



Stewardship Possibilities

As people of God at Saint James, we are blessed with exceptional gifts every day: Your participation — in prayer & worship, faith formation, community outreach, music & the arts — is a gift to God, our neighbors, and the wider world. Think broadly & expansively of stewardship as the *intentional* use of our time, talents, and treasure, both within & beyond the walls of the church, in gratitude for all that God has given.

Below is a sampling of possible aims/commitments you might contemplate as you complete your [2025 Pledge Card](#). It is not a complete list but is intended to give you some ideas to get you started!

Cathedral Pledge

- Both the Hebrew and Christian scriptures contain a clear understanding that the appropriate response to God's generosity from God's people is a *tithe*, meaning 10% of income.
- A Pledge is an *estimate* of giving — it may be changed if your financial circumstances change.
- *Making* a Pledge allows you to make intentional decisions about your finances: when you plan ahead, you make conscious choices about using your money in ways that reflect your faith and values.
- *Receiving* your Pledge allows the Cathedral's governing board (called the Cathedral Chapter) to plan wise support of the mission & ministry to which God has called us: the Cathedral budget is based on the total amount pledged; while plate offerings are always appreciated, your Pledge lets the Cathedral plan more accurately for the work & ministry we can accomplish.

ANNUAL INCOME	PLEDGE as a PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL INCOME							
	12.5%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	
20,000	2,500	2,000	1,800	1,600	1,400	1,200	1,000	annual total
	209	167	150	134	117	100	84	per month
40,000	5,000	4,000	3,600	3,200	2,800	2,400	2,000	
	417	334	300	267	234	200	167	
60,000	7,500	6,000	5,400	4,800	4,200	3,600	3,000	
	625	500	450	400	350	300	250	
80,000	10,000	8,000	7,200	6,400	5,600	4,800	4,000	
	834	667	600	534	467	400	334	
100,000	12,500	10,000	9,000	8,000	7,000	6,000	5,000	
	1,042	834	750	667	584	500	417	
120,000	15,000	12,000	10,800	9,600	8,400	7,200	6,000	
	1,250	1,000	900	800	700	600	500	
140,000	17,500	14,000	12,600	11,200	9,800	8,400	7,000	
	1,459	1,167	1,050	934	817	700	584	
160,000	20,000	16,000	14,400	12,800	11,200	9,600	8,000	
	1,667	1,334	1,200	1,067	934	800	667	
180,000	22,500	18,000	16,200	14,400	12,600	10,800	9,000	
	1,875	1,500	1,350	1,200	1,050	900	750	
200,000	25,000	20,000	18,000	16,000	14,000	12,000	10,000	
	2,084	1,667	1,500	1,334	1,167	1,000	834	



Stewarding our prayer life

- say grace at each meal
- start/end each day giving thanks to God for three things
- create a *touchstone prayer*: a short prayer you say every time you do a regular action; e.g.
 - every time you walk in your front door: “Thank you God for my family.”
 - while brushing your teeth: “Thank you God for my physical health.”
- set aside 10 minutes x 3–4 times per week for quiet, contemplative prayer
- pray all / some portion of the Daily Office (p. 37ff) or Daily Devotion for Individuals & Families (p. 137ff) provided in the *Book of Common Prayer* (1979)
- plan to worship in person at church ___ times a month (more than you currently do in a typical month)
 - Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 8am Spoken • 9am Family • 11am Choral
- worship & pray communally in a Cathedral service outside of Sunday mornings:
 - Morning Prayer: 9am weekdays on Zoom (us02web.zoom.us/j/89796765807)
 - Noonday Eucharist: 12:10pm weekdays
 - Chorister Evensong: 5:45pm Wednesdays (September–June)
 - Compline: 7:30pm Wednesdays
 - Choral Evensong: 4pm first Sundays (October–June)
- incorporate the brief Daily Sermons by Cathedral clergy into your daily prayer life:
 - www.youtube.com/@StJamesCathedralChicago
 - subscribe to receive a link to the day’s sermon directly in your email inbox:
www.saintjamescathedral.org/news/weekly-e-news > scroll down to #SermonOfTheDay Sign Up
- serve in a Cathedral liturgical ministry: Altar Guild • Usher • Reader • Intercessor • Acolyte • Choir
- find a Prayer Partner with whom to pray for the needs of others weekly / on some other regular basis

Stewarding our faith

- read a chapter of the Bible every day / read ___ books of the Bible this year
- read all / some portion of the scriptures appointed in the Daily Lectionary each day
 - turn to p. 934 in the *Book of Common Prayer* (1979)
- read ___ books on faith, prayer, spirituality this year
- check out the Dean’s/Provost’s Forums: 10am most Sundays in Kyle’s Place at the Cathedral
- consider being confirmed/received in the Episcopal Church if you haven’t already
 - www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/confirmation
 - indicate your interest on the back of your Pledge Card and/or contact Rev. Steven Balke, Canon for Pastoral Care & Outreach (sbalke@saintjamescathedral.org) for more information
- assist in teaching Sunday School
- invite others to a service/program at the Cathedral
- pray daily for God to create an opportunity for you to share your faith with others
- share pictures & posts off/from the Cathedral with your neighbors on social media

Stewarding our time, talents, treasure

- serve / assume a leadership role within a guild or ministry at the Cathedral
 - www.saintjamescathedral.org/worship/worship-ministries
 - www.saintjamescathedral.org/outreach
- volunteer with and/or financially support an organization doing God’s work in the world
- seek out / establish a mentorship relationship to hone each other’s spiritual gifts & talents