



November 12, 2014

Dear St. James' Parishioner,

How much should one pledge? It's a question that is often asked. Over the past decade, a growing number of Episcopalians have begun tithing and have experienced new spiritual joy in their lives.

I hope you will join with a growing number of our parishioners and experience this new joy. The leadership of our parish commend the tithe to you as a way in which to give sacrificially, meaningfully, and joyfully.

We hope that every member of the parish will become a proportionate giver, determining the amount they give to support the mission of the church as a percentage of their income. We believe that the practice of proportionate giving, moving toward and beyond the tithe, will provide each of us with a new spiritual richness, and our offerings will provide new and exciting opportunities to carry out our mission and ministry which will enable us to joyfully proclaim the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Vestry of this church, I ask that you prayerfully examine what your giving to the Church represents as a percentage of your household income. We are hopeful that, after determining the percentage your current pledge represents of your income, if you find you are not tithing now, you will consider increasing the percentage so that your new pledge more fully represents your thankfulness to God for all that God gives to you.

On Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, "Harvest Sunday" we will submit our pledges as one church, considering our lives as stewards of God's gifts. I am pleased that you and I share a part of our lives within this Christian fellowship.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

*John E. Culmer*

Senior Warden  
St. James' Vestry