

StJames

Give to Grow campaign



Dear people of God at St. James',

As you read through the information presented in this brochure, please take a moment to reflect on how your faith and your relationship with God has grown and been nurtured at St. James' and consider this question: what kind of growth do you imagine for yourself and for St. James' in the future? Take a moment to think about that question. And then I want to share with you the vision that I have.

I imagine St. James' growing in our capacity to provide a place where people of every age feel the invitation and find the opportunity to grow in the knowledge that they are loved and forgiven by God; to grow in their faith and trust in God; to grow in confidence in exercising their unique gifts; to grow in leadership; and to grow in compassion and the desire to serve God's world. I even imagine St. James' as a place that becomes a model for Christian engagement and community, where postulants and newly graduated seminarians would want to come to experience a wide variety of ministry and practice before going on to lead their own churches.

There is probably nothing that blesses me more than to hear someone say that they have learned and grown since making St. James' their home and that they understand more about the Christian faith and practice, more about following Jesus day-to-day, and more about how to live as a person of faith in today's world.

I hope that you will review this brochure and prayerfully consider how you have grown at St. James' and how you can impact the future by Giving to Grow!



Sincerely,
Becky

Becky Coerper
Rector

In 2022, we are all being invited to “give to grow” both in the short and long term by contributing to the St. James' Foundation now and in the future. Your gift will ensure that St. James' continues to grow as an active and vibrant Christian community, with parishioners alive in their faith and sharing God's love with the world.



John Watt and Amy Allyn
Co-chairs of the campaign

LegacyGiving

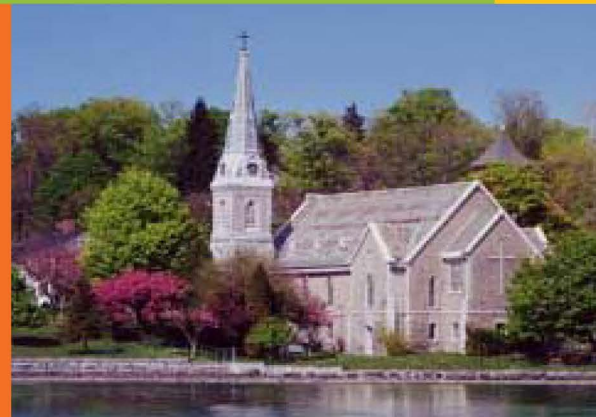


A legacy gift is focused on empowering the ministry and mission of St. James' well into the future. Unlike a pledge to the annual stewardship campaign or weekly offerings that support the annual operating budget of the church, a gift to the St. James' Foundation supports the long-term goals and needs of the church as the Vestry determines over time and as the ministry and mission of the church continue to change and grow. Your legacy gift can be made now through contributions to the St. James' Foundation or in the future through Planned Giving.

The growth we are experiencing at St. James' right now is a tribute to the leadership that we have in place and is dependent on the continued development of new leaders for every aspect of our worship, continuing education, community service and life as a Christian community. Giving to the St. James' Foundation Leadership Support Fund is a way to support these leadership needs and to sustain this type of growth well into the future.

God's Bounty

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."
1 Chronicles 29: 14 (NIV)



We are the stewards of our abundance, not the creators of it. As reflected in 1 Chronicles 29:14, all that we have and are comes from God and will one day return to God. For our time here on earth, we are the caretakers of God's infinite bounty.

We at St. James' are blessed with a beautiful building in a beautiful setting and with the opportunity each week to participate in a variety of worship services and numerous adult and family programs and outreach ministries. Indeed, we have experienced God's bounty.

Making a gift that supports the future ministry and mission of St. James' is a great way to proclaim to the world what you have valued during your lifetime, to express your faith in the future and to leave a legacy for generations to come.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Luke 12:34 (NIV)

Q&A

Q: What is the St. James' Foundation Leadership Support Fund?

A: This fund was established in 2020 with an initial gift given in memory of a long-time parishioner and beloved member of the St. James' community. Its purpose is to support church leadership, specifically clergy and staff.

Q: Why are you asking for gifts to the Leadership Fund now?

A: We are seeking to raise \$500,000 to increase the principal balance of this fund so that it will generate increased income to support the clergy and staff of the church and empower ministry. In the short term, the Vestry anticipates that the fund will be used to support hiring and retention of a new Assistant Rector. Over the long term, these funds will be available to support various leadership initiatives, such as sabbaticals, training or other special projects that will impact and enhance our ministry and mission.

Q: What is "Planned Giving?"

A: Planned Giving is thinking about the things that you care about, that reflect your values and beliefs, and considering how they will continue, develop and thrive in the future, long after you are no longer here. Planned gifts are made through bequests in wills, life income gifts or donations of appreciated property (such as stock or real estate) and are a recognition that, in time, all accumulated assets must pass from one generation to the next. They are usually part of an individual's financial and estate planning. For more information on Planned Giving and the St. James' Foundation, go to [www.stjamesskan.org/Planned Giving](http://www.stjamesskan.org/PlannedGiving) or contact Becky Coerper at (315) 685-7600.

Thanks to Hazel!

You may have heard of Hazel Smith. Our Parish Hall is named after her. According to the history written by Kihm Winship in his book *Skaneateles and St. James'*, Hazel was born in 1899, was a lifelong member of St. James' and lived most of her life on Leitch Avenue in the Village of Skaneateles. She worked at Solvay Process for 38 years, and upon her retirement in 1964, she was the firm's Senior Executive Secretary. Hazel served on the Altar Guild and volunteered at the St. James' Thrift Shop and was an outgoing person, but a quiet giver. Upon her death in 1991 many were surprised to learn that St. James' was the sole beneficiary under her last will and testament and that she had quietly amassed a significant sum of money that was to be used for the physical upkeep of the church. Thanks to Hazel's legacy gift, and the ongoing management of these funds through the St. James' Foundation, St. James' has been able to make needed capital improvements to our building over the last 30 years, and we have all been the beneficiaries of her quiet stewardship.



Hazel Smith

OUR VISION

We seek to empower the ministry and mission of St. James' Church by raising \$500,000 for the Leadership Support Fund of the St. James' Foundation. This fund was first established by the Vestry in 2020 to support leadership endeavors specifically related to clergy and staff. We are seeking additional contributions to the Leadership Fund in 2022 to support the hiring of a part-time Assistant Rector. Over the long term, contributions to this fund will be available to support other leadership-focused initiatives and various needs of our clergy and staff.

ST. JAMES' IS GROWING!

Despite the challenges of these past few years, St. James' has extended its reach by: continuing to offer online worship services; increasing programming for all ages, including in person and virtual Sunday School, prayer groups, Bible studies and book discussions; hosting guest speakers, concerts and events; and expanding community service opportunities. And our membership is growing too!

But growth at St. James' isn't just about growth in the number of programs or people! It's about growth in our faith, in our commitment and in our engagement. It's about growth as a Christian community. Here is what some of our parishioners have to say:

"I would say that since coming to St. James' my faith has been opened up. I'm more comfortable exploring different perspectives and new spiritual practices."

"At St. James', I feel like it's okay to have doubts and ask questions because we are all on this journey of faith together."

"I've participated in several book discussion groups and have really enjoyed the fellowship and conversation around what are sometimes challenging topics."

"Taking my child to Saints in Training has given me confidence that she is beginning her own journey towards faith. It is my hope that she learns that her church is a place to find answers, have fun, and listen to stories. She can interact with peers outside of the school setting to create lifelong connections."

"When I first started attending St. James', I only felt comfortable with the traditional service. Now, I appreciate the differences in each of the three Sunday services and enjoy mixing it up once in a while!"

"I have been inspired to go deeper in my own spiritual practices and have found a community of others willing to explore our faith and practices together."

"I felt welcomed at St. James' and have been offered many opportunities to get involved."

"I have been encouraged to put my faith into action beyond the church walls by participating in various community service and outreach projects."

Two Ways To Give to Grow!

1

Give now to the St. James' Foundation Leadership Support Fund. Your gift will support the hiring of a part-time Assistant Rector to assist with worship and to be a part of our church leadership team and ministry.

2

Consider making a Planned Gift through your will or as part of your financial or estate planning. A gift to the St. James' Foundation will support St. James' over the long term.

To make a gift to support the Give to Grow Campaign:

Please contact **John Watt** (585) 748-4736 or **Amy Allyn** (315) 730-2668
Give to Grow Campaign Co-chairs

OR

Complete and return the Give to Grow Campaign Donation Card available in the Church office or online at www.stjameskan.org/GivetoGrow

If you are interested in Planned Giving, please contact **Becky Coerper**, Rector
Email: becky@stjameskan.org • **Phone:** (315) 685-7600

