

**St. James by-the-Sea** *The Episcopal Church in La Jolla* 743 Prospect Street, La Jolla, CA 92037

The Rev'd Dr. Mark Hargreaves, Rector

October 15, 2023



I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

Psalm 9:1

Dear Friends,

"Gratitude and generosity are similar virtues, but they differ in that gratitude is an internal characteristic and generosity is our external expression of our sense of gratitude. Basically, gratitude is how we feel, and generosity is how we express that feeling out in the world." - Richard Rohr

Gratitude is an emotion of connectedness. Gratitude helps us see God. There's a beautiful cycle in giving God thanks: the more we thank God, the more we see God working in us and around us. Out of a grateful heart grows love, connection, relationship, faith, and *generosity* to name a few. This year as we launch the Stewardship Campaign, we ask all of our parishioners to *contemplate* their gratitude for St. James. Why St. James? How have you been blessed and seen others blessed by God's work in this community?

Enclosed you will find the pledge commitment form for your prayerful consideration. A pledge is not a contract, it's your faith commitment as a part of your role in the stewardship of this community. Please remember the willingness to make a commitment is more important than the amount. Every pledge is deeply appreciated. You can pledge to give weekly, monthly or yearly. We offer a variety of ways to give as you'll see on the pledge card. You can go to the webpage and click the "giving" tab to set up or review your auto pay options. If you give via Paypal or auto pay we ask you to return your pledge card as an accounting of your commitment. This year we are asking those who give by credit card or Paypal to consider adding 3% to their pledge to offset the costs incurred by the church every time a credit charge is initiated. And, as a reminder, all credit card payments need to be renewed every year.

Thank you for your support of St. James,

Mark Hangreaves, Rector

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Julie Drake, Stewardship Chair