

# ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## 25 WEST STREET, DANBURY, CT 06810



## PARISH REPORT

### 2020

**AGENDA**  
**For the 258th Annual Meeting**  
**January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

**Opening Prayers**

**Presentation and Adoption of Roll of Voting Members** p. 3

**Minutes of the 257th Annual Meeting** p. 4

**Written Reports:** (Emailed with Friday e-Pistle and as postal hard copy, as needed)

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**Wardens' Report**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Rector's Report**

**Standing Resolution**

- Authorize Vestry for short term borrowing of up to \$50,000, if necessary

**Thanksgiving for Class of 2020 Vestry Members**

**Election of 2021 Officers and Class of 2023 Vestry** p. 23

**Adjourn**

# ANNUAL MEETING VOTER ELIGIBILITY LIST

## Qualifications required for voting privileges

“Of the members of the Parish, only those entitled to vote at any Parish meeting shall be:

- 1) adult communicants, age 16 years or older
- 2) who for six months prior to that meeting, shall have been faithful attendants at services of the Church and Parish, and
- 3) unless for good cause provided, faithful contributors to its support, and faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God.”

*per Parish By-Laws and Diocesan/National Church Canons*

Janis Anderson	Jana Draper	Jill Kuhn	Jean Ruopp
Martin Anderson	Marnie Emerito	Sheila Landis	Jehad Sabbagh
Gina Andress	William Evans	Pat Larsen	Kathy Sabbagh
Jody Armstrong	Shirley Ferrarone	Ethel Leahey	Leslie Sanford
Karen Beaudry	Elizabeth Fescoe	Marion Liberati	Mark Sarkisian
Katie L. Beaudry	Randall Fescoe	Louise Liston	Susie Sarkisian
Raymond Beaudry	William Florian	Walter Liston	Hansel Scherwenik
Ryan Beaudry	Carolyn Flynn	Nancy Lorenz	Nancy Schofield
Virginia Benton	Janis Flynn	Lillian MacBain	Joanne Siergiej
Yvonne Benton	Robert Flynn	Anthony Marsico	Irene Simonelli
Dean Berardo	Sean Flynn	Lisa Marsico	Jill Simonelli
Doreen Bermudes	Danielle Franco	Harold McCarthy	Elaine Sleath
Deidra Beschle	Theo Gammie	Marie McCarthy	Linda Spaziani
James Beschle	Frank Giarratana	Jane McGarry	Ann Stephenson
Lloyd Best	Eugene Goetz	Maria McGowan	Mark Stirling
Patricia Best	Arlene Grant	Loretta McLaughlin	Loraine Subryan
Cathleen Blasco	Judith Griemsmann	Mark Meyer	David Swanson
Joyce Bloom	Russell Griemsmann	Lyn Meyers	Kathi Swanson
George Bogart	Cheryl Harewood	May Molinaro	Joan Tarrant
Mildred Boughton	Ernest Harrington	Elise Montanari	Bill Thalman
Allan Brown	Linda Harrison	Albert Montecalvo	Laurie-Jean Thalman
Janet Brown	Jean Hassen	Karen Montecalvo	Judith Toce
Rita Butler	Helena Hawkshawe	John Morris	Jeanne Todaro
John Cheeseman	Mimi Herald	Kathleen Mould	Barbara Torres
Vivien Cheeseman	Denise Holl	Su Murdock	Judith Toth
Charles Clapp	Vicki Hutchinson	John Murphy	John Triebe
Linda Clapp	William Hutchinson	Virginia Murphy	Linda Triebe
Carole Conaway	Catherine Jaber-Kreiger	Maryellen Owens	Dustin Trowbridge
Beth Cox	Edith Janesky	Betsy Pankulis	Patricia Trowbridge
Daniel Cox	James Johnson	Barbara Parks	Alvin Tuck
Michael Cummings	Robert Johnson	Patricia Pearson	Donna Tuck
Joseph Davidson	Robert Johnson	Robert Pearson	Joseph Walkovich
Karen Davidson	Susan Johnson	Erma Rausch	Joseph Ward
Ruth Davis	David Katz	Luciana Correia Rausch	Warren Webster
Barbara DeVeaux	Laura Katz	Richard Rausch Sr.	Lewis Westfall
Christine DiMeglio	Deborah Kaufmann	Richard Rausch Jr.	Robert Wirag
Anthony DiPerrio	Yvonne Kiddoe	Gary Rogers	Carnell Woody
Nanci DiPerrio	Nancy Kinkade	Clair Rundhaug	Victoria Woody
Bridgett Downer	Christopher Kuell	Kirk Rundhaug	

**St. James' Episcopal Church, 25 West Street, Danbury, CT 06810**  
**257<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Minutes – January 26th, 2020**

**Opening Prayers:**

A prayer was offered at the end of the 10:00am service by Christine DiMeglio.

**Presentation and Adoption of Roll of Voting Members:**

- The qualifications required to be a voting member were stated and briefly discussed.
- A motion was made by Chris Kuell and seconded by Jeanne Todaro to accept the qualifications/rules, all in attendance agreed.

**Minutes of the 256th Annual Meeting:**

- A motion was made by Chris Kuell and seconded by Jihad Sabbagh to accept the 2019 Annual Meeting notes, all in attendance agreed.

**Table talk Discussion (A Celebration of Life Together and New Life Ahead):**

Reverend Lisa Hahneman spoke a little bit about St. James' as a church and what/who we are as a Church and in the community. We talked a little about things we do like and what don't like in/with St. James' at this time, and where we would like to see "us" moving toward in the future.

- Lisa spoke about and asked for feedback (she will pass on to Father Dustin Trowbridge) about:
  - Our bulletins – we made changes this year to the structure and format - How do we feel about this?
  - How do the 8:00am attendees feel about Rite 1 or Rite 2?
  - How do we feel about the introductions to the readings - helpful/not helpful?
  - Prayers for the People - Do we want to keep the ones we are currently using or we would like to go back to the ones in the Prayer Book?
  - What is it that draws you in? What pulls you?
  - Doxology – yes/no?
  - Lord's Prayer – sung or spoken?
  - Gloria or some other appropriate hymn of praise?

**Reports:**

It was stated that the written reports for the year, from all, were part of the Parish Report documents that were handed out today at the meeting. Please feel free to take home and read at your convenience. It was asked if anyone had any questions at that time.

**Financial Reports:**

- Linda Spaziani presented the vital statistics on 2019 and 2020
- She discussed the 2019 income/expense report and broke down where things went well and where things increased in cost.
- Linda spoke about the budget for 2020, and again broke down what our income and expense report.
  - Linda discussed the 2020 Budget to include that we are taking over \$100K out of endowment appreciation that is above recommended Diocesan levels
- She then went through the pledge comparison and commented that we did have additional new pledges come in this year, which is good.



- Questions were then offered:
  - Linda H asked a question regarding the endowment and Lisa answered what she could - One was : Can the endowment be added to?
  - Alvin asked if the “Book of Living Trust” had been updated recently
- Lisa/Linda then spoke about the Capital Campaign that has started
  - Beth and Dan Cox will be heading this team
  - If you are interested in joining the team, please reach out to Beth, Dan or Lisa
- A motion was made by Joe Walkovich and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeanne Todaro to accept the Financial Report – all agreed and thanked Linda S for all she does

### **Standing Resolutions:**

- 1- Filling Vestry vacancies until next Annual meeting
  - a. A motion was made by Janice Anderson and seconded by Bob Pearson to accept the slate of new vestry members - All agreed
- 2- Short Term borrowing up to \$50,000 if necessary
  - a. A motion was made by Lyn Myers and seconded by Carolyn Flynn to approve the borrowing of allotted money if the need should arise - All agreed
- 3- Permit Vestry to invest and reinvest funds of the Parish
  - a. A motion was made by Jeanne Todaro and seconded by Virginia Benton to allow the Vestry to invest/reinvest funds of the Parish - All agreed

### **Thanksgiving for the Class of 2019 Vestry Members:**

- A farewell and a big thank you was given to our outgoing Vestry members. A gift was given to each. Vicky Woody was not there.
- A huge thank you was also given to the Discernment and Recruitment teams for all they did this past year.

### **Election of Officers and Class of 2023 Vestry:**

- A motion was made by Linda Spaziani and seconded by Carolyn Flynn to accept the new members - All agreed
- A welcome to the new members of the Vestry was given to all

### **Old Business:**

- Joe Walkovich said a big thank you to all and a special thanks to Joanne Archibald, Dilsa Quade and Ricky Sanz.
- He also gave a special acknowledgement and thanks to Rev. Lisa - You are a true guiding force and we wish you the best always.
- Gary R stated that the tenants in the Rectory should be moving out on Jan 29<sup>th</sup> and we need help cleaning up the place before Father Dustin moves in on Feb 17<sup>th</sup>

### **New Business:**

- A reminder was given to all to sign the attendance sheets
- Lisa stated that we will be hosting a public forum on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in Parish Hall on Gun Violence

### **Meeting Adjourned:**

- Lisa lead us out with a closing prayer

**RECTOR'S LETTER**  
**The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge**  
**January 2021**

Dear People of St. James',

Borrowing words from St. Paul, the most influential church-planter of all time, I offer "Grace to you, and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ!" In the pages that follow, you will find a whole host of reports that your fellow parishioners have prepared for you, to bring us all up to speed on "The Year 2020 at St. James' Church." These reports, and the activities they describe, represent countless hours of commitment, care, and service to God and God's Church here in Danbury. Much of what you read here may be news to you. Because so much of our common life together this year took place physically apart from one another, we lost many of our usual opportunities to informally chat together and stay abreast of the goings-on of this church. So, I ask that every member of St. James' please read the following Annual Meeting Report carefully and thoroughly, both out of appreciation for all the work it entails, and also to ensure that all of us share a common picture of the current "State of St. James' Church" as we now head into 2021.

The reports contained here acknowledge in detail many of those to whom we owe our gratitude, and so I will simply here add my enthusiastic thanks to those rounds of applause you will read about. But I also want to express an especially deep bow of thanksgiving for the work of our Wardens Janet and Lyn, and our Treasurer Linda, whose labors, leadership, and oversight feature both in this document and in the presentations of our Annual Meeting. I'm fairly certain that through the course of 2020, these and other parish leaders have helped to keep St. James' peaceable and afloat in many ways and at many times that are completely unbeknownst to be. So, for all the good works I've seen and perhaps *especially* for all the good I've not seen, I'm grateful!

Looking back over the first 10 months I've spent with St. James', things still feel quite a bit unsettled. That's no surprise. Whenever a new priest steps into a leadership position with a congregation, there's always a distinct imbalance or asymmetry. Like a newcomer visiting a church service for the first time, the new priest has no established relationships with the members of the congregation. It's sort of an odd position to be in, suddenly being in some ways at the center of the life of the congregation, yet at the same time having the fewest connections to its members. But quickly, those connections begin to develop, though formal and informal contact during worship, at Coffee Hour, through parish activities and ministries, and of course, in the abundant casual and brief exchanges "in the hallways" of church life. However, because a pandemic struck our world almost immediately after I arrived to St. James', we have all been deprived of many of those opportunities to develop our bonds together as a congregation and a new rector. We have made do as best as we can with socially-distant outdoor activities and programming held online, but I realize that in many ways, we are still very much at the very beginning of establishing our relationships together as parishioners and priest. And so, I share this word of hope for the future, in the full expectation that we still have a lot of "catching up" to do. If it feels in 2021 that we are spending our second year together still just getting to know one another, I suspect that is because...we are!

Reflecting on the recent past, I think 2020 has been extraordinarily difficult for everyone. Most of us have probably never been through this sort of a long, unrelenting period of stress, affecting every aspect of our lives. As I write these words in 2021, I realize that we have no idea how much healing we are going to need in the future as individuals, and as a church. So much trauma has stricken us from so many directions over the past year, it will take time just to assess what our lives and our relationships

will be like in the future. In so many ways, we will not at all be able to step back in time and resume the lives we led and regain the identities we held on March 1<sup>st</sup>, my first Sunday with St. James. There will certainly be tensions. Some of us may feel a push to “get back to normal” as soon as possible, and put the nightmare of 2020 behind us. Others will be wounded and grieving, for years to come. I do not underestimate the difficulty that lies before us as we make our way through 2021, especially when we slowly discover and experience the many changes and adaptations that have occurred at St. James’ in 2020.

Now, I realize that all might sound like a rather grim way for me to open my first Annual Rector’s Report to you all! But just as there is a time to mourn, there is also a time to rejoice. Yes, the challenges and stresses that await us are real and pressing. But so, too, are the possibilities and opportunities that have already begun opening up for us, if we are bold and brave enough to walk through the doors that are opening for St. James’ this year (and *not* just the red doors on West Street!) I hope that all our parishioners are aware that during 2020, we developed an active, consistent, high-quality presence online as a worshipping community. Prior to 2020, very few Episcopal churches had taken that step towards “televangelism,” or only considered it as perhaps something to take on in the future, but not now. The 2020 pandemic made clear to all of us that a vibrant, dynamic, interactive online presence has become absolutely indispensable for any church that is going to continue thriving into the future.

St. James’ recognized that clear need, quickly adapting to our circumstances in March. First, we turned our attention toward live streaming our first services of Morning Prayer, and then we took on creating more sophisticated pre-recorded offerings that could remotely incorporate the gifts of our many worship leaders. Those videos have been a feat to accomplish each week, requiring the collaboration of lectors, intercessors, and musicians not just in Danbury, but spread across the United States. Even with nearly a year of practice, I still spend my Saturdays from about 9am to midnight working behind and before the camera on our Sunday worship videos. Is this online presence worth that kind of investment of so many peoples’ time? From my perspective, I would say “absolutely.” True, we have lost, for a time, the experience of physically being together, something that has been a defining characteristic and value of Christian communities since our very beginnings. All of us want to be back together again, and none of us is content with this socially-distanced way of life! But the truth is, our online worship in 2020 has spread our Gospel message to people who otherwise never would have been able to physically walk through our red doors. And that has truly been a blessing that we have received in 2020. In fact, the statistics from our Facebook and YouTube channels suggest that we are still reaching at least as many attendees in our Sunday worship as we were prior to the pandemic. Are there some faithful members of St. James’ who are unable to join us online, who would come regularly to in-person worship? Certainly. But there are also many who now consider themselves members of St. James’, who will only *ever* be able to be with us through online worship. So, as we go forward together, we will have to find that balance of being both grounded to a physical home, but not limited by it. St. James’ will and must be a church that offers “both/and” worship opportunities, to reach “those who are far off and those who are near,” with the peace of our Lord Jesus. (Eph. 2:17)

We are and ever shall be a Church profoundly changed by the 2020 coronavirus pandemic. That much is certain. The question is, will St. James’ resist those changes, or take advantage of them? As a practical, pragmatic priest, I’ve always appreciated the expression, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.” St. James’ is an Episcopal Church, a clear identity that carries with it a lot of things that “ain’t broke.” But it is also a church that is firmly embedded in a world that *is* broken, and that will need to flex and stretch in order to remain connected and effective in what God calls us to do in our present time and context. If 2020 has taught us anything, it is that when offered no other choice, St. James’ can prove remarkably

resilient and resourceful! The success of our To-Go Thanksgiving Dinner and our Intergenerational Zoom Christmas Pageant bears witness to that fact! Yes, we sometimes joke about our tendency in the Church to suspiciously scoff, *“that’s not the way we’ve always done it.”* But 2020 was a year in which we didn’t do *anything* the way we’ve always done it, and yet...here we are!

And so, my greatest hope for 2021 is that together we will take all the awkward newness, all the unsettled disruptions, all the incomplete bonding of 2020, pluck out the strongest and most enduring strands of this parish’s identity and God-inspired passions, and begin weaving a new tapestry of faith for our day. Or, to draw an illustration from the teachings of Jesus, to try on some fresh wineskins for this newest vintage. (Mark 2:22) Or, to borrow a technological metaphor apt for today... I suspect that most of us are familiar with the experience of a computer, smartphone, or tablet that begins malfunctioning on us. Perhaps an application freezes up, or a page won’t load, or we get some sort of error message that defies remedy. Sometimes, we just need to leave it alone for a minute to work through whatever internal difficulties it’s wrestling with. But sometimes, the problems just seem to multiply and snowball, until there’s really just one option. If we are going to move forward with the task at hand, with the work that remains for us to do, we have to just stop and “reboot.” We have to shut everything down for a time, before we start back up and give the processors a change to clear out their memory banks, and then start up fresh again. It’s a simple solution we apply to even our most sophisticated machinery and tools, and it’s remarkable for both its effectiveness in even the direst of situations, and for its utter simplicity. All it takes is a flick of a switch or the press of a single button, and behold, we can start again.

God willing, as the coronavirus pandemic comes under control this year, St. James’ will be afforded the precious opportunity to reboot our ministry machine. We will get to choose which “apps” we need to reload, which we can uninstall, and which we will want to hold onto for a time while we discern what to do next. But of this I am certain—when St. James’ begins to restart and resume corporate gathering again, there will be critical updates available and awaiting for our operating system! Sure, just like on our computers, we may be politely asked, “Would you like to install these updates *now*, or *tomorrow*?” But we won’t have the option to go back to our 2019 settings. Not if we want to thrive into 2021. Will there be a sharp learning curve with these new updates? Of course! There’s always a prickly growing edge to deal with whenever we make updates in our lives. But reboot, and restore, and reform, and recover, and refresh, is something that The Church has had to do from time to time in our 2,000 year history. And for St. James’, 2021 is going to be one of those times! I look forward to meeting the challenge with you all!

Yours for the journey,

*Fr. Dustin+*

The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge, *Rector*

**WARDENS' LETTER**  
**Janet Brown and Lyn Meyers**  
**January 2021**

At the beginning of 2020 we began our year filled with excitement for the future of St. James'. We had just called a new Rector who was to start his ministry here in March. We were in the middle of a Capital Campaign and looking forward to all that we could do to improve our space to make it more accessible and more inviting to all people. And on March 1<sup>st</sup> we welcomed the Rev. Dustin Trowbridge as our Rector. What an exciting day that was.

And then Covid-19 happened!! And things came to a screeching halt very quickly. We were told we had to close our church doors for the time being. Disappointing as this was as it was so close to Easter we anticipated that we would be back in church within a few weeks and have a wonderful celebration then. Obviously, that has not been the case and here we are 10 months later and still not back inside our beautiful worship space.

This has been a very difficult time for all of us. Not being able to worship together in person has left a lot of us frustrated, and even sometimes angry. But if we look at all that we have accomplished this past year we can be proud that we have remained strong as the people of St. James'.

At the beginning of the year a team of volunteers went into the Rectory to make it ready for Fr. Dustin and his husband, John to move into. This was no small task as every room in the house had to be cleaned, painted, floors replaced or polished, carpeting replaced, windows washed, and all within just a few short weeks. Thanks to Gary Rogers and his team (too many of you to mention here) for all their hard work in getting this accomplished in time for Fr. Dustin to move into.

Our Capital Campaign began in earnest at the beginning of 2020 and despite Covid-19 slowing down our campaign we were able to raise over \$400,000. To all those who pledged so generously to this campaign we thank you and are truly grateful for your commitment to St. James'.

Thanks to Fr. Dustin we have been able to enjoy Morning Prayer services from the Chapel each week. For a few weeks in late Summer and early Fall we were able to gather in person outside in the church playground for Evening Prayer. Our church school children had their own gatherings too. Each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays the service of Evening Prayer is offered and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday the service of Compline is available to us.

We have learned to Zoom!! Our committees have met each month, as has our Vestry. We have had social gatherings on Zoom, coffee hour after the Morning Prayer Service each Sunday, and Fridays with Friends on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month. We are still a community of people staying together as best we can.

In the summer, Christel Davis and George Bogart were able to put together a series of Carillon Concerts even as we kept our social distance.

Our garden team volunteers led by Allan Brown have kept our grounds weeded and planted so that we and our neighbors can enjoy our beautiful property. Our vegetable garden provided many pounds of produce for Daily Bread food pantry. Thank you for all those volunteers who made this possible.

Unfortunately, at the beginning of June we had to eliminate the position of Parish Administrator due to budget constraints. This was a very difficult decision by the Vestry and one not taken lightly. Consequently, this has put a lot of extra work on our Rector's shoulders. Even though our doors may be closed it does not mean there is not work to be done. The phone does not stop ringing, bills still need to be paid and records kept.



We have been so blessed with Fr. Dustin coming to be our Rector. His ability to adapt to the circumstances of online worship, meetings here at St. James', not counting all the virtual meetings on a Diocesan level is inspiring. We had no idea that we were hiring a videographer as well as a Rector! He survived two weeks with no heat at the Rectory when the boiler died during some of the coldest days and did not complain. So, yes, we are indeed blessed.

When preparing the budget for 2021 the Vestry had to make another difficult decision regarding the Sexton's position. As of March 1, 2021, we will no longer be able to give a cash stipend. The Sexton's compensation will be free housing and utilities which has not changed.

Thanks to Joanne Archibald, our Music Director, for continuing to keep offering up such wonderful music all these months. She too has adapted and spends many hours each week recording the hymns for our Morning Prayer service. The Bell Choir, under her direction, has practiced outdoors together and played at two of our Evening Prayer gatherings in the Fall. She has made it possible for our choir to provide an anthem for us every week with the help of John Morris who gathers all the individual recordings and magically puts them together as one voice. Thank you to all who make our music program continue.

Thanks to Jana Draper and Denise Holl for keeping Morning Prayer going for the three weeks that Fr. Dustin was on vacation. Learning new skills during this pandemic! And thanks also for leading Evening Prayer services on Tuesday and Thursday each week.

Our Christmas services were very different this year as we could not meet for in-person worship and so we adapted. Under the direction of Susie Sarkisian we put on an inter-generational Christmas Pageant "Zooming to Bethlehem" at 5 pm on Christmas Eve and this was followed at 7 pm by our service of Christmas Lessons and Carols. Many thanks to Susie and Fr. Dustin for putting together these two very meaningful services.

Thanks to Ricky Sanz, our Sexton, for continuing to keep the building clean, opening and closing every day. For keeping the sidewalks cleaned of snow, lawns mowed and leaves raked and for being on call if the alarm goes off.

Our thanks too to Linda Spaziani, our Treasurer. She has been keeping our finances in order all this time and also took over paying the bills, and writing the checks after the Administrator position was ended. Not only that but Linda is the one that plays a huge part in posting on our social media pages. Those little one-liners that appear on our Face Book page from time to time are her handiwork. She takes a lot of the pictures that appear there too. Not only our Treasurer, but Linda is a real treasure here at St. James'.

We say Goodbye and Thank you to three of our Vestry members this year: Carolyn Flynn, our Worship Committee Chair, Jeanne Todaro, our Growing in Faith Chair and Lew Westfall, At Large member. Each one had to adapt to our online worship and did so willingly and graciously and so we thank you all.

To Fr. Dustin we thank you for your leadership and encouragement as we have moved through these past 10 months. You have inspired us to continue to be a community of faithful people and kept us together so that we can continue to do the work God would have us do. And to you, the people of St. James', we thank you for staying the course and we look forward to working with you in this next new year and chapter of our life together.

God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.

*Janet and Lyn, Wardens*

**FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP**  
**Jehad Sabbagh (Chair/Vestry Liaison)**

2020 was a year of challenges for St. James' Church. We started with a Capital Campaign and an ambitious goal of raising \$400,000. The fund will go towards needed improvements to the maintenance and improvements of our beautiful church and grounds.

Thanks to all the parishioners that have made contributions to the Capital Campaign, our goal has been met. The Capital Campaign does not end in 2020. You may still make a contribution throughout the year.

Although we were not able to meet for in-person church service our expenses were not reduced in any significant manner.

In 2020 St. James' did not have a significant shortfall in pledge collections. We were however, constrained to take as much as we previously have from the Endowment as we were close to the book value during several months of 2020. St. James' received a PPP loan through the federal government CARES ACT of \$39,705. We were fortunate to have \$33,327 forgiven.

The position of Administrative Assistance is presently performed by volunteers. While this is not the ideal plan, it will continue as the Finance Committee explores the possibility of filling the position in a form that meets our budget and need.

Thank you to Fr. Dustin Trowbridge for renegotiating the copier and communication contract that resulted in a reduction to those expenses.

The Fundraising and Rental Committee, a two in one committee was created to evaluate how space is being utilized and develop a plan to maximize any potential of raising or increasing revenue from this space.

Stewardship as a part of the Finance Committee is a year-round campaign, we encourage all parishioners to consider their ability to share their treasure to meet the needs of our parish throughout the year.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**  
**Gary Rogers (Chair/Vestry Liaison)**

At St. James, we appreciate the grand facilities we inherited from our forebears, and the mission of this committee is the maintenance and improvement of our historic buildings and properties. With buildings dating from 1875, we are lucky to have members of our committee who are able to spend the time and energy to address numerous issues that come up regarding hardware repairs, minor electrical repairs and patching/painting repairs due to deterioration within the buildings. When the scope of work is beyond our own abilities, we have relationships with heating contractors, plumbers, electricians and others whom we can call on for their expertise. With knowledgeable gardeners within our Parish to direct the rest of us, we are able to maintain and beautify the gardens and lawns around our buildings.

"Work Shirt Saturdays", which we hold several times a year, are a way that the overall St. James community can come together to work with the Buildings and Grounds Committee to beautify our facilities and enjoy comradery with other parishioners. Most often we are outside doing yard work, but in the case of bad weather, we will work inside or help the Altar Guild clean the church prior to major holidays. The pandemic in 2020 limited the number of volunteers available but we were still able to address the most important yard work.

Some of the larger projects that were undertaken this year are as follows:

1. Our largest project of 2020 was to prepare the Rectory for Fr. Dustin's arrival in March. Because we had rented the Rectory to a tenant who had 3 large dogs, the building required extensive work. We filled a 30 yard container with junk and old furniture, cleaned and painted all the rooms, installed new wood flooring in 3 rooms, replaced carpeting and installed new door hardware. With the exception of plumbing and electrical repairs and carpet installation all the work was carried out by a dedicated group of parishioners who worked tirelessly for most of 5 weeks.

2. Since Fr. Dustin moved into the Rectory, we have continued to make improvements and repairs. We power washed a portion of the building and painted exterior trim and the deck. The sump pump failed and we had that replaced. The old gas boiler failed just before Thanksgiving and after relying on the fireplace and electric heaters for 2 weeks, the boiler was replaced with a new efficient direct vent gas boiler.

3. We have been working with a consultant on an energy audit to determine what measures could be taken to make our Church building more efficient and thus reduce our carbon footprint. The main focus is on our heating system, insulation and window replacement. We are hoping to have details of the installation costs, and energy savings early in 2021 to determine if and when we will be able proceed with these projects.

4. The Fire Marshal made an inspection of our facilities this year after many years without one. While our fire sprinkler system and alarm system have been maintained well, we needed to replace a few expired fire extinguishers, replace back up batteries in several exit signs and emergency lights, fire stop holes in the boiler room walls and update annual reports for the fire sprinkler and alarm systems.

As we head into 2021, beside the energy audit improvements, we are considering installing protection glazing on the Chapel window, addressing roof slate and flashing issues and making a few repairs and replacements to components that failed over the past year but were deferred until we feel safe to use the interior of the building again. We will also be installing the power and control wiring for the Local Live camera system that will allow our services to be broadcast over the internet for the remainder of the pandemic but also to allow us to continue to allow remote viewers to connect with Saint James.

I would like to thank all who have come forward to help throughout the year to make St. James a place that we can be proud of.

**MUSIC MINISTRY**  
**Joanne F. Archibald, Music Director**

I would like to begin this report by thanking all those who contributed to the music program at St. James' during this vastly different year! I greatly appreciate everyone's efforts and the willingness to learn new technology as we sought to enhance the worship at St. James'. I believe that many people were ministered to as we used our music to help bring us into the presence of God through our worship services. THANK YOU!!

The Choirs of St. James' consist of **Chancel Choir** (open to high school aged youth through adults) **St. James' Ringers Bell Choir** (also open to high school aged youth through adults) and the **Church School Choristers** (approximate aged K-6<sup>th</sup> grade). I am grateful to Deidra Woodend, who directs the bell choir. It is a pleasure to work with her!

Because of the pandemic, our **Chancel Choir** met in person only for the first 2 ½ months of 2020. However, this did not stop the Choir from raising their voices in praise to our God and Savior! We soon learned how to explore new ways of sharing our music with the people of St. James' and beyond.

We started rehearsing via Zoom meetings. We set up a plan for singing hymns online. The hymns which we used for Sunday morning worship were first recorded by me on the organ. Then, I sent the organ recording and a PDF of the music to the choir. The choir members would then record themselves singing with the organ part and send the recordings back to me to review. The next step would be for me to get all the recordings to John Morris (who had most generously volunteered his time to use his expertise in sound recordings). John would mix all the voices with the organ recording and voila! Chancel Choir was heard on Sunday mornings! Sometimes this process went smoothly, sometimes we ran into technical difficulties. We thought a book entitled, "Things Which Happened While I Was Trying to Record" might be in the offering! Words cannot express how grateful I am to the choir, choir friends and John. The nice thing about working online is we had some people join us from other areas of the country. Also, some St. James' people who are not normally able to attend rehearsals sang with us. We were even blessed to hear Father Dustin's husband John sing a solo one week. Praise be to God!

The **Choristers** were not able to meet in person this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. I had offered a summer "music camp" experience via Zoom but by the time July arrived everyone was "Zoomed out" from working online with their schoolwork and preferred to be doing other things. Who can blame them? Yikes! However, I was very happy that several children were able to join virtually in the singing of Away in a Manger during our online Lessons and Carols on December 24<sup>th</sup>! Who knows? Perhaps we will hear them again in 2021! I am hopeful!

In the Fall of 2020, **St. James' Ringers** met outside for several rehearsals and offered their musical gifts at two of our outdoor worship services. They also worked on a recording for Christmas and we were able to hear them for our online Lessons and Carols! I am very grateful for their willingness to try this new experience with bells outside, literally dodging raindrops at one rehearsal...RUN!! Once the warmer weather returns, we can look forward to more bell music outside!

Our **2020 Summer Carillon Concert Series**, thanks to Christel Davis, organizer, offered a joyful opportunity for people to gather (socially distanced with masks) out in the garden as they listened to some local carillonners. Our international artists were not able to play due to travel restrictions because of COVID-19. Thank you, Christel!

Occasionally, in 2020, we heard **Carillon** music pealing from our tower. Many thanks to Christel Davis, George Bogart and Donna Tuck, three of our parishioners, who shared their talents. Our **Red Doors Concert Series** was not an option this year due to the pandemic. Our first concert, which was scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup> had to be cancelled.

All in all, it has been a great year working with the wonderful people of St. James' and I look forward to continuing in ministry for as long as the Lord wills! Soli Deo Gloria!

Please contact me [joannearchibald@saintjamesdanbury.org](mailto:joannearchibald@saintjamesdanbury.org) if you would like to become a part of the music ministry at St. James'.

Respectively submitted,  
Joanne F. Archibald  
Director of Music Ministries

## **HOSPITALITY MINISTRY**

### **Helena Hawkshawe (Chair/Vestry Liaison)**

The Hospitality Ministry hosted 3 Virtual Meet and Greet with Father Dustin with virtual Introduction of Father Dustin to our Church and community.

## **WORSHIP**

### **Carolyn Flynn (Chair/ Vestry Liaison)**

On the first Saturday of March 2020 the Worship Committee met with Fr. Dustin. There was a lengthy discussion as we got to know him, and he got to know us. We learned how he liked things to be done during the service. Then the “stay at home” order came! Our world as we knew it was turned upside down.

At first the service was recorded with three or four people in the building and Fr. Dustin doing everything. In the following weeks Fr. Dustin showed us his wonderful computer skills and began stitching together recordings of the service, the lectors, and the intercessor and. Joanne and the choir went to work and with the help of John Morris we had music during the service.

We have contracted with Local Live to have a camera installed so we can stream the services when we go back to in-person worship. We are on a waiting list to have someone operating the camera, to zoom in or pan side to side. We will continue to have our services on-line even after the pandemic. You do not have to be physically in the building to be a part of St. James’

Fr. Dustin had a fundraising idea. Make candles out of the old pascal candles. Yvonne got out the old candles, Fr. Dustin made the candles and we delivered them. We made over \$500.

In August we had our first in-person service. It was held on the lawn by the parking lot. We marked off six-foot square areas, to be socially distant. We asked the people to bring their own chairs and they had to wear a mask. There were two services a month for August, September, and October. It was nice seeing the familiar faces and would have liked to stay and chat, but we could not do that. There was also an All Saints offering on the first Sunday of November. It rainy, cold day, but Fr. Dustin faithfully read the service in the rain.

While Fr. Dustin was on a well-earned vacation Jana Draper and Denise Holl lead Morning Prayer. Linda Spaziani and Jana learned how to put the service together. Thanks to all of them.

There was a pageant, “Zooming to Bethlehem” and Lessons and Carols for Christmas Eve. Thanks to all the committee members for their help throughout the year.

## **Stephen Ministry**

### **Janet Brown & Jeff Chowanec - Leaders**

Like everyone else this past 10 months, Stephen Ministry has been meeting monthly by Zoom. Although we have no Care Receivers at this time we have continued to meet to support each other during these difficult times. As your Stephen Ministers we are here to offer one on one care for anyone needing support for whatever reason; loss of a job, illness, loneliness, loss of a loved one and many other needs one might have. We may not be able to meet in person right now but can use tele-care to offer care. We are trained to be good listeners so if you need someone to talk to during these difficult days please do not hesitate to reach out to a Stephen Leader – Janet Brown, 203-456-5509, or Jeff Chowanec, 203-610-7490.



## **PASTORAL CARE**

### **Cathy Blasco (Chair/Vestry Liaison)**

The Pastoral Care committee met just about monthly via Zoom meetings from March through December. Thank you Janet Brown and Karen Beaudry for your dedication on this committee!

One of the biggest accomplishments we did was to organize Phone Buddies. Parishioners were given names of other parishioners to call and check in, since we were not going to church due to COVID. It was, hopefully, a way to stay connected and offer conversation to each other. A boost for faith, hope, and love to be shared!

Stephen Ministry continued to meet once a month, doing a book study and keeping their gifts of listening and caring ready, if needed, for care receivers.

Glen Hill Saturday morning prayers are and will be on hold due to COVID. We miss all of our friends at Glen Hill very much.

A new way for Healing prayers was tried via telephone. It was offered two Sundays a month at a designated time. If anyone wanted prayers over the phone, they needed to email Denise Holl to arrange. Not too many have used the telephonic healing, but we will continue to offer indefinitely.

Eucharistic Ministry has continued via phone. Karen Beaudry has coordinated during this pandemic and all of our home bound folks are being called regularly by our Eucharistic ministers.

The Prayer Chain is coordinated by Kathy Sabbagh. Names are called or emailed to her, who someone wants prayers for (with their permission) She assigns the names to members of the team of people who will pray for that person.

There have not been any calls for meals during the year but if needed we certainly can arrange.

So 2020 has been a challenging year but the Pastoral Care at St. James' continues to be strong, because we are a caring and loving parish, always looking over our community! Thank you all!

Cathy Blasco  
Committee Chair and Vestry

## **MISSION MINISTRY**

### **Linda M. Harrison, Chair**

Mission of St. James' continued in the local and global community during 2020. The committee met the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month in person until March and by Zoom thereafter beginning at 7 p.m. with the following prayer;

*Grant me, O Lord, a smile on my face to share and a gentle touch. Grant also to those you have blessed me to serve this day the chance to be fed, a place of warmth and a moment of safety. As all goodness comes from you alone, O Lord, may I serve you as I serve that in need. Amen.*

The Mission Committee seeks find and bring awareness of the needs in and around Danbury, the nation and world, and lifts them up to the parish and helps identify sources of support in meeting those needs. If you would like to participate in, or coordinate mission projects, please contact our Chair by email at [h20liley@aol.com](mailto:h20liley@aol.com). We are always looking for new members and new ideas.

Following is an outline of the Mission activities and moneys raised in support of the various organizations St. James' supported in 2020.

## Local Mission Ministries

**Dorothy Day Overnight Shelter:** Closed as of March

**Dorothy Day Meals:** Contact Yvonne Kiddoe or Chris Kuell

Pre pandemic St. James' parishioners and friends prepared and served a meal on the third Thursday and Friday of each month. Food preparation happened on Thursday at Saint James' in Parish Hall Kitchen from 10:00 am to noon. Food service happens on Friday at Dorothy Day Hospitality House on 11 Spring Street in Danbury, Starting with set-up at 1:00pm. We served from 3:15pm – 4:45pm and then begin clean-up. In March Dorothy Day changed its food services and switched to a grab and go sandwich meal. No volunteers were needed/eligible to participate. In addition \$223 in cash donations were raised,

**Daily Bread Food Pantry:** Daily Bread Coordinator at [dailybreadfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:dailybreadfoodpantry@gmail.com)

The Daily Bread Food Pantry is located next to the Parish Hall at the end of the driveway off Terrace Place. It has been supplying needed food staples for over 25 years to Danbury residents. Food is distributed every Tuesday and Friday at 10:00am. This year it gave out grab and go bags of Thanksgiving meal ingredients. Every Sunday food is collected at the Sunday services. Other area churches and community groups generously give food and funds to stock the pantry. Help is always needed with stocking, packing bags, assisting clients, raising funds and food drives. Please keep in mind all safety recommendations.

**Amos House Family Shelter:** Contact Dan Cox

Amos House has 14 bedrooms adaptable for families of various sizes, a common kitchen, bathrooms, laundry facilities and a communal living area. It accommodates as many as 20 women and children at a time. At the moment however, there have only five families because of a lack sufficient funds to appropriately staff the facility for its fullest use. With the Annual Breakfast fundraiser canceled, the State of Connecticut terminating its support for transitional housing programs in favor of overnight accommodations, and Covid straining any sort of municipal help, Amos House has gone back to direct donor canvassing.

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner:** Volunteer Coordinator Carolyn Flynn. Thanksgiving Dinner this year was a grab and go bagged meal. A tasty turkey pot pie was the center piece of the meal. Volunteers prepared and packaged the meals.

**Association for Religious Communities (ARC):** The mission of ARC is to "Alleviate the causes of violence, suffering and hate while advancing peace, justice and human dignity". Saint James' has a historical partnership with ARC .

**Laundry Love** contact: Denise Holl

Laundry Love continued in Danbury throughout the pandemic this year, although under a modified model. As we could not meet in person, we distributed laundry detergent and a debit card to individuals throughout the Danbury area in need of clean laundry. We currently serve 35 or so people a month who is allowed to wash 2 loads of laundry at the White Street Wash with the supplies we provide. We are working with other faith communities in an attempt to reach more people in need. Anyone interested in participating in this ministry should contact Denise Holl at [drholl@yahoo.com](mailto:drholl@yahoo.com).

## **Global Mission Ministries**

### **Support of Maria de Jesus Roque:** Contact open position

In January 2017, this parish began a love-filled relationship with a child in Honduras named Maria de Jesus Roque. We made a commitment as a people of God to sponsor Maria's upbringing. **We have successfully helped Maria by donating \$5400 per year for four years !** Thank you, lovely, generous, Christ-centered people of St. James'. In 2020, Christine stepped down from her leadership of this ministry. However, the Mission Ministry of Saint James' remained committed to Maria's sponsorship. We met our 2020 goal and fully funded our \$5400 partnership with Maria. Going forward in 2021 this mission has been put on hiatus.

### **Church World Services**

Church World Services was founded in 1946 and is a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian denominations and communions affiliated with the National Council of Churches in the United States, providing sustainable self-help, development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance around the world. The CWS mission is to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice at the national and international level through collaboration with partners abroad and in the US. The parish donated \$165 through the monthly mission offering to Church World Services in 2020.

### **United Thank Offering**

United Thank Offering is a ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through this ministry men, women and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. Our offerings are distributed throughout the Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion in the developing world. Our monthly mission offering raised \$330.

This has been a challenging year. We are truly blessed at St. James' to have so many in the service to God's mission in the community and the world. It is a gift to serve as the committee's chair. This year we have successfully met by Zoom. Thanks to Zoom master Denise for facilitating. I have been overwhelmed by the energy and creativity of the members. A special thank you is offered to the following faithful: Carol Conway, Christine DiMeglio, Chris Kuell, Denise Holl, Sandi Nichols (Vestry liaison), Susie Sarkisian, and the Father Dustin.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda M Harrison  
Chairperson

## **GROWING IN FAITH 2020 - Adult Ministry** **Jeanne Todaro (Chair/Vestry Liaison)**

Susie and Sandy who run the youth program did an exemplary job this year in keeping our kids involved. In addition to the regular lessons, they taught the first few months of this year, they have conducted 3 outdoor socially distant classes this fall. Rather than use Godly Play, they used the liturgy for the day and made a lesson out of it with some great conversations. Everyone enjoyed the apple cider donuts they provided too.

Then for Christmas Eve they organized an inter-generational Zoom pageant called Zooming to Bethlehem. It was a lot of fun for everyone and if you missed it you can still see the recording on YouTube and Facebook. I can't thank them enough for all they have done and their commitment to helping our youth grow in faith.

The Growing in Faith Committee members who work hard on our adult program have provided opportunities for the members of St. James to grow on their spiritual journeys too. I hope that you have been able to take part in some of them and will try some upcoming opportunities. In the beginning of 2020, we had our Monday night lay led dwelling in the word Bible Study on Monday nights. Then the first Saturday of Lent we had a Lenten Quiet Day where guest facilitators Elaine Sleath led us in Centering Prayer, which is like meditation and Susie Roman shared her enthusiasm for Labyrinths and taught us to walk a labyrinth rug from Camp Washington. The Growing in Faith Committee members did a lot of work behind the scenes to put together this big event.

Then the COVID-19 pandemic shut everything down. I'm so thankful that our members refused to let this stop them and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit has accomplished so much.

The first thing that they implemented was a new feature for our E-pistle that recommends materials that our friends at St. James would find useful for spiritual growth. The offerings have included books, videos, sermons, and prayers that had come to our attention.

With the switch from Communion to Morning Prayer and the offerings of Evening Prayer and Compline, there was a desire to learn more about these services. Fr. Dustin Trowbridge graciously hosted a one-night zoom session where he taught us the history and interesting facts of these services and answered participants questions.

Then early fall we started our first Zoom Bible Study with A Journey Through Acts by Rev Marek P. Zabriskie. This study is ongoing and meets Saturdays at 11 AM. For Advent we hosted a Monday Night book study of The Womb of Advent by Mark Bozzuti-Jones. Both books have sparked some wonderful conversations and we all learn from each other as we study together.

I'm most grateful to our committee members for all that they have done this year to make all this possible, including mastering zoom and other technologies.

## **PARISH LIFE**

### **Deborah Kaufmann (Chair/Vestry Liaison)**

St James' Parish Life seeks to provide fellowship and the opportunity to be part of a Family in Faith. Our goal of the Committee is to plan events and to provide a great variety of activities. We welcome new members anytime, whether you want to join the committee or just volunteer for special events, Please join us and bring your ideas.

#### **Committee Members:**

Deborah Kaufmann, Kathy Mould, Dan Cox, Linda Spaziani, Judy and Russ Griemsmann, and Victoria Woody.

Our year was short but was able to have a movie night, a Coffee hour for Rev. Lisa, Shrove Tuesday and a coffee hour to welcome Father Dustin Trowbridge.

Please check the Church's Calendar for our next meeting.

## St. James' Annual Report 2020 –Vital Statistics

Baptisms	2019	2020		2019	2020
Children	1	1	Confirmations	0	0
Adults	1	0	Receptions	0	0
Total	2	1	Reaffirmation	0	0
			<i>[No Episcopal Visitation in 2020]</i>		
Deaths/Burials	9	10	Received by Transfer	1	0
			Reinstated/Reactivated	0	2
			New Members	13	5
Marriages	0	0	Letters of Transfer Given	2	2
			Became Inactive	8	TBD

### PARISH REGISTER

#### BAPTISMS

Nolan Ryan Beaudry

#### 2020 DEATHS/BURIALS

Barbara Jean Ruiz  
Donald P. Owens  
Wendel R. Grolljahn  
Leahdell Davis  
Etura “Snooky” Fleming  
John Cantline Douglas (d. 1998)  
Beverly Andersen  
Richard Lamont Landis  
John E. O’Hern Jr.  
Leslie Johnson

*(Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the final burials of some of the above have been postponed.)*



## 2020 Income & Expense Comparison – 2021 Budget

<b>CASH RECEIPTS</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>	<b>Yr to Yr % change 20/19</b>	<b>2021 Budget</b>	<b>Yr to Yr % change 21/20</b>
<b>REGULAR OPERATING RECEIPTS</b>								
PLATE COLLECTION	\$ 21,967	\$ 19,744	\$ 19,870	\$ 8,216	\$ 12,000	-59%	\$ 5,000	-39%
PLEDGE - ENVELOPES	\$ 285,384	\$ 241,150	\$ 232,112	\$ 228,236	\$ 228,947	-2%	\$ 235,000	3%
OVERPAYMENT ON PLEDGES			\$ 6,154	\$ 10,465		70%		-100%
ALLOWANCE FOR UNPAID PLEDGE					\$ (4,500)		\$ (5,000)	
SPECIAL SERVICE OFFERINGS	\$ 8,095	\$ 17,035	\$ 15,780	\$ 6,195	\$ 8,400	-61%	\$ 6,225	0%
SPECIAL PURPOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 6,478	\$ 5,709	\$ 5,342	\$ 4,417	\$ 4,950	-17%	\$ 3,350	-24%
GENERAL DONATIONS(WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS,FUNERAL,OTHER)	\$ 450	\$ 700	\$ 3,100	\$ 15,924	\$ 1,750	414%	\$ 1,550	-90%
FACILITIES USAGE	\$ 10,522	\$ 10,445	\$ 36,455	\$ 9,525	\$ 11,000	-74%	\$ 9,900	4%
PPP LOAN				\$ 33,327		#DIV/0!		-100%
ENDOWMENT INCOME & INTEREST	\$ 44,430	\$ 96,388	\$ 80,314	\$ 392	\$ 113,250	-100%	\$ 25,148	6315%
<b>REGULAR OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 377,336</b>	<b>\$ 391,171</b>	<b>\$ 399,127</b>	<b>\$ 316,697</b>	<b>\$ 375,797</b>	<b>-21%</b>	<b>\$ 281,173</b>	<b>-25%</b>
<b>REGULAR OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS</b>								
SALARIES BENEFITS & ALLOWANCES	\$ 224,470	\$ 205,187	\$ 213,080	\$ 177,451	\$ 197,960	-17%	\$ 139,109	-22%
WORSHIP	\$ 2,873	\$ 8,935	\$ 4,866	\$ 790	\$ 4,150	-84%	\$ 2,950	273%
MUSIC	\$ 3,378	\$ 2,440	\$ 2,038	\$ 1,065	\$ 3,160	-48%	\$ 895	-16%
STEWARDSHIP	\$ 2,612	\$ 176	\$ 38	\$ 311	\$ 400	718%		-100%
FELLOWSHIP	\$ 2,448	\$ 222	\$ 225	\$ 52	\$ 1,425	-77%		-100%
EDUCATION	\$ 1,232	\$ 1,082	\$ 130	\$ 23	\$ 850	-82%		-100%
OUTREACH	\$ 2,587	\$ 294	\$ 173		\$ 1,300	-100%		#DIV/0!
DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT	\$ 46,236	\$ 41,256	\$ 32,340	\$ 42,725	\$ 42,725	32%	\$ 35,817	-16%
PARISH PROPERTY	\$ 79,129	\$ 117,930	\$ 90,802	\$ 93,958	\$ 96,071	3%	\$ 83,868	-11%
PARISH ADMINISTRATION	\$ 28,439	\$ 23,901	\$ 27,355	\$ 23,600	\$ 24,540	-14%	\$ 18,534	-21%
<b>REGULAR OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 393,404</b>	<b>\$ 401,423</b>	<b>\$ 371,047</b>	<b>\$ 339,975</b>	<b>\$ 372,581</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>\$ 281,173</b>	<b>-17%</b>
<b>REGULAR OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$ (16,068)</b>	<b>\$ (10,252)</b>	<b>\$ 28,080</b>	<b>\$ (23,278)</b>	<b>\$ 3,216</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	
			Parish Administrator	\$ (20,694)				
			Overpayment pledge	\$ (10,465)				
			PPP loan	\$ (33,327)				
			Rector travel/conferences	\$ (4,858)				
			Utilities church	\$ (6,521)				
			One time gifts	\$ (11,850)				
				\$ (110,993)				

## Annual Report 2020 - Cash Position

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Appropriated program funds	\$31,033	\$71,937
Vestry vision	\$2,521	\$2,521
Operating cash	\$118,312	\$99,963
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$151,866</b>	<b>\$174,421</b>

## Annual Report - Pledge Comparison 2020 & 2021

	# Pledges	2020	2021	Difference
Decrease	8	\$ 26,780	\$ 18,612	\$ (8,168)
Increase	30	\$ 122,692	\$ 142,740	\$ 20,048
Left	3	\$ 2,340	\$ -	\$ (2,340)
Moved	3	\$ 4,240	\$ -	\$ (4,240)
New	4	\$ -	\$ 6,719	\$ 6,719
Not yet pledged	6	\$ 5,960	\$ -	\$ (5,960)
Returning	3	\$ -	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600
Same	34	\$ 65,956	\$ 65,956	\$ -
Grand Total	91	\$ 227,968	\$ 236,627	\$ 8,659

**To those of you whose names are only known to God (and our Counters!)  
and offer your time, talent, and treasure quietly – we honor you with deep thanksgiving.**

## Annual Report 2020 - Book of the Living Trust Fund

THE BOOK OF THE LIVING TRUST FUND	
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020	
Number of Trusts, January 1, 2020	1098
Number of Trusts established in 2020	5
Number of Trusts, December 31, 2020	1103
Market Value of Trust January 1, 2020	\$ 407,422
Value of Trusts and Additions	535
Interest dividends and net decrease in Market Value/distributions for operations	48,291
Market Value of Trust December, 31, 2020	\$ 455,713

The Book of the Living Trust Fund provides income which is used for the support of the Parish and other Christian ministries.

Anybody can establish a trust in memory of a person who has departed this life. There are no restrictions. Persons establishing or those in whose memory they are establishing a trust do not have to be members of Saint James' or the Episcopal Church. A trust may be started at any time, for any amount, in excess of \$5.00 and may be added to. The amount of the trust is known only to the custodians of the fund who are appointed by the Rector. The name of the person in whose memory a trust is established will be permanently inscribed in the Book of the Living.

## Annual Report 2020 - Endowment Funds

	Book	2018	2019	2020	Year to
	VALUE	Market	Market	Market	Year %
<b>PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND</b>		VALUE	VALUE	VALUE	Change
SAVINGS BANK OF DANBURY	\$ 47,259	\$ 47,211	\$ 47,235	\$ 47,259	
DIOCESE OF CONNECTICUT DBCP	1,249,096	1,107,042	1,237,645	1,401,498	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,296,355</b>	<b>1,154,253</b>	<b>1,284,880</b>	<b>1,448,757</b>	
<b>BOOK OF THE LIVING TRUST FUND</b>					
WEBSTER (NEW MIL BANK)	\$ 47,288	42,788	46,749	47,288	
DIOCESE OF CONNECTICUT DBCP	278,864	301,467	360,673	408,425	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>326,152</b>	<b>344,255</b>	<b>407,422</b>	<b>455,713</b>	
<b>TOTAL PERMANENT TRUST FUNDS</b>	<b>\$ 1,622,507</b>	<b>\$ 1,498,508</b>	<b>\$ 1,692,302</b>	<b>\$ 1,904,470</b>	<b>12.5%</b>

The Permanent Endowment Fund represents various amounts in the form of donations and bequests which have been given over the years to Saint James' Church by many parishioners. These gifts were specifically designated to be Permanent Endowment Funds. Among those who have remembered the church in this manner are: Irene Bailey, Ella Buckley, Sydney Caddick, Edith Isaacs, Mabel Gerlach, Isabelle & Gertrude Johnson, Daisie Turner, Louise Trimpert & the families of Leibert, Seifer, & Strong. This Permanent Endowment and the Book of the Living Trust Funds together represent the total funds of Saint James' Church, the income of which is used for the support of the Parish and other Christian ministries.

## “Joining Jesus” Capital Campaign 2020

	From Diocese	Capital Reserve	Capital Expense	Repurposing	St James	Camp Washington	Total Received
		13.75%	13.75%	72.50%	100%		
		43,465	43,465	260,790	347,720	86,930	434,650
		11.0%	11.0%	58.0%	80.0%	20.0%	
2020 - Q2	\$24,357	\$3,349	\$3,349	\$17,658	\$24,357	\$6,089	\$30,446
2020 - Q3	\$11,008	\$1,514	\$1,514	\$7,981	\$11,008	\$2,752	\$13,760
2020 - Q4	\$28,883	\$3,971	\$3,971	\$20,940	\$28,883	\$7,221	\$36,105
	\$64,248	\$8,834	\$8,834	\$46,579	\$64,248	\$16,062	\$80,311

## SLATE FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND VESTRY: CLASS OF 2023

<b>Wardens:</b>	Janet Brown and Lyn Meyers
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Ryan Beaudry
<b>Assistant Treasurer:</b>	Linda Spaziani
<b>Clerk:</b>	Susie Sarkisian

### **Vestry Class of 2024 (3-year terms)**

Denise Holl  
Jean Hassen  
Jim Beschle

### **Diocesan Convention Delegates:**

Dan Cox  
Linda Harrison

## **Brief Bios**

### **Janet Brown (Warden) – 1-year term**

My name is Janet Brown and I am standing for Warden again in 2021. I have been a member of the Anglican Church since I was a small child in England and a member here at Saint James' since 1984. I am an altar guild member, ECW member, Stephen Ministry leader, and worked in the church office for 20 years before retiring in 2009. I am married to Allan Brown and we have two wonderful adult children- Emma who lives in England with her husband and stepson and Matthew who lives in Sandy Hook with our beloved 8 year old grandson, Elias. I am proud to be a member of this amazing parish community of Saint James'.

### **Lyn Meyers (Warden) – 1-year term**

I've been a member of St. James church for more than 30 years and I am currently Chairman of the Stewardship and Finance Committee in the Vestry class of 2021. I'm a Choir member, Lector, Intercessor, Chalice Bearer, and flower deliverer. In past years I've served on the St James' Vestry, as Treasurer, and as a Stephen Minister. Service on the Danbury Deanery led to two five year terms on the Standing Committee of the Connecticut Diocese and as a delegate at two Episcopal General Conventions. I'm currently Treasurer of the Danbury Lions Club and a Connecticut Lion past District Governor. Other community service Boards has included the Salvation Army, Danbury Music Centre, Aids Interfaith and Aids Project Danbury. Professionally I've been an Accountant for 46 years, ten years with an international accounting firm and opening Meyers & Co, CPAs in 1984. Other vocations have included real estate, retailing, life insurance, and the US Air Force.

My Life Partner Ernie Harrington and I live in Redding where we enjoy gardening and wine making as hobbies, and a passion for world travel.

### **Ryan Beaudry (Treasurer) – 1-year term**

Ryan is a long-time member of St. James' Danbury. He and his wife, Katie, worship at the 8am service with their children, Aubree and Nolan. Ryan serves as Chalice Minister and Lector. Over the past several years, Ryan has contributed to the mission of St. James serving as former Vestry Member (2010 – 2013), Chair of St. James' Global Outreach Committee (2011 – 2013) and Co-Chair, Rector Search Committee (2007 – 2010).

Professionally, Ryan is Vice President, Digital Payments in North America, at Mastercard where he leads the market strategy and product enablement to enhance the security and convenience of digital commerce. Prior to his current role, Ryan held roles of increasing responsibility within Finance, product management, strategy and development across person-to-person payments and healthcare initiatives. Most recently, he completed a two-year rotation with Investor Relations. Ryan is actively engaged in career development and advancement of young professionals, currently serving on the President's Advisory Council at Manhattanville College. He founded Mastercard's Young Professionals' Business Resource Group and Young Alumni Society at Manhattanville College, serving as former Chair and now advisor. Ryan graduated with Honors from Manhattanville College where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Finance and International Management.

### **Linda Spaziani (Assistant Treasurer) – 1-year term**

I have been a lifelong member of St. James' and was the 1<sup>st</sup> girl acolyte in 1977. I was the Bookkeeper for 20+ years and have served as the Treasurer for 12 years. With the elimination of the Administrative Assistant, Janet Brown & myself are making sure the checks are getting deposited and bills are getting paid. I was a chalice bearer when church was in person, and am currently on the Parish Life, Capital Funds, Finance & Stewardship committees, coordinate Friday with Friends, assist with Social Media on the various platforms, as well as the Thanksgiving Dinner with help from many others. I am the Controller for Amphenol RF in Danbury. I count among the many blessings in my life, our St. James' Family and the witness we proclaim in the world.

### **Susie Sarkisian (Parish Clerk) – 1-year term**

My family moved to Danbury from Massachusetts in 2008, and after a few years at another unnamed Episcopal church, we found our way to St James' sometime around 2010. Our twins, Leah and Logan were just in the verge of acolyte age at the time, and carried crosses and Bibles for many years at St. James'. They also participated in 4 years of ASP work trips through our parish. They are now juniors in college, and rarely spotted in Connecticut, it seems.

At St. James' I have found myself called to be involved in mission/outreach types of things- from helping at the Overflow Shelter to Dorothy Day and being a part of the Mission Committee for most of the past 10 years. And, for fun, I've tried to keep the Sunday School ship afloat - in whatever way I can. Recently, I completed 3 years on the vestry, and this past year served as the Clerk. I'm happy to Clerk again, and thankful to have a way to stay involved.

## **VESTRY – Class of 2024 – 3-year term**

### **Jim Beschle**

I am a lifelong member at St James Church was born and raised in Danbury. I have been married to Deidra Woodend for 26 years. I retired from the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environment Protection after 41 years of service. During my service as Park Supervisor I managed 4 full time employees and 50 part time employees. I previously served on Vestry as Chair of Building and Groups and was a board member for many years. I have helped out with numerous church events.

### **Jean Hassen**

I am a lifelong resident of the Danbury area. I grew up in Bethel, graduated from Westconn, did graduate studies at Fairfield U and now live in Brookfield with my furry companion Enzo. I have been a member of Saint James for 30+ years. I sing in the choir, play the handbells, serve as a lector and chalice bearer, and fill in as substitute organist when necessary. I am a member of the Altar Guild, the ECW, and am coordinator for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. In my free time I am a member of the Danbury Music Centre Concert Chorus. Most recently I have been participating in a Virtual Concert of Messiah with members of the music centre and our conductor in Bismark, North Dakota.

### **Denise Holl**

I became a member of St. James' in 1991. Over the years I've been a member of Altar Guild, served on the Mission committee, been a lector, intercessor, healing minister, eucharistic visitor, led morning prayer at Glenn Hill. I've served on vestry. I joined St. James' to learn more about myself, who I am and why. I felt I could best accomplish this by studying history and the bible through Kerygma and EFM. Through the years I've participated in many book studies and completed EFM (Education for Ministry) and served as EFM facilitator for 3 years. Not only have I grown in my faith, but have seen others do the same; others who encourage and inspire me. My current ministries include Laundry Love of Greater Danbury, the Dorothy Day meal program, Mission committee, Growing in Faith, Stewardship and Finance, and I also lead Zoom compline and evening prayer services on Thursday and Friday each week. I am encouraged by what I've seen happening at St. James' this past year and am looking forward to becoming a part of our vestry.

## **Convention Delegates**

### **Dan Cox**

Dan became a member of St. James' about 20 years ago when moving to Danbury with is family. During that time Dan has served on many committees including being on Vestry as Stewardship Chair for 3 years and for 6 years as a Warden. Throughout the years, he has also served in numerous capacities for Sunday Services and various related events. Most recently Dan served as the Chair of the Recruitment Committee for our recent Rector search and has co-lead the Joining Jesus Capital Campaign with his wife, Beth.

## **Linda M Harrison**

I was born, raised and educated in Danbury. I was baptized at St James' and worshiped here until my marriage. I returned to regular worship in 1999. I regularly attend our 8 o'clock service where I serve as a lector and chalice bearer (beginning in 2000) as scheduled. I previously served on the Faith Formation Committee. I am now a member and chair of the Mission Committee. I have been a Convention delegate 4 previous times.

My parents, George and Doris Morgan, set a wonderful example for me.

I am the divorced mother of two grown children (Jessica and Mark). I have a daughter-in-law Kate and 2 grandchildren (Ben 6 and Nolan 2). I feel so very blessed. I live in Woodbury, CT and currently commute by Zoom or Facebook to St James'. I look forward to serving as a Convention delegate for our parish.