

***"One generation commends your works to another, they tell of your mighty acts.  
(Psalm 145:4)***



October 19, 2023

Dear Church,

As we joyfully welcomed new members into the St. James community in worship last Sunday, I was reminded of the theme for our Stewardship Celebration this year, “Generations of Faith.” One of our new member families stood together as three generations of faith, living into their baptismal promises to follow Christ in this community. It is in moments like these that we know God in Christ Jesus is faithful to all of us, yesterday, today and forever.

We experience the power of the Holy Spirit at work in all the generations through St. James' prayerful, intentional, gospel centered worship. The pattern of worship provides a model to practice our faith with one another, take risks and learn and grow as a community.

- ❖ We share Christ' peace with one another—a peace we crave and cultivate together. We don't pass over the lack of peace in places and spaces of unrest but pray for all the world to know God's peace that surpasses all understanding.
- ❖ Every Sunday, we are blessed to approach Christ' table of Holy welcome, knowing all are invited to the banquet—a foretaste of the feast to come.
- ❖ After being fed by God in mind, body and spirit, we are sent into the world with the words of our mission statement to “follow Christ, make disciples, and live the Gospel.”

St. James' community is our place to practice sharing Christ' love with a hurting world. Your participation and your financial support of this mission we share, is essential to being this church together. Sunday, November 12th is Commitment Sunday. This is a day when we join together as a community of faith and recommit to following Christ every day of our lives. On that day we will bring forward our offering commitments for the coming year.

Enclosed you will find a Pledge card. There are 3 options for completing the card:

- i. Complete and submit the Pledge Card online. You can click on the link that was in *Connections* or the “Stewardship” tab on the St. James website.
- ii. Fill out the enclosed Pledge Card and bring it to worship on Commitment Sunday.
- iii. If unable to attend the worship service, complete and return the Pledge Card by mail.

Thank you for all the generous ways you respond to Christ' call to be his disciples, workers together in the kingdom of heaven. Thank you for being the Church in the world and passing the life-saving Word on to every generation.

God's blessings be with you,  
-Pastor Amy Gillespie