating and energy systems** of our beautiful church, St. James' will establish a **capital reserves fund** to cover costs of capital projects that will inevitably arise, receive gifts and bequests with the intent of being maintained on a longer-term basis.

Our grounds are an extension of the church sanctuary and we aim to consider opportunities to develop features that support church life and raise our visibility and presence within our community. With the funds raised through this campaign we hope to **repurpose our spaces** to make them more functional, **increase accessibility** in key spaces so all feel welcome and able to participate, **develop an outdoor chapel**, and **address parking needs**.

\$260,000

Repurposing indoor and outdoor space to increase St. James' capacity



\$90,000

Support Camp Washington as a resource for faith formation in our state

Camp Washington is ECCT's camp and retreat center, and it has been a site for spiritual respite for over 100 years. From summer camp to adult retreats to diocesan events, **Camp Washington** is a year-round center for discipleship rooted in the beauty of God's creation and love. Funding from St. James' will support **facilities enhancements and expanded programming** to serve as ECCT's primary resource for Christian formation in Connecticut.



How You Can Help

The Joining Jesus campaign seeks participation of all God's people at St. James' to ensure our continued vitality in participating in God's mission and sharing God's love with our neighbors.

Each family or individual's financial situation is different — and ability to give can change from time to time. The special projects outlined here, which require support beyond St. James' annual stewardship support, are an opportunity for you to become involved in a way that is appropriate for you, your family, and circumstance.

Our campaign will pursue gifts payable over five years so that all individuals and families in our parish have the opportunity to give a gift according to how they have been blessed. To be successful, this effort will require the generosity of many, not just a few.

With the arrival of our new rector, these are exciting times for our community, and this campaign will be transformative for St. James'.

Join us as we set out on a faith-filled journey to proudly proclaim our faith and make meaningful investments in a strong and secure future for St. James'.

Sample Total Pledge	Annual Payments	Monthly Payments	Daily Equivalent
<i>\$25,000</i>	\$5,000	\$417	\$13.89
<i>\$18,000</i>	\$3,600	\$300	\$10.00
<i>\$12,000</i>	\$2,400	\$200	\$6.58
<i>\$6,000</i>	\$1,200	\$100	\$3.29
<i>\$3,000</i>	\$600	\$50	\$1.15
<i>\$1,500</i>	\$300	\$25	\$0.84

Methods of Giving

- **Pledges** payable over three to five years, with payments made by check, credit card, electronic fund transfer, stock transfers, or recommendations to Donor Advised Funds.
- **Planned gifts** by designating St. James' as a beneficiary in your will.
- **Gifts of stock**, which will be sold as soon as they are received.
- **IRA Transfer** to allow donating directly from your retirement assets.

Joining Jesus **CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

Janet Brown • Ryan Beaudry • Dan and Beth Cox
Russ and Judy Griemsmann • Denise Holl • Lyn Myers • Linda Spaziani