



Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday after Sunday, the people of St. James gather to worship the Living God and to serve as the hands and feet of Christ in our parish, our city, and beyond. Over the past year, we have witnessed incredible growth - not only in new members and Sunday attendance, but also in the depth of faith among our congregation and the breadth of our reach into the community. As we look to the future, we are called to build on this momentum, ***Growing for Tomorrow, Today*** by planting the seeds now that will nurture vibrant ministry, faithful discipleship, and lasting impact for generations to come.

On Sunday, October 5, we began our annual pledging season. This is a sacred time to prayerfully reflect on the gifts God has entrusted to us and to discern how we will support the ministry of St. James in the year ahead. This year, we do so under the theme: ***Growing for Tomorrow, Today***.

This theme calls us to see stewardship as both a present act of faithfulness and a hopeful investment in God's future for St. James Church. The seeds we plant today, in worship, in fellowship, in service, in generosity, are the very things that will sustain our ministries for generations to come. Together, our giving ensures that tomorrow's children will learn the faith, tomorrow's seekers will find welcome, and tomorrow's neighbors will experience Christ's love through us.

Each year, I share four principles of stewardship that continue to guide us as we consider our gifts of time, ability, money, relationships, and care for our neighbors:

1. All that we have and all that we are is of God.
2. Every one of us has been equipped and called to give. Your participation matters and makes a difference!
3. No gift given faithfully is greater than another. It is not equal giving but rather equal sacrifice.
4. Stewardship is not just about paying the bills. It is a spiritual event, a commitment to live out our faith with gratitude to God through the ministries of St. James Church.

Filling out a pledge form is not merely an administrative task; it is an act of thanksgiving. It is a declaration that we believe God is at work in this church and that we are willing to join in that work. When we give faithfully, we nurture worship that inspires, music that uplifts, fellowship that binds us together, and outreach that heals and serves.

Imagine the lives that will be transformed when we commit together to ***Growing for Tomorrow, Today***.

Blessings,

The Rev. Christopher R. Duncan,
Rector

We proclaim Christ crucified and risen, and invite all to join with us in ministry together in his name.

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