

*Giving a gift to God and the community of St. James by pledging your gifts of*

*Time, Talent, and Treasure*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Each year our parish designates six weeks in the fall as “The Season of Stewardship”. We invite each member to contemplate what it means to be a faithful steward of God’s abundant blessings. Included with this letter you will find our offering form for St. James Episcopal Church. We are asking everyone to prayerfully consider a pledge of their **time, talent, and treasure** to God. Giving of your spiritual gifts and talents to God is a gift of immeasurable love. God blesses us with all good things (talent, intelligence, supportive community, money, etc.). It comes with a purpose. God intends that we multiply God’s blessing in the world. This year, our financial goal is to increase our last year’s pledge total by 20% to \$300,000. This attainable goal will allow our church the following opportunities:

- Hiring of a Full-Time Associate Priest
- The ability to continue to fund our current ministries
- Planning for desirable new ministries not funded in our last fiscal budget

Support of ministry comes from a commitment of time and talents. On the attached form there is a place for you to indicate the ministries you are currently active in, or those new ones you wish to support; as well as an area for your financial pledge and a chance to review your membership information and update if needed. A list of ministries and brief description of each is on the back of this letter. After thoughtfully discerning your pledge, please fill out the attached form. Our goal is to have all pledges received before November 1st; you may submit your form by:

- Mailing it to: *St. James Church 7486 Union Park Ave, Midvale, Utah 84047-4164*
- Placing it in the offering plate on Sundays
- Giving it to Father John Williams

One final note: Last year we were not able to get the automatic deposit option for pledge payments activated due to fees being assessed; but we do have a new option for payment method: Bill Pay. Parishioners can set up on Bill Pay through their individual banking institutions and most banks offer this service at no charge. They must have the check mailed directly to St James so that their pledge will be credited.

*Generous God, I give thanks to you for the gifts you have given me -my life, my family, my friends - time, talents, and material possessions. All that I have comes from you. Help me to remember this and rejoice in your goodness. Walk with me, my God. Help me on my spiritual journey, so that I may constantly renew my relationship with you and all the good people in our parish and throughout the world. Renew in me your Spirit. Give me the strength and courage to become a better follower of Jesus, to be a disciple. Help me hear the call to "Come, Follow Me." I give glory to you, my God, as I make stewardship a way of life. Amen.*

God’s Peace,

St. James Stewardship Committee

Doug Ferguson

Carol Gentner

Angela Steinbach

Elaine Harris-Nelson

Dave Nelson

Fr. John Williams