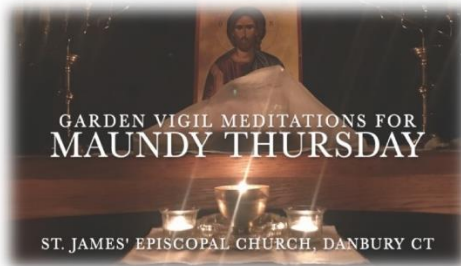


ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

25 WEST STREET, DANBURY, CT 06810



PARISH REPORT

2021

AGENDA
For the 259th Annual Meeting
January 30th, 2022

Opening Prayers

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Minutes of the 258th 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

Resolutions p. 31

- Authorize Vestry for short-term borrowing of up to \$50,000, if necessary
- Authorize Vestry to lease 1 Terrace Place

Thanksgiving for Class of 2022 Vestry Members

Election of 2023 Officers and Class of 2025 Vestry p. 32

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, unless for good cause provided, and
- 3) 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

Martin Anderson	Christine DiMeglio	Yvonne Kiddoe	Clair Rundhaug
Janis Anderson	Anthony DiPerrio	Nancy Kinkade	Jehad Sabbagh
Jody Armstrong	Nanci DiPerrio	Christopher Kuell	Kathy Sabbagh
Richard Arthur	Bridgett Downer	Harry Kuhn	Leslie Sanford
Harriet Arthur	Jana Draper	Jill Kuhn	Mark Sarkisian
Ryan Beaudry	Joe Echevarria	Pat Larsen	Susie Sarkisian
Katie L. Beaudry	Lindsey Echevarria	Ethel Leahey	Hansel Scherwenik
Raymond Beaudry	Margaret Emerito	Marion Liberati	Nancy Schofield
Karen Beaudry	William Evans	Walter Liston	Jill Simonelli
Yvonne Benton	Sean Fanning	Louise Liston	Irene Simonelli
Brenda Benton	Rebecca Fanning	Lillian MacBain	Elaine Sleath
Virginia Benton	Shirley Ferrarone	Catherine Malan	Jewell Smith
Dean Berardo	Robert Flynn	Harold McCarthy	Domenic Spaziani
James Beschle	Carolyn Flynn	Marie McCarthy	Linda Spaziani
Deidra Beschle	Theo Gammie	Jane McGarry	Anita Staib
Lloyd Best	Frank Giarratana	Maria McGowan	Ann Stephenson
Patricia Best	Eugene Goetz	John McLaughlin	Mark Stirling
Joyce Bloom	Arlene Grant	Loretta McLaughlin	David Swanson
George Bogart	Russell Griemsmann	Mark Meyer	Kathi Swanson
Mildred Boughton	Judith Griemsmann	Lyn Meyers	Joan Tarrant
Allan Brown	Nancy C. Halpin	May Molinaro	Bill Thalman
Janet Brown	Cheryl Harewood	Elise Montanari	Laurie-Jean Thalman
Rita Butler	Ernest Harrington	Albert Montecalvo	Judith Toce
John Cheeseman	Linda Harrison	Karen Montecalvo	Jeanne Todaro
Vivien Cheeseman	Jean Hassen	John Morris	Judith Toth
Charles Clapp	Helena Hawkshawe	Su Murdock	Linda Triebe
Linda Clapp	Denise Holl	Sandi Nichols	Dustin Trowbridge
Carole Conaway	William Hutchinson	Maryellen Owens	Patricia Trowbridge
Daniel Cox	Vicki Hutchinson	David Parille	Alvin Tuck
Beth Cox	Catherine Jaber-Kreiger	Barbara Parks	Donna Tuck
Michelle Cummings	Robert Johnson	Lisa Patton	Joe Walkovich
John DaCosta	Robert D. Johnson	Robert Pearson	Lew Westfall
Wendy DaCosta	Carl Johnson	Patricia Pearson	Robert Wirag
Joseph Davidson	Susan Johnson	Luciana CorreiaRausch	Carnell Woody
Karen Davidson	David Katz	Richard Rausch	Victoria Woody
Christel Davis	Laura Katz	Richard Rausch	
Barbara Davis	Denise Kaufmann	Erma Rausch	
Barbara DeVeaux	Deborah Kaufmann	Gary Rogers	

St. James' Episcopal Church
25 West Street Danbury, Ct.
258th Annual Meeting January 31st, 2021- via Zoom
(virtual platform)

11:02 a.m. Meeting called to order by Dustin Trowbridge. Father Dustin gave a brief explanation of logistics for meeting on Zoom. All participants to be on mute. If you need to speak, wave your hand. Have your name in the Zoom window.

In attendance:

Joanne Archibald, Katie Beaudry, Ryan Beaudry, Dr. Joyce Bloom, Janet Brown, Janis Anderson, Martin Anderson, Jody Armstrong, Jim Beschle, Cathy Blasco, George Bogart, John Cheeseman, Vivien Cheeseman, Beth Cox, Dan Cox, Christel Davis, Christine DiMeglio, Jana Draper, Bob Flynn, Carolyn Flynn, Theo Gammie, Frank Giarratana, Judy Griemsmann, Russ Griemsmann, Cheryl Harewood, Ernie Harrington, Linda Harrison, Jean Hassen, Denise Holl, Deb Kaufmann, Yvonne Kiddoe, Chris Kuell, Lyn Meyers, Karen Montecalvo, John Morris, Sandi Nichols, Pat Pearson, Gary Rogers, Jehad Sabbagh, Kathy Sabbagh, Susie Sarkisian, Hansel Scherwenik, Elaine Sleath, Linda Spaziani, Mark Stirling, Jeanne Todaro, Dustin Trowbridge, Donna Tuck, Alvin Tuck, Joe Walkovich, Lew Westfall, De Woodend

11:04 a.m. Opening Prayer- Father Dustin led us in prayer.

The Agenda of the meeting is found on page 2 of the Annual Meeting report that was released by email on Friday 1/29/21.

Presentation and Adoption of Roll of Voting Members. There were no changes to the voting rolls as presented. Joe Walkovich made a motion to accept the roll as presented. Lyn Meyers second. All voted in favor. The motion is carried.

Minutes of the 257th Annual Meeting from 2020. Found on page 4 of Annual Report. There are no proposed changes to minutes. Mark Stirling made a motion to accept minutes as presented. Janis Anderson second. All voted in favor. The motion is carried.

Written Reports: (These were previously emailed with the Friday e-Pistle and mailed out as hard copies as needed.) There are 18 committees reporting. Fr. Dustin expressed thanks to Linda Spaziani for compiling these.

Wardens' Report: Janet Brown made reference to the Wardens letter on page 9. No questions from congregation. Special thanks to the three vestry members completing their term, and thanks to the three who have agreed to join for three years. Acknowledgement of Linda Spaziani's social media help, to Joanne Archibald for the music, and to Ricky Sanz for help with snow removal. Also, thanks to Father Dustin who has worked tirelessly to keep us going through hard times. Lyn Meyers commented that we started the year 2020 worried about the rectory, and much bigger challenges were ahead. Joe Walkovich acknowledged all who have contributed to making this a successful year. Joanne Archibald mentioned the success of the Thanksgiving meal. Jana Draper asked for an update on the Capital Campaign. Dan Cox gave an update and mentioned that a letter will go out looking for people to join the committee. We surprisingly got very close to our goal. Janis Anderson offered a word of thanks to Susie Sarkisian and Sandi Nichols for Sunday School efforts.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Spaziani presented the 2020 Year End results, and presented the 2021 Budget. Joe Walkovich had a question regarding the Capital Campaign distribution plan. This was Linda Spaziani's final presentation as Treasurer and Ryan Beaudry will now step in as Treasurer (from Asst. Treasurer). Linda will remain Asst. Treasurer to support Ryan Beaudry during this year of transition. Jana Draper asked about the plan for Sexton in 2021. Father Dustin expressed great relief to have finances overseen with such competence and clarity from his point of view in a new church.

Rector's Report was distributed by email prior. Father Dustin lead us in a Congregational Development activity that involved identifying parishioners in 3 categories.

1. Wisdom-Bearers.
2. Social-Gatherers.
3. Decision-Makers.

We can submit up to 3 names for each category. If comfortable, please send names to Father Dustin any way you'd like- mail, email, etc.

Standing Resolutions: Dustin Trowbridge noted that in the past, there were 3 standing resolutions, but two of them are already covered in our Parish By-Laws and/or Diocesan Canons. Therefore, two are not needed to be voted on at Annual Meeting. We have removed the standing resolution about allowing vestry to fill vacancies. Also removed is the standing resolution allowing vestry to invest and reinvest.

The remaining standing resolution authorizes the vestry to borrow up to \$50,000 short-term. (There are two things vestry cannot do without parish vote: Sell real estate or borrow money). Having this standing resolution helped us this past year, with the PPP loan. Linda Spaziani made the moved the resolution authorizing the vestry for short-term borrowing of up to \$50,000. Jeanne Todaro second. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Thanksgiving for the Class of 2020 Vestry members:

Lew Westfall, Carolyn Flynn and Jeanne Todaro for their service over last 1 or 3 years.

Election of 2021 Officers and Class of 2024 Vestry

Carolyn Flynn presented The Slate of Candidates for election for 2021.

For one-year terms:

Wardens: Janet Brown and Lyn Meyers

Treasurer: Ryan Beaudry

Assistant Treasurer: Linda Spaziani

Delegates to Convention: Dan Cox and Linda Harrison

Clerk: Susie Sarkisian

Three-year terms: (Class of 2024)

Jean Hassen, Denise Holl, and James Beschle

No nominations from the floor. The slate having been accepted as presented, Russ Griemsmann made a motion for the clerk to cast a single vote on behalf of the attendees. Carolyn Flynn second. The clerk cast a single vote for the attendees, and the motion was passed. Voting complete.

Father Dustin offered a commission to incoming vestry, officers and delegates, and led us in a closing prayer.

12:07 pm Meeting adjourned.

RECTOR'S LETTER
The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge
January 2022

Dear People of St. James',

This time last year, I was penning my Annual Report to you all for the first time. I had just stepped on board at St. James' on March 1st, 2020, and sailed with you through a tumultuous 10 months, where every aspect of our lives was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As I closed my report, I remember writing something hopeful, in essence, that "God willing, the coronavirus pandemic will come under control in 2021." Looking back, I realize now that I should have been more specific in that plea to God's will! This year has taught us that, just because a virus starts to come under control, that doesn't at all mean it's going to stay that way for long! What a ride through waves of joys and disappointments this year has been!

It has been widely observed in church leadership circles that, in many ways, 2021 was even more difficult than 2020. For one thing, new coronavirus variants came crashing upon us and our best-laid plans every few months, forcing us to hunker down under more restrictive safety protocols, again and again. Much to our dismay, we repeatedly had to put our regained freedoms on hold, as we waited for the latest bad news to pass. And for another thing, we found this year that much of our workload had doubled, just for us to keep up with the basic functioning of a church like St. James'. It was a wonderful blessing for us to get our Local Live video streaming up and running inside our church early in the summer. That new opportunity meant that we would be able to reach parishioners and newcomers alike, right where they are. We could continue to share the Gospel with people in faraway places, connecting them to our community and to the Good News of Jesus, even if they would never be able to walk through the doors of our church. And, it also meant that parishioners who were home-bound or unable to be physically present on Sunday mornings would always have an easy, simple, and reliable way to join us for live worship.

As we nimbly adjusted our safety practices to our immediate risks, week by week, and as we pressed on to maintain connections and communications with members near and far, we felt the fatigue of all those extra complications. And, as responsible stewards of our parish's finances, we adhered to an austere budget through 2021, maintaining a much smaller staffing footprint than St. James' had been accustomed to. In the long run, holding on through 2021 by burning the midnight oil has granted us a certain stability in our finances. In fact, as you will see in the reporting on our financial positions at the end of this document, our permanent endowment ended the year at the highest it's been in recent memory. Despite all the struggles of 2021, "newcomers" have become "new members" this year, a reminder that renewal and rebirth are staples of the Church's history. Our in-person and at-home worship attendance each week matches or even exceeds our attendance from our pre-pandemic days. And the commitments of support that parishioners made through our Stewardship Campaign this year surpassed those of the previous year. Yes, there has been much to be thankful for in our parish in 2021, despite the challenges we've faced. Who knows, the future may show that the hard work of 2021 strengthened the resolve, and developed the endurance, and deepened the faith of St. James' members, in ways only a global catastrophe could!

As we turn the page of our calendar from 2021 to 2022, we know that continued change and adjustments will be required of us. 2021 has shown us that we can do it, if we loosen our grip on our expectations and try things out, not knowing for sure how they will end. For example, it became clear in the late summer that our Children's Ministry would not be able to resume the programming it left off in early 2020. Though most of our adult parishioners had been fully vaccinated by September, our children had not. Even in the best of circumstances and with the hardest efforts of our pair of

Sunday School leaders, providing weekly programming for a small number of children spread across a broad age range had already been proving difficult. So, in the fall of 2021, we tried a new approach, building on our previous successes with our Zoom Christmas and Easter Pageants by organizing monthly “anchor events” for children. Our young members took leadership roles in our St. Francis’ Day celebration, they wrote note cards for our Thanksgiving To-Go Dinner at a “Friendsgiving Party,” and they discovered the mysteries of the Advent Season with a Nativity Escape Room. Was it Sunday School as usual in 2021? Not at all. But did St. James’ provide regular opportunities for families with children to come together safely for Christian Formation designed around young ones? Absolutely! And that’s precisely the sort of thing all St. James’ ministries and groups are experimenting with through this season of faithful adaptation and growth.

Significant change at St. James’ is also in our midst among our parish leadership. Before I even arrived at St. James’, a plan was in the works for a transition in our financial oversight. After serving a dozen-some years as Treasurer and a score of years (give or take) as bookkeeper, Treasurer Linda Spaziani was joined by Ryan Beaudry as Assistant Treasurer in 2020. Then, in 2021, they swapped roles, with Ryan stepping into the Treasurer shoes and Linda providing additional transitional support as Assistant Treasurer. Now that 2021 has come to an end, St. James’ will enter 2022 with a single Treasurer on the slate for our Annual Meeting on January 30th, 2022. We offer Ryan our thanks and support as he sets off in those large shoes to fill. And, we wipe away tears of gratitude for the *decades* that Linda has spent offering her skills and gifts to the financial oversight of her beloved St. James’. Even as we acknowledge that, in the long run, it is for the best that churches have regular turnover in their leadership positions, we also know that 2022 will be especially challenging as we shift between Treasurers. But while we take comfort in the fact that Linda’s deep and long institutional memory of St. James’ will not be departing from us, we also recognize that God may have new ministries and gifts waiting for Linda and all of us to explore in the year to come. So, once again I say, let us hold our expectations and habits and customs gently in our hands this year, as God may be giving and taking away opportunities and duties in ways we cannot foresee or even understand.

Leaving behind 2021, have we now reached our “new normal?” I don’t think so. “Picking up and putting down,” “taking on and giving up,” “trying out and leaving behind,” these experiences will be with us in every aspect of our life together in the year to come, I suspect. And those experiences will sometimes be exhilarating and joyful, and sometimes frustrating and sorrowful. But in the face of such uncertainty, in the wake of changes both devastating and wonder-filled, I am now feeling myself even more closely bound into the company of those first disciples of Jesus who, after the horrors of Holy Week, the joy of Easter Day, and the mystery of the Ascension, did not throw in the towel because God’s plan and purpose for them had radically changed from what they had perhaps expected. No, Luke tells us, instead, they “returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the Temple, blessing God.” (Luke 24:52-53) May such joy, and such fellowship, and such blessings be with us all as well, now and forever more.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Dustin+

The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge, *Rector*

WARDENS' LETTER
Janet Brown and Lyn Meyers
January 2022

At the beginning of 2021 we are sure most of us were anticipating when we would be able to be back worshipping together in person in our beautiful worship space. Would it be in Lent, surely by Easter! But sadly that did not happen. We had to wait a little longer. However, Lent still happened, Ash Wednesday was celebrated, Holy Week was remembered and Easter was celebrated, albeit all online.

Remember the “ashes” Fr. Dustin sent to us and watching them disappear in the water. The Chapel was a truly holy space as we were led by Fr. Dustin from Maundy Thursday, through Good Friday, Holy Saturday and on to the celebration of Easter. And once again our children presented us with their view of that first Easter Sunday. So much to be grateful for!

During those first few months of 2021 we continued to stay together as a parish family through all the online offerings; Sunday morning worship followed by coffee hour, bible studies, Evening Prayer and Compline, and Fridays with Friends. And when the weather warmed up we met together outside for Evening Prayer.

And, finally, the day we had all been waiting for happened. We were able to come together inside our church and worship together in person. What a joyous day that was. Yes, we had to wear masks and keep social distancing. No hugging as we passed the peace, no coffee hours at the beginning where we could share fellowship time, but we were together, in person, worshipping in St. James' Church, our parish home.

Eventually we began to offer coffee hour after each service and enjoy fellowship together. Vestry meetings began to be held in person in the parish hall with the option of joining on Zoom. Some committees began in person meetings, others opting to stay with online meetings. Friends began gathering together on the first Friday of the month. We said goodbye to wearing masks although still continuing to keep social distancing while inside. So much to be thankful for.

During our Stewardship drive this year our theme was “Every Perfect Gift” and we asked several parishioners to share with us of a time they had been blessed by a gift they had received at some time in their life that made a difference. Gifts of healing through the prayers of others, finding a spiritual home here through the welcome received. So many ways in which God works in our lives through others.

At the end of our Stewardship drive we celebrated on Commitment Sunday as we filled out our pledge cards together and made our gifts to the work of Saint James' for 2022. We were blessed to have Bishop Ian Douglas to be our celebrant and preacher for this day and also blessed by the glorious music offered by our choir under the direction of Joanne Archibald, our Music Director.

Throughout 2021 we have continued to enjoy music at St. James'. We are blessed to have Joanne with us. She adds so much to our worship every week. So many, many thanks to you Joanne and to your choir members, and especially for our Christmas Eve service and the service of Lessons and Carols the following week.

Back in July and August we once again were able to offer a series of Carillon concerts on Wednesday lunch times to be enjoyed in our front garden. Thanks as always to Christel Davis and George Bogart for making this happen. Thanks also to the members of our parish who provided carillon music during our outdoor services during the early summer.

In October we celebrated the Feast of St. Francis with the Blessing of the Animals in the front garden. This was a huge success with over 40 people, dozens of dogs, and one fish!! Thank you Fr. Dustin for bringing this service back to St. James' and to the younger members of our church who assisted you.

As we continue to reflect on the past year, there are many people to thank. We don't always see all that goes into keeping St. James' afloat. Thank you to Ricky for keeping our building clean, for mowing the lawns at church and at the Rectory, for clearing our paths and sidewalks of snow, for doing a safety check of the building before setting the alarm for the night and for the many other tasks he does that we don't see all the time.

For Denise Holl and Jana Draper for continuing to lead Evening Prayer and Compline for the first part of the year and for preparing bulletins and leading our Sunday morning worship when Fr. Dustin was on vacation.

To Susie Sarkisian, Helena Hawkshawe, Janis Anderson and Sandi Nichols for bringing our children together for fun activities that remind them they are still an important part of this parish family.

To Gary Rogers and the members of the Buildings and Grounds Committee for keeping our buildings in good repair, in particular for making sure we have heat. Gary had so much contact with Otto's who take care of our heating system that he must have their phone number on speed dial by now!

To the members of the Vestry who in many and varied ways support this parish as we seek to move forward in our life together, thank you. We say goodbye to 4 members of the Vestry, Gary Rogers, Jehad Sabbagh, Deborah Kaufmann and Jana Draper. We thank you for your leadership over the past three years and know that you will continue to support us as we move forward in 2022.

Thanks to Ryan Beaudry our Treasurer for this past year. For keeping our finances straight even while holding down a full-time job, going to school and raising a family. Many thanks Ryan.

To Linda Spaziani, words are not enough to say how grateful we are for all you have done for this parish. As you step down from being Assistant Treasurer we cannot thank you enough for your many years of service as Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Bookkeeper, social media guru and so many other roles you have played behind the scenes, and like Ryan, holding down a full-time job and being full-time carer to Dom. As we said last year in our report you are indeed a treasure and we look forward to seeing what work God has in store for you in the coming year.

And thank you Fr. Dustin. For your leadership and for your adaptability. 2021 was another year of uncertainty as to when we could safely open our doors and meet once again in person. Happily, we did open our doors for several months. And then, just when we thought we were over the worst of the pandemic we find ourselves in the Red Zone and are back to wearing masks again. But you have encouraged us to stay together, to take care of one another and to stay safe. For this we thank you.

To all the faithful people of St. James' we thank you for continuing to worship with us, either in person or online, and we look forward to what God has in store for our parish family in 2022.

Blessings to you all,
Janet Brown, Lyn Meyers
Wardens

FINANCE - 2021
Jehad Sabbagh (Chair/Vestry Liaison)

Thank you to all the members that served and contributed to managing the treasures of St. James'. Each year seems to be a challenging year for St. James' and for so many other organizations. Covid has continued to challenge us all; to gather in prayer, to share stories and to encourage each other and hope that this too shall pass.

While our contributions have decreased from years past, our need to support a spiritual presence and maintain a beautiful but aging church building has not changed.

One measure the Committee has taken to reduce expenses was to reduce staff to the absolute minimum. For year 2021, the position of administrative assistant was taken up by Fr. Dustin Trowbridge and volunteers. The booking as well was conducted by a volunteer. Unfortunately, this is not a sustainable model for a church the size of St. James'.

For the calendar year 2022, the Finance Committee added and filled the position for a Digital Communication Consultant. The position is for an independent contractor whose duty will be to provide all weekly bulletins, the weekly electronic news, and all social media accounts. The work will be done remotely and take between 4-6 hours per week.

The Committee has also budgeted for the position of a bookkeeper for 15 hours per week. This position as of this printing has not been filled.

Another mission of the finance committee to maximize the benefits the space St. James' has too groups outside of St. James'. To that end we have updated the Usage Facility Donation Schedule. In 2021 the contribution by Life Line Screening and Daily Bread was adjusted.

A new addition to St. James' the collaborations with cars, careasy.org. Cars is a vehicle donation web site that will take very little effort on the part of St. James' staff.

Fr. Dustin has guided the Finance Committee by his insight and bringing the committee together on Zoom when we were not always able to meet in person, and we thank Fr. Dustin.

Submitted by,

Jehad Sabbagh

STEWARDSHIP – 2021

Janet Brown (Warden)

For several years Stewardship and Finance were part of one committee. At the beginning of 2021 the Vestry made the decision to separate these and a new Stewardship committee was formed. Members on that committee were Dan Cox, Deborah Kaufmann, Christine DiMeglio, Janet Brown and Fr. Dustin. Our theme for 2021 was based on a program put out by the Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS) and built around a verse from the Letter of James 1:17 – “Every perfect gift is from above coming down from the Father of lights....”. Beginning in early Fall the committee began to post short phrases around the church to start hinting at what was coming in the weeks leading up to our “Commitment Sunday”. Butterflies began appearing all over representing our emerging from our old self into what we become through our commitment to Christ.

On the theme of “Every Perfect Gift” we asked some parishioners to share a time when they had received a gift that made a difference in their life. Barbara Parks, Yvonne Kiddoe, Ray Beaudry, Susie Sarkisian and three of our young people shared their stories of receiving their “perfect gifts”.

Postcards were mailed out for four weeks inviting us to think about our own gifts and how we would make our “perfect gift” to God and St. James’.

On November 14, 2021 we came together for our “Commitment Sunday”. We had one service at 9 am and were joined at that service by Bishop Ian Douglas, Celebrant and Preacher. (His visitation had originally been scheduled for February 2022, but was brought forward due to his upcoming sabbatical). We were blessed by his visit and by the wonderful music provided by Joanne Archibald and her choir.

At the end of the service we were asked to remain seated and pledge cards were handed out so that we could all make our commitment for 2022 together. After making our pledge and placing it in the alms basin in front of the altar we were then invited to celebrate in the Parish Hall. What a feast that was! During that time we had an opportunity to hear from Bishop Ian and to ask our own questions of him.

Our thanks to all who participated in the service on the 14th and to all who made their financial commitment to the work of this parish as we move forward into 2022.

Janet Brown, for Stewardship
Warden

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS - 2021

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 from the Sanctuary and connected spaces, the Old Rectory on the Church property and the current Rectory on Cannondale.

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, roofers 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 would work inside, such as this January, when we disposed of unused furniture and equipment that had been stored in the Auditorium. The pandemic in 2020 and 2021 limited the number of volunteers available but we were still able to address the most important work.

Beyond the “Work Shirt Saturdays”, the Building and Grounds volunteers work almost every week to carry out small projects from yard maintenance, repairing door locks, replacing emergency light batteries, repairing windows and numerous other repairs.

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

1. The overriding project of 2021 has been the investigation of options to heat and possibly Air Condition the Sanctuary and the Auditorium. Those portions of the building have been heated by an antiquated, inefficient steam heating system that has been very expensive to maintain. At the start of the heating season in 2021, the steam boiler and immediate piping required close to \$14,000 in repairs and it is anticipated that additional repairs will be needed before this heating season is over. With an eye to having a new system in place for the 2022-2023 heating season, we have been reviewing proposals from simply replacing the steam boiler with a new steam boiler to providing both heating and cooling of the Sanctuary and Auditorium with Heat Pump systems. While Heat Pump systems will be more costly to install, we are investigating government incentives that may substantially reduce their installation cost and have the added benefit to reduce our carbon footprint and save energy costs in the future. The funds that will allow us to move forward with these new system(s) will come from the Capital Campaign and if we can afford it, we may also consider heating and cooling the Parish Hall with a Heat Pump System and replacing our fluorescent lighting with LED lighting.

2. Most of the Church Building is protected by a fire sprinkler system and our sprinkler contractor prepares an annual report which we must submit to the city Fire Marshal. A recent

report indicated that almost all of our roughly 300 sprinkler heads are more than 50 years old and will require replacement at \$40 per head or each year, several heads must be removed and sent out to be tested. With the cost of the testing and the possibility that we would need to replace the heads anyway, we decided to replace all the heads. To raise money for this project, a successful fundraiser was developed where parishioners could sponsor as many heads as they wished at \$40 each. An anonymous parishioner also provided matching funds up to \$7,500 to help us move forward with this work. To date, the head replacement has been completed in all of the building except in the Sanctuary Basement and Attic and we anticipate those heads will be replaced in early to mid 2022.

3. The Capital Campaign Committee has moved forward to fund a project to have a topographical survey completed of the Church property. This survey is initially useful as we investigate if we can increase the number of parking spaces on our property. The initial study indicates that we could increase our number of spaces from 12 to 22 (including 2 Handicap spaces) but the regrading, retaining wall and paving costs will cost more than we can handle at this time.

As we head into 2022, beside the energy improvements, we are considering installing protection glazing on the Chapel window, addressing roof slate and flashing issues and making updates to our security system.

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 - 2021
Joanne F. Archibald, Music Director

As always, I would like to begin my yearly report by thanking all those who offered their gifts of time and talent to the music program at St. James' this year. As we moved through 2020 and the new challenges due to the pandemic, I think we were hopeful that 2021 would be somewhat saner. It was not. 2021 brought on new challenges and in fact, I would say, was more stressful than 2020 since, due to Covid issues, we were constantly in a state of flux. However, the members of the Chancel Choir and St. James' Ringers as well as others involved in the music program continued to adapt and praise God with their voices and instruments! I am very proud of these people, and I praise God for the opportunity to be able to work with them in music ministry.

Chancel Choir Report

For the first half of the year, the Chancel Choir continued to record their voices in song as Father Dustin put together our remote worship services. I was very appreciative of John Morris who worked on mixing the voices with the organ recording I made each week.

During the summer months, we began worshipping inside our building with live-streamed services instead of pre-recorded services. The Chancel Choir began the task of experimenting with different masks and trying to adapt to singing in a different way. Although not ideal, singing with masks during the summer was the best way to help us all be safe from the virus. We practiced in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings because the choir room was too small for social distancing and safety at that time.

When the fall arrived, the Chancel Choir continued to practice their anthems via Zoom on Thursday nights and rehearsed in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. About halfway through the fall, we realized that the Zoom rehearsals were not giving us the needed input for offering quality music on Sunday morning, so we switched to in-person rehearsals as the St. James' recommendations allowed at that time. It was great to get back to hearing each other as we rehearsed together! As the choir director, I, too, was very thankful to be able to hear what people were singing during rehearsal. This allowed me to correct errors and offer suggestions to improve the music. Zoom rehearsals were not conducive to this. During rehearsals in the choir room, we sang for a bit, then took a break and opened the outside door for ventilation and to clean out the air a bit before resuming rehearsal.

For a very short time in the fall, we were able to sing without masking, but the dangers of Covid reared again and we quickly went back to wearing masks, since singing spreads particles in the air more rapidly and intensely than speaking.

During Advent and Christmas, we were able to offer both vocal and handbell music. It was a grand time of joining together after missing the in-person worship during these seasons in 2020. (The children who had previously sung in our Choristers choir were invited to participate but were not able to join us this year.) Now, we are continuing to forge ahead as we look forward to 2022 and the opportunities which it will present to us! New Chancel Choir members are always welcome! Rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7pm to approximately 8:30pm and Sunday morning at 9:15am.

St. James' Ringers Report

The bell choir at St. James' continued to meet and practice during 2021 as they adapted to the changes in worship and rehearsals during the pandemic. Director Deidra Woodend has done a wonderful job of holding things together as the bell choir navigates through new ideas. She continued to work with the St. James' Ringers by recording and offering music for our outside worship services earlier in the year and then for our indoor worship during the summer and fall. I am deeply grateful to her for this. The bell choir currently has 6 ringers, but we need more hands to ring the 3 octaves of bells which St. James' owns! Please come and help! Rehearsals are often held after the 10am worship service on Sundays in the choir room.

Carillon Report

Thanks to an anonymous donor, we were able to offer four carillon concerts with visiting musicians in July of 2021. I contacted some local carillonneurs to come and play since the international carillonneurs were not yet able to travel to the USA due to Covid. We had a small group of people who enjoyed these concerts out in our garden at St. James'. During one of the concerts, we had a cable snap in the tower, which rendered one bell inoperable. Thanks be to God, the carillonneur's husband offered to travel back to Danbury later that week to repair the problem. This worked out well since we did not have the funds to employ a professional repair person. However, maintenance of the carillon is important and is something I think we should look at in 2022.

Occasionally, in 2021, we heard Carillon music on Sundays thanks to Christel Davis, Donna Tuck and George Bogart; three of our parishioners who shared their talents. I would like to keep our carillon playing occasionally during 2022. However, it is not easy climbing into the tower and physical limitations are taking their toll on our players. There is a practice carillon in the choir room for anyone who would like to learn how to play. I would welcome new musicians gratefully!

Organ/Piano Report

The Allen Renaissance Organ at St. James' continues to amaze me as I enjoy working with the myriad of sounds and power of the instrument. Normally we have a technician perform a diagnostic test once a year as part of the contract we have with Stadelé's Allen Organs. In 2021, there was difficulty arranging a visit due to the backlog of installations and scheduling services which they were experiencing from 2020 as well as some other issues. We finally received a visit from the technician on 1/5/2022 and the report showed that everything is in good working order.

The sanctuary piano was tuned in the spring of 2021 and both the sanctuary and choir room piano were tuned in the fall of 2021. Both pianos have their issues, but we are good to go at this point. Jim Birch is our piano tuner.

I would like to close by offering some additional thanks; to Jean Hassen, who offered her services as substitute organist so there would be music on Sundays when I was on vacation. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find substitute organists in our area, but I will be on the lookout once again in 2022; to Father Dustin for sharing his knowledge and ideas as we work together on the music program at St. James'; and to the choirs and congregation for your support via prayers and sharing talents and gifts.

“Sing to the Lord a new song, sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name, proclaim his salvation day after day.” Psalm 96: 1-2 NIV

Please contact me joannearchibald@saintjamesdanbury.org if you would like to become a part of the music ministry at St. James’ by offering a solo or duet, playing an instrument, or joining a choir.

Respectively submitted,
Joanne F. Archibald
Director of Music Ministries

WORSHIP - 2021

Jean Hassen (Chair/ Vestry Liaison)

We began the year worshipping on-line with a lot of work from Father Dustin, Joanne, John Morris, and the choir all was going fairly smoothly and then we found ourselves facing Lent. We got through Holy Week with some adaptations to traditional services ending with the reading of the complete Gospel of Mark on the evening of Good Friday. Easter was a combination of parts of the Vigil and the Renewal of Baptismal Vows.

The joy of Easter carried into the Spring as we began our outdoor worship. After much cleaning and adjusting space after 18 months of on-line worship on June 27 the doors of Saint James opened for in-person worship. We were also able to host an abbreviated carillon concert series.

As we entered Fall Father Dustin began a training program for those serving on the altar. In October with the help of some of the young people of the church we celebrated the Feast of Saint Francis with the Blessing of the Animals in our garden. We had a joyous service celebrating our commitment to Saint James combined with a visit from Bishop Douglas. November saw our first Baptism since Covid began.

Unfortunately as Fall progressed so did the numbers of Covid cases. Since we have a high vaccination rate we will continue to have in-person worship following Covid protocols along with Local Live streaming for those unable to attend.

Many thanks to all those who have contributed to our worship.

PASTORAL CARE - 2021

Jana Draper (Chair/Vestry Liaison)

Stephen Ministry Report

As we did during 2020 Stephen Ministry has been meeting monthly by Zoom. We have continued to meet to support each other during these uncertain 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 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 our Stephen Leader – Janet Brown, 203-456-5509.

ECW Report

The members of ECW (Episcopal Church Women) were happy to begin meeting again in person in the Fall and continue to make bears and blankets. Each blanket and bear is blessed by Fr. Dustin and then delivered to Danbury Hospital. A big thank you to Carolyn Flynn for taking on the job of sewing the bears together which is no easy task. If you are interested in joining us in this rewarding ministry, please contact Joan Tarrant, 203-748-1044 or Janet Brown, 203-456-5509.

Lay Eucharist Visitor Report

Due to the Covid Virus, January - June we called the parishioners on our rota for a prayer visit vs visiting everyone in person for safety reasons. Beginning in July we proceeded with in person visits. Everyone was very happy to see us and to receive communion. We presently have 10 parishioners on the rota to receive a monthly visit and 5 active Eucharistic Visitors.

It is a wonderful ministry, and is beneficial to both the parishioner and the visitor.
Karen Beaudry

Meals on Wings

In spite of COVID, meals were made and delivered to members of our parish in need. Thank you to everyone who contributed their food and time to help others. If you would like to be on the list of people called when a request comes, please contact Denise Holl.

Flower Ministry Report

Once again since we are worshipping together in person, we have beautiful flowers on our altar. After we enjoy them, they go out to members of our parish unable to be with us on a Sunday morning. A terrific team of people arrange these flowers and another team delivers them to our shut-ins, sharing the good news of God's love with them. Our arrangers serve about once a month and our deliverers once every couple of months.

If you are interested in joining in either part of this ministry, it doesn't take much time. Arranging the flowers is done right after the 10 a.m. service and gives you an opportunity to work with our lovely flowers. Delivering can be done on your way home from church and gives you a chance to greet some parish members you don't often see, but you don't need to stay and chat.

Thank you to our arrangers and deliverers. You are terrific.
Jana Draper

MISSION MINISTRY - 2021

Linda M. Harrison, Chair

Mission of St. James' continued in the local community during 2021. The committee met the 4th Wednesday of each month in by Zoom 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 lift them up to the parish and help 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. We are always looking for new members and new ideas.

Following is an outline of the Mission activities in support of the various organizations St. James' supported in 2021. Of note the committee elected to designate mission offerings for a two month period rather than monthly.

Local Mission Ministries

Dorothy Day Meals: Yvonne Kiddoe and Chris Kuell

In 2021, due to the pandemic, all meals at the Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen were prepared and delivered in to-go style containers and bags. On the third Thursday of each month, several St. James' parishioners prepared a hot meal in the kitchen of the parish hall. On the third Friday of each month, the meal was brought to Dorothy Day on 11 Spring Street in Danbury. Five or less parishioners and volunteers packed up 60 breakfast bags (milk, juice, cereal, granola bar, fruit) for delivery to the temporary Pacific House Shelter on Lake Avenue. Then an average of 75 lunches (cold sandwich, fruit, cookies, chips) and 75 hot meals were packed/bagged up and handed out to guests at the door of Dorothy Day. All Covid19 safety protocols were followed. Starting in 2022, we have been asked to also deliver 60 hot meals to the Pacific House Shelter, although the fate of that shelter and its guests, as well as volunteer food requirements, have still not been decided.

Daily Bread Food Pantry: Daily Bread Coordinator at dailybreadfoodpantry@gmail.com

Daily Bread Food Pantry distributes food free of charge from our building behind the Parish Hall. Those in need have been welcomed since 1984. St James was one of the founding sponsors. Today the pantry serves hundreds of families each week- the COVID pandemic has more than tripled weekly numbers. Clients receive approximately 50 pounds of food each time they visit. Due to COVID restrictions volunteers work outside rain, snow or shine. Thanksgiving saw 440 turkeys handed out plus hams, chickens and ground beef. Christmas was similar. Donations of food and personal care items are accepted Wednesday and Friday 11:30 to 1:30. See the website dailybreadfoodpantry.com for a list of needed items. The Pantry also gets food from Connecticut Foodshare. The Pantry is open to guests on Tuesday and Friday 9:30 am -11:00. Guests may visit 3 times a month. Volunteers are always needed. Daily Bread has only one part time employee and the program is run entirely by volunteers who pick up or receive food, stock shelves or help with distribution to clients. Email your interest to the above address or call 203-8268252.

Amos House Women's and Children's Shelter: Contact Dan Cox

Amos House was founded in 1986 by five area churches including St James for a program and a place for homeless women and their children to transition to permanent housing. Since 1989 the centerpiece has been its residential living facility which opened in 1989. Residents were offered comprehensive programs in life skills, job skills, counseling and support in a safe environment. Amos House is closed now for needed renovations and expects to reopen in 2022.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner: Volunteer Coordinators Carolyn Flynn and Linda Spazzani. Thanksgiving Dinner this year was once again a grab and go bagged meal. A tasty turkey pot pie was the center piece of the meal. Volunteers prepared and packaged the meals for distribution at our the Parish Hall door.

Association for Religious Communities (ARC): Joe Walkovich

The Association of Religious Communities (ARC) is a non-denominational, interfaith organization founded over 4 decades ago for the purpose of facilitating interfaith cooperation in the Greater Danbury Area. Centered in respective faiths ARC continues to manifest the wisdom of the worlds spiritual traditions while enhancing the quality of life in the greater Danbury Community. ARC's mission is "to alleviate the causes of violence, suffering, and hate while advancing peace, justice and human dignity" This mission is implemented in our community programs: Peace Camp, Caravan of Faith, Forum of Faith, Resettlement Assistance, Homeless Advocacy, Emergency Aid Network, and Kids in Danbury Schools. Saint James was one of the Charter Members of ARC and continuously has held a seat on the Board of Directors.

Laundry Love of Greater Danbury (LLGD) Highlights

In response to the ongoing pandemic, we continued to distribute pre-paid laundry gift cards with detergent through community partnerships, rather than at in-person, monthly events at White Street Wash. We increased the number of community partnerships from three to twelve, including Pacific House, Catholic Charities, Danbury Farmers' Market, St. Peter Church, Salvation Army, Dorothy Day, WIC, Danbury Young Lives, Walnut Hill Community Church, Jericho Partnership, Rogers Park Middle School, and White Street Wash. In June 2021 we provided 145 loads of laundry, surpassing the number of loads provided pre-pandemic at in-person laundry events. In spite of decreased in-person attendance at most of our founding organizations due to the pandemic, all of the organizations maintained their financial support. LLGD received three grants during the year from the Ridgefield Thrift Shop in Ridgefield, The Womens Club of Danbury and New Fairfield, and Rodney M. Gould Foundation of Ridgefield. Thanks to all at St. James' who supported this ministry financially in the past, and consider becoming part of this vital ministry by giving of your time and friendship to the many in need in our community in the coming year. We need volunteers at the monthly event to hand out laundry gift cards and just be a friendly, accepting face. Respectfully submitted, Denise Holl

This has been a truly challenging year. We are truly blessed at St. James' to have many willing to serve in 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. I have been overwhelmed by the commitment of the members. A special thank you is offered to the following faithful: Denise Holl, Sandi Nichols (Vestry liaison), Susie Sarkisian, and Father Dustin. Additional members are always welcomed. Is there a mission/ministry you are passionate about and would like to share with St James parish? Please contact Linda Harrison at h20liley@aol.com for information.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda M Harrison, Chairperson

FAITH FORMATION 2021 - Adult Ministry
Denise Holl - (Vestry Liaison)

The members of Growing in Faith continued their ministry of providing opportunities for individuals to deepen their faith throughout the year.

Dealing with continued Covid-19 restrictions prevented us from meeting in person, but Zoom provided us the opportunity to gather together for some of the programs in 2021.

The Wednesday morning Book Club resumed their discussion of the Gift of Years once we were allowed to meet in person.

During Lent, we listened to the hymns we would be singing each Sunday and had lively discussions about the authors of the hymns, what was happening in the world when the hymns were written and how the hymns impacted us spiritually.

We also presented a short program about Pentacost for those interested in aspects of church history.

The committee meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm via Zoom and we welcome anyone to join us in planning and scheduling ideas throughout the year. We also extend our gratitude for all who have participated in committee activities in 2021.

Respectfully submitted
Denise Holl

PARISH LIFE - 2021
Deborah Kaufmann (Chair/Vestry Liaison)

Saint James' Parish Life seeks to provide fellowship and the opportunity to be part of a Family of Faith.

Our goal of the committee is to plan events and to provide a great variety of activities. While we are in Covid this committee meets on Zoom on the Fourth Tuesday of the Month at 7 p.m. Please join us and bring your ideas. Our meetings are listed each month on the Church calendar.

Committee Members: Dan Cox, Linda Spaziani, Janet Brown, Helena Hawkeshaw, and Pat Pearson.

On November 11, 2021, we had a brainstorming session to figure out what types of activities to do during Covid. There were many great ideas and we will continue to have more.

February 13, 2021, Scavenger hunt on Zoom.

April 11, 2021, Hike at Still River Pathway

May 15, 2021, Scavenger hunt on Main Street

June 12, 2021, S'Mores Under the Stars

June 27, 2021, Hike at Still River Pathway

November 14, 2021, Celebration Brunch with Bishop Douglas who spoke about Social Injustice.

December 4, 2021, Christmas Social and Gift Exchange.

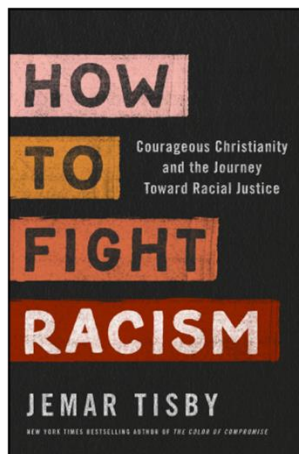
We also continue to have Fridays with Friends on the First Friday of the month at 6 p.m.

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make this year a success.

RACIAL JUSTICE GROUP – 2021

Susie Sarkisian (Group Facilitator)

In April of 2021, Saint James' parishioners were invited to watch a movie called "Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North" as a New Englander discovered that her ancestors were the largest slave trading family in U.S History. Following a discussion led by Trinity Newtown, many who didn't want the conversation to end came together to form our own Racial Justice, Healing, and Reconciliation group. We were eager and hungry to make changes, to learn, and to keep having conversations. We continued to meet every two weeks.



Then we began an a 10-part video series called ["How to Fight Racism. Courageous Christianity and the Journey toward Racial Justice"](#) by Jemar Tisby. Many of the group purchased their own books and study guide to follow along as we looked at our own roles in the history of racism and were challenged to break old patterns. Each meeting was held on Zoom where we collectively viewed the next video in the series, then went into Breakout Rooms for discussion before reconvening.

Throughout the entire time of meeting (April 2021- December 2021) participants expressed both a desire to make changes and be a part of supporting racial justice, and a willingness to look in the mirror and acknowledge patterns of thinking or action that have contributed to the racial disharmony in our country today.

At the conclusion of the series, the group talked about next steps and explored working in the area of voter registration in Danbury with the realization that many people of color may be subjected to voter disenfranchisement. Jemar Tisby said "Part of fighting racism includes a commitment to protect the rights of racial and ethnic minorities to vote".

At this time, the group has decided not to meet for a few months and reconvene in the spring.

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE UPDATE TO PARISH – 2021

Dan & Beth Cox (Co-Chairs)

A BIG thank you to the Capital Projects Committee members for their continued support, passion, and dedication to this campaign: The Rev. Dustin Trowbridge, Janet Brown, Judy Griemsmann, Russ Griemsmann, Linda Harrison, Denise Holl, Lyn Meyers, Gary Rogers, and Laurie-Jean Thalman. The Committee continues to meet each month with the ongoing review of capital initiatives.

As of the end of October 2021, St. James' has received \$133,022 in pledges from 41 pledging units, with \$106,418 allocated to St. James' and \$26,604 going to Camp Washington. This amount is a portion of the \$422,600 total pledged.

Although this amount is great and continues to grow, it only represents a limited amount for the large and complex projects we need to tackle in the building. Full consideration and quotes have been received from a couple of vendors for a new boiler and installation of a new HVAC system throughout the building. We are currently studying the options and cost estimates associated with various options. The cost of the complete installation could exceed \$300,000; therefore, we are considering financing options while we wait for more Capital Campaign pledge income to be received. In 2022-2023, we hope to reach a point where we can initiate this important work.

In 2021 Livestreaming of the 10am service in the church was the first project that was completed. In addition, the project involving the replacement of the sprinkler heads was brought to the attention of this committee and with the generous donations of many parishioners, \$6,000 toward the replacement of 300 sprinkler heads was raised.

We considered solutions to our parking limitations by conducting a property survey. The survey indicated that the cost would be high to reconfigure the property, including necessary excavation. Therefore, we concluded that this project would severely limit the available funds for other projects that could directly address the future needs and dreams for St. James'.

This committee remains passionate about the implications of a new heating /air conditioning system to meet our needs and create rental opportunities and possible uses by groups in the community for events and programs.

Everyone is welcome to pledge to this fund at any time to support the campaign goals for St. James'. These goals include updating our infrastructure as well as other considerations to enhance the utilization of our parish facilities as we strive for a strong continued presence in the community.

Dan and Beth Cox
Co-Chairs, Capital Projects Committee

St. James' Annual Report 2021 –Vital Statistics

Baptisms	2020	2021		2020	2021
Children	1	1	Confirmations	0	0
Adults	0	0	Receptions	0	0
Total	1	1	Reaffirmation	0	0
			<i>[No Confirmations during 2021 due to re-scheduled Visitation]</i>		
Deaths/Burials	10	7	New Members	5	3
Marriages	0	0	Removed by Transfer	2	3
			Received by Transfer	0	0

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

Vita Echevarria

2021 DEATHS/BURIALS

Delia Ferrarone
Betsy Pankulis
Joe Ward
John Smietana
John Triebe
Katharine Haley
Edith Janesky

Financial Reports FY 2021

Summary Results

Overall, for the year ending December 31, 2021 in fourth quarter 2021, full-year income totaled full-year income totaled \$323,146 vs. the 2021 budget of \$281,173. Excluding endowment income required to balance the budget, income totaled \$280,943, 8.9% higher than \$256,025 forecasted in the 2021 budget. This increase was due to higher parish support (up 3.7% vs. budget), special services (up 58.1% vs. budget), special purposes (up 23.2% vs. budget and general donations/facilities usage (102.3% vs. budget).

In 2021, Expenses totaled \$298,024, 4.6% higher vs. the 2021 budget of \$284,973. This increase was primarily due to higher than expected property expenses that were 27.3% higher than projected.

To balance the budget, \$42,202 endowment withdrawal was approved by the Vestry to balance the budget. Overall, the year-end resulted in a net total of \$25,122 due to timing of planned expenses.



2H21 Amendments to Budget as approved by Vestry

- \$3,000 to fund a book keeper position through year-end; and
- Up to \$11,000 for boiler repairs to maintain operational heating system.
- \$2,889.50 was approved by the St. James' Executive Committee to replace the low water cut off and pump controller to make the boiler operational.

To fund the incremental investments, on October 19th, the Vestry approved increasing the allowable endowment withdraw from \$25,000 to \$42,000 to cover approved incremental expenses up to \$17,000.

Pledge Comparison – 2021 vs. 2022

		2021	2022	Difference
Total # of pledges		79 cards	81 cards	2
Increased pledges	27	123,641	137,684	\$14,043
Decreased pledges	8	35,048	24,360	(\$10,688)
Maintained pledges	31	64,296	64,296	No change
New pledges	15	--	\$16,728	\$16,728
Lost pledges	13	\$17,402	--	(17,402)
Total pledged amount		\$240,387	\$243,068	\$2,681

Endowment

Total permanent trust funds increased by \$161,451 to end the year at a market value of \$1,954,418. This total captures the \$42,000 one-time withdraw, which took place in December to balance the budget.

Permanent trust funds are comprised of two sources:

	Market Value (12/31/21)
Permanent Endowment Fund	\$1,558,834
<i>Endowment withdrawal</i>	(\$42,000)
Permanent Endowment Fund	\$1,503,786
Book of the Living Trust Fund	\$450,632
Total permanent trust funds	\$1,954,418

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.

All future undesignated donations made in memory of parishioners of St. James' will be recorded in the Book of the Living Trust, as approved by the Vestry in April 2021.

Number of Trusts, January 1 2021	1103
Number of Trusts established in 2021	3
Number of Trusts, December 31 2021	1106

Self Funding Account

Self-Funding account values totaled \$93,071 and expenses totaled \$32,267 as of December 31, 2021. This results in a net total \$60,805. The most significant contributions and expenses were due to the Joining Jesus and sprinkler head replacement.

Q4 2021 Joining Jesus Summary

Adjusted Pledge Amount*	\$ 432,650
Total Gift Amount	\$ 159,103

37% of adjusted pledge amount received

80% Parish Distribution	\$ 127,283
20% Camp Washington Distribution	\$ 31,821
Total Distribution	\$ 159,103

Disbursements to St. James'

Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021
\$24,356.51	\$11,008.00	\$28,884.32	\$12,349.96	\$16,064.00	\$13,756.00	\$20,864.00

*Reflects one pledge cancellation due to a move.

Attachments

- 1) 4Q21 and FY 2021 Actuals vs. Budget Summary
- 2) Self Funding Account

Note: For additional detail on revenue and expenses and the endowment statement, please reference the 4Q21 and FY 2021 Treasurer's report.

St James Episcopal Church
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Summary Landscaped - acs
Fund: Regular operating budget
January to December 2021

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	QTD Actual 2020	QTD Actual 2021	Quarterly Budget 2021	YTD Actual 2021	YTD Budget 2021	YTD Budget Remaining 2021	% of YTD Budget Used 2021	Annual Budget 2021
Income								
Regular Operating Income								
Parish Support	\$68,812.70	\$67,786.81	\$53,184.36	\$243,744.41	\$235,000.00	(\$9,744.41)	103.72 %	\$235,000.00
Special Service	\$4,405.00	\$5,197.00	\$3,025.00	\$9,842.00	\$6,225.00	(\$3,617.00)	158.10 %	\$6,225.00
Special Purpose	\$2,210.00	\$2,219.98	\$1,450.00	\$4,126.98	\$3,350.00	(\$776.98)	123.19 %	\$3,350.00
Endowment Income/Interest	\$392.34	\$42,000.00	\$24,960.44	\$42,202.10	\$25,148.00	(\$17,054.10)	167.81 %	\$25,148.00
General Donations/Facilities	\$47,004.99	\$3,151.60	\$3,537.47	\$23,230.01	\$11,450.00	(\$11,780.01)	202.88 %	\$11,450.00
Total Regular Operating Income	\$122,825.03	\$120,355.39	\$86,157.27	\$323,145.50	\$281,173.00	(\$41,972.50)	114.93 %	\$281,173.00
Total Income	\$122,825.03	\$120,355.39	\$86,157.27	\$323,145.50	\$281,173.00	(\$41,972.50)	114.93 %	\$281,173.00
Expenses								
Regular Operating Expenses								
Salaries & Benefits	\$37,750.75	\$36,372.81	\$38,464.41	\$138,545.23	\$142,909.00	\$4,363.77	96.95 %	\$142,909.00
Worship								
Music	\$0.00	\$1,178.93	\$75.00	\$1,600.93	\$895.00	(\$705.93)	178.87 %	\$895.00
Total Worship	\$318.00	\$2,685.30	\$1,262.44	\$3,430.26	\$3,845.00	\$414.74	89.21 %	\$3,845.00
Stewardship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32.37	\$0.00	(\$32.37)	0.00 %	\$0.00
Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Outreach	\$13,583.00	\$8,955.00	\$8,954.25	\$31,951.00	\$35,817.00	\$3,866.00	89.21 %	\$35,817.00
Parish Property	\$36,465.73	\$39,688.43	\$21,966.91	\$106,735.76	\$83,868.00	(\$22,867.76)	127.27 %	\$83,868.00
Parish Administration	\$11,051.20	\$4,228.47	\$3,633.47	\$17,329.02	\$18,534.00	\$1,204.98	93.50 %	\$18,534.00
Total Regular Operating Expenses	\$99,168.68	\$91,930.01	\$74,281.48	\$298,023.64	\$284,973.00	(\$13,050.64)	104.58 %	\$284,973.00
Total Expenses	\$99,168.68	\$91,930.01	\$74,281.48	\$298,023.64	\$284,973.00	(\$13,050.64)	104.58 %	\$284,973.00
Net Total	\$23,656.35	\$28,425.38	\$11,875.79	\$25,121.86	(\$3,800.00)	(\$28,921.86)	0.00 %	(\$3,800.00)

Date : 01/16/2022
Time : 2:32:48 PM

St James Episcopal Church
Revenues & Expenses-Self Funding/Transfers
Fund: Self Funding

January to December 2021

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	QTD Actual 2021	YTD Actual 2021
Income		
Regular Operating Income		
General Donations/Facilities		
442100 - Sprinkler Head Fundraiser	\$9,871.66	\$15,931.66
Total General Donations/Facilities	<u>\$9,871.66</u>	<u>\$15,931.66</u>
Total Regular Operating Income	<u>\$9,871.66</u>	<u>\$15,931.66</u>
Designated Income		
460000 - Book of the Living Trust	\$75.00	\$225.00
462000 - Special Gift to be decided	\$0.00	\$325.00
466000 - Joining Jesus from Diocese	\$0.00	\$59,298.28
Total Designated Income	<u>\$75.00</u>	<u>\$59,848.28</u>
Self Funding		
410800 - Craft Fair	\$1,108.00	\$1,108.00
471100 - Joining Jesus Campaign	\$0.00	\$8,425.00
472000 - Maundy Thursday-Altar Guild	\$0.00	\$220.00
474000 - St James Discretionary Fund	\$234.00	\$1,717.00
474500 - Leslie Johnson (Voigts) Bequests	\$0.00	\$175.00
476000 - Mission Outreach-monthly Envelopes	\$1,405.00	\$2,002.50
476110 - Self Funding El Hogar	\$0.00	\$95.00
481000 - Laundry Love	\$115.00	\$2,318.00
482000 - Daily Bread	\$515.00	\$666.00
483000 - Thanksgiving Dinner	\$400.00	\$400.00
490000 - ECW -	\$100.00	\$165.00
Total Self Funding	<u>\$3,877.00</u>	<u>\$17,291.50</u>
Total Income	<u><u>\$13,823.66</u></u>	<u><u>\$93,071.44</u></u>
Expenses		
Regular Operating Expenses		
Parish Property		
542100 - Sprinkler Heads	\$8,780.00	\$9,780.00
Total Parish Property	<u>\$8,780.00</u>	<u>\$9,780.00</u>
Total Regular Operating Expenses	<u>\$8,780.00</u>	<u>\$9,780.00</u>
Self Funding		
571100 - Joining Jesus Campaign	\$400.00	\$8,825.00
574000 - Discretionary Fnd	\$0.00	\$3,625.69
576000 - Mission Outreach Programs-Exp	\$230.00	\$507.50
576001 - GE Copier Maint. Contract	\$0.00	\$5,444.46
576110 - Self Funding El Hogar(> 2017 Haiti)	\$0.00	\$95.00
581000 - Laundry Love	\$0.00	\$2,153.00
583000 - Thanksgiving Dinner	\$922.84	\$922.84

Date : 01/16/2022
Time : 2:32:48 PM

St James Episcopal Church
Revenues & Expenses-Self Funding/Transfers

Fund: Self Funding

January to December 2021

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	QTD Actual 2021	YTD Actual 2021
586000 - Carillon	\$0.00	(\$250.00)
588500 - Background Checks	\$0.00	\$227.50
589100 - Parish Life Expenses	\$0.00	\$63.46
589500 - ECW	\$0.00	\$172.47
591000 - Memorial Garden	\$0.00	\$700.00
Total Self Funding	<u>\$1,552.84</u>	<u>\$22,486.92</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$10,332.84</u>	<u>\$32,266.92</u>
Net Total	\$3,490.82	\$60,804.52

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution to Authorize the Vestry to Borrow Funds

WHEREAS: The Vestry and the congregation of Saint James' Episcopal Church may deem it necessary to borrow funds in 2022;

BE IT RESOLVED: The Vestry is hereby authorized to borrow up to a maximum of \$50,000 (Fifty-thousand dollars) on behalf of St. James' Episcopal Church. The persons authorized to sign loan documents signifying Vestry approval are Janet Brown (Warden) and Lyn Meyers (Warden).

2. Resolution to Authorize the Vestry to Lease Property

WHEREAS: The Vestry and the congregation of Saint James' Episcopal Church have deemed it advantageous to lease its property at 1 Terrace Place at a rent that would result in minimum net proceeds of \$2,000 (Two-thousand dollars) per month;

BE IT RESOLVED: The lease of the property should proceed, and the persons authorized to negotiate and approve final actions, with prior review and approval of the Vestry, are Janet Brown, (Warden), Lyn Meyers (Warden) and Ryan Beaudry (Treasurer). The persons authorized to sign the final documents are Janet Brown, (Warden) or Lyn Meyers (Warden).

SLATE FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND VESTRY:

Officers Class of 2023

Wardens:	Janet Brown and Lyn Meyers
Treasurer:	Ryan Beaudry
Clerk:	Susie Sarkisian

Vestry Class of 2025 (3-year terms)

Russell Griemsman
Christine DiMegio
Linda Harrison

Diocesan Convention Delegates:

Dan Cox
Carolyn Flynn

Vestry Class of 2023 (1-year term)

Lew Westfall

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.

Susie Sarkisian (Parish Clerk) – 1-year term

Born and raised Presbyterian in Charlotte, NC, it seems I've found my home in the Episcopal church. And even though my husband Mark and I are consistently late to the 10:00 service, we keep coming back, and haven't been turned away yet. We are the parents to twins, Logan and Leah, who are finishing up their senior year in college this May. Through a few moves and relocations in their lives, St. James' has now been the church they've been connected to the longest in their 21 years, starting as young acolytes.

As for me, I've been involved in mission work, youth activities, the racial justice group, altar serving, and B&G cleanup projects at Saint James'. This next year will be my third swipe at clerking for the Vestry, and I'm grateful to be able to serve the church I love in this way.

VESTRY – Class of 2025 – 3-year term

Russell Griemsmann

When I first met my wife, Judy, she introduced me to St James. I was active in my church on Long Island, having served as the Church's Financial Secretary and member of the Finance Committee. I moved to Danbury from Port Jefferson when Judy and I were married at St James in 2008. Judy and I worked together on the Outreach/Missions committee and the Parish Life committee. We also took the worship leader training and conducted one service while Father Dustin was on vacation. I retired from teaching in 2007 at New York City College of Technology (CUNY) where I taught and chaired the Computer Systems Department. Boy Scouts took a great deal of my time on Long Island. I was a Scoutmaster, Committee Chairman, Commissioner and District Chairman and supervised High Adventure Training for Adult Scouters in Suffolk County. Here in Danbury, I serve as President of the Friends of Richter Park. Judy and I have four children between us, a son and daughter-in-law in Bayport, LI with two of our grandchildren, a daughter and son-in-law in Setauket, LI, a son and daughter-in-law in Bethel with the other two grandchildren and a son in Danbury. Skiing, golf, kayaking, hiking and travel are our other recreational interests.

Christine DiMeglio

I have been attending Saint James' since 1996, when my kids, Nick and Grace Kuell, were quite young. St. James' was, and is, a source of loving support for my family, especially when my husband, Chris Kuell, lost his sight and needed a kidney transplant, nearly 20 years ago. We value contributing to this faith community that has given so much to us. Over the years, I have been involved with Christian Education as a Sunday school teacher and youth group leader, graduated from EFM, and trained as a Stephen Minister. I have been a friendly visitor to shut-ins, and worked with the Stewardship Ministry this past fall. I also raised awareness and funding for our student at El Hogar as part of our Mission Ministry from 2016-2020. I moved on from that just COVID changed our lives. Currently, I am one of three Episcopal Church Activators at St. James' – more on that later. I look forward to serving our Parish, if you agree that I am the right person at this time.

Linda 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.

VESTRY—Class of 2023—1-year term

Lew Westfall

Convention Delegates

Dan Cox

Dan became a member of St. James' about 20 years ago when moving to Danbury with his 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.

Carolyn Flynn

I am a life long member of St. James Church. I have served on the Vestry for over twenty years as a Vestry person and as Warden. I have been Church School teacher and a youth group leader for several years. I currently serve on the Altar Guild and as an usher. I retired from Danbury Hospital a few years ago, where I worked as a radiologic technologist and as the information systems manager for the Radiology Department. I live in New Fairfield with my husband Bob. I am the mother of two sons and grandmother to four grandchildren.