



# Saint James' Episcopal Church

September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear St. James' Family,

It has been a glorious eight months as your Priest-in-Charge! Your dedication, rooted in a love of God, inspires me in a vision that we can share for 2025.

With joy and humor, you have weathered many recent storms! Your fortitude is palpable. Parishioners are returning to St. James' and new people are coming in the doors; facilities and technologies are being updated; fellowship is vibrant; Sunday forums are filling the lounge; and mission outreach continues to grow. There is an eagerness in the air to flourish, reach, and serve more people. That is what drives the vision for the year ahead.

This vision includes:

- Increasing our welcome to St. James', including young families, teens, young adults, and those in the LGBTQ+ community.
- Increasing our involvement in and for the people of Danbury.

This is a vision that I hope will stir your hearts to give generously. In addition to these two goals, we continue our commitment to serve our aging parishioners through fellowship, forums, pastoral care, resources, and support.

I believe in the motto, "Build it and they will come." Your vestry is dedicated to this work. In order to grow the younger membership of our church, more resources are needed for Sunday nursery care, children's ministry, a teens program, and programs for young adults.

I ask that you prayerfully consider how you can support God's mission at St. James' in 2025. Your pledged financial support and volunteerism guarantee a pathway for all of our ministries, outreach, and mission. Personally, I am increasing my pledge to the biblical tithe of 10%. Please join me in our **Walk In Love**.

With faith, dedication, and hope, may we continue to serve God in this sacred place, our church home, an incredible blessing to so many in years past, today, and in the years to come.

Faithfully yours,

,  
The Rev. Gina Gore  
Priest-in-Charge

*"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." – 1 Peter 4:10*

September 24, 2024

Dear Friends of St. James,

It is my privilege to serve as your stewardship chairman. Our theme this year is **Walk In Love**. For me walking in love means many things. It means taking a walk in nature and enjoying all the beauty God has provided for us. It means having family and friends surrounding me in good times and bad. It means looking around us and noticing those less fortunate who may be struggling and in need of our help. It means doing what we can to help them to make their lives better. I have drawn inspiration from watching the workings of St. James' and how the congregation rises to the task and reaches out in our community. It makes me proud to do God's work with you and make a difference. As I continue my **Walk In Love**, I realize how I have become more aware of how many people need our help.

Our stewardship mission calls on us all to take care of the people of our community and our church. With new leadership and renewed energy, the time is now for us to join together to do this work. We invite you to pledge your time, talent, and treasure to this vision. There will be no wasted money in our church budget. Every dollar, every volunteer hour, and every good idea is needed and will be put to good use for our mission. It is with the help of everyone that we will be able to keep God's mission at St. James strong. This year's pledge campaign goal is \$250,000. By reaching the goal, we hope to actualize our vision referred to by our Priest-in-Charge in her letter. Although we are grateful for every dollar that is put in the basket, only pledged commitments can be counted for our annual budget and mission work. Susan and I will be increasing our pledge this year.

Come and join us in our **Walk In Love** so that together, faithfully, we can continue to make a difference doing God's work. In this packet is your pledge card for you to mail or bring in person by October 20<sup>th</sup> when we will celebrate our stewardship campaign with one service at 9:00 am followed by brunch in the parish hall. We hope that you will join us.

With Gratitude,

David Parille  
Stewardship Chairman, Vestry Member

Stewardship Committee: Richard Arthur, Janet Brown, Dan Cox, Denise Holl, Dave Parille, Susan Parille, Linda Spaziani, and Joe Walkovich