

St James Presbyterian Church Stewardship 2021



Strength for Today Bright Hope for Tomorrow

*“Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!”*

Last year’s Stewardship drive drew our attention to the possibilities of a new decade: 2020 - catch the vision, dream the dream! Who knew that 2020 would turn out like this?

This year has been hard for more reasons than we can count. Yet every time I try to catalogue a list of heartaches, I quickly find that God has been present in even the darkest moments; we have been through much and God has been with us, offering us strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow.

Through our challenges, we have learned that we can accomplish, and get through, just about anything together as a congregation; we have a God who is faithful and remarkable resources at our fingertips. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to be good stewards of these gifts, using them for sake of love and for sake of Christ’s Kingdom. We have done this and done it well; now it is time to once again turn our sights to a new year and new opportunities.

This Stewardship season, I invite you to join me in a time of intentional reflection upon where you find hope and encouragement in these troubled times, and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. How might you contribute to the hope of others through St. James?

What resources or talents might you offer to share God’s love with others? How might we multiply one another’s talents so that we continue to be the Body of Christ at work in our community, whether we are worshipping together or online?

I hope you will join me in offering your many gifts back to God, and investing in the work and joy of St. James Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Jon Watt

Next Year's Budget Projection:

St. James' Session and Stewardship Committee have put together a budget of \$310,000 for next year, a small increase over last year's budget. What will this money do? We have great plans to expand our outreach ministries, provide greater learning opportunities, and to continue to improve our space so that it remains a great place for all.

The best part: getting there is easy. If everyone pledges only an additional \$5 per week, we will easily meet and surpass that target. Thank you, in advance, for your generous support!

Dream Projects for 2021

- ◆ Provide greater opportunities for our youth
- ◆ Increase streaming capabilities
- ◆ Building improvements to accompany the Elm Street Widening project
- ◆ Increased presence in our community
- ◆ Expanded outreach through our backpack ministry

How Much Should I Give?

It can be difficult to know how much to give; only you can decide what is right for you. The Bible calls for a tithe, or 10% of your income. Many members choose to meet and even exceed this goal. Others give a smaller proportion and try to increase a bit each year. Regardless of how much you choose to give, your pledge is important for both you and for St. James!

Choosing the amount you wish to pledge is a delicate balance. Financial stewardship is a spiritual discipline and so the amount should be enough that the gift is noticeable within your budget. We invite you to prayerfully consider your own budget, and to then generously give back to God, out of thanksgiving for all that we have been given.

Suggested Weekly Gift:

Annual Income	10% (tithe)	7%	5%
\$25,000	\$48	\$34	\$24
\$45,000	\$87	\$61	\$43
\$75,000	\$144	\$101	\$72
\$100,000	\$192	\$135	\$96
\$150,000	\$288	\$202	\$144
\$200,000	\$385	\$269	\$192

Fall Stewardship Drive – Frequently Asked Questions

Why do we have a Fall Stewardship Drive?

The stewardship of our church home is a year-round labor of love. We give generously of our time, talent, and earnings to support the wide variety of programs within our church and to support the larger community through our outreach programs.

During the fall stewardship campaign, we specifically concentrate our efforts on the church's financial needs and invite every member to make a spiritual and financial pledge to support St. James. This allows the Stewardship Committee to make sure that the church is using its funds wisely—using as much as possible to share God's love within the church and community, without stretching ourselves too thinly to pay our bills.

Is my pledge confidential?

Yes. Your pledge is completely confidential, and will be handled with respect and care.

What are other ways I can give to the church?

There are a great variety of ways to give to the church. Offering the gift of your time, talent and energy is a wonderful way to serve the church. Financially speaking, the church is also happy to receive stocks and bonds. You may also choose to include the church in your Estate Planning. We are happy to help with any of these options of giving, if you have questions or would like assistance.

Is my gift tax-deductible?

Yes. St. James is a registered non-profit at both the federal and state level. We will provide you with the appropriate tax forms, with records of your giving, at the appropriate time.

How does the church use its resources?

The short answer: very carefully, with much thought and prayer. We carefully walk a line between generosity within our community, providing for the needs of our congregation, and fiscal responsibility.

May I see the church's budget?

Absolutely, at any point. Simply ask and one will be provided for you.

What if I have other questions about giving?

Please feel free to contact Jon Watt or any member of the Stewardship Committee: Beverley Ferrell, (chair), Taurean Byrd, Diane Carlson, Philanna Davenport, Terry Kok (Treasurer), about any questions you may have.

2021 Annual Stewardship Drive

Thank you for generous gifts this year and in the past.

As you prepare to make a pledge this year, please consider increasing your investment in the church by adding an extra 3 percent and an extra hour a month in service.

We cannot wait to see the amazing ways in which we will grow together, and deepen our connections, this year.

Please return this and the automatic draft form (if applicable) to the church no later than *Stewardship Sunday, November 1, 2020* either during worship, by mail, or by emailing officemanager@stjamesjenks.org

Name: _____

For God's work in this family of faith I/we pledge our contribution of \$ _____
Per: Week___ Month___ Twice/Month___ Annually___
(Please check one of the above)

Please help us insure we have the right information for you and your family

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Email(s): _____

Please use this form if you would like to set up automatic payments from your bank account:

I (we) hereby authorize **St. James Presbyterian Church**, to initiate debit entries to my account indicated below and the depository financial institution named below, hereinafter called BANK, and to debit the same to such account. I (we) acknowledge that the origination of ACH (automatic) transactions to my (our) account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

Bank Name _____

Routing Number (9 digits) _____

Checking Account Number _____

Amount _____ Frequency _____ Checking _____ Savings _____

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until **St. James Presbyterian Church** has received written notification from me of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford **St. James Presbyterian Church** and BANK a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Name (print) _____ Date _____

Signed _____