

# Stewardship

## Description:

Stewardship has been described as all that we do with all that we have all of the time. It's about how we manage the gifts with which we have been endowed...the gifts of our:

- time
- talent
- treasure

## Key Questions:

- How generous are we?
- How do we spend our time? Do we make time for the things that really matter to us?
- How do we use the talents with which we have been blessed? Are we engaged in activities that are meaningful and enriching to us?
- How do we spend our financial assets? What good purposes in the world does our money serve?

Stewardship is also about our attitude and the lenses through which we view the world around us...

- Do we see abundance or scarcity?
- Do we feel gratitude or despair?
- Are we generous or frugal?
- Are we hopeful or fearful?

## The Paradox of Generosity:

As the Prayer of St. Francis says, "It is in giving that we receive." Thus, the paradox of generosity...the more we give away, the more we are enriched. Said another way, it is in feeding others that we are fed. The Vestry prayer, which is said at the opening of their monthly meetings, concludes with the words: "with our eyes firmly fixed on the one who found his true power in giving himself away...in Jesus our example and teacher."

## The Scope of Stewardship:

On a personal level, Stewardship is about our relationship with our own blessings. On a more global level, Stewardship is about our attitude towards the world around us, the world we inherit and are empowered to shape...the world of our family, of our community, of our nation and of our planet. It is about the natural beauty and bounty of the earth and how wisely and sustainably we manage that beauty and bounty.

## What About Redeemer?

At Redeemer, Stewardship is about how we nurture and grow the wonderful legacy of this Parish family which has been handed down to us through the generosity and wise Stewardship of those who went before us. So as we think about Stewardship, we ask that you consider what the Redeemer family means to you. How important is it in your life? How does it feed you and nurture your spirit? What would your life be like without it?

People support Redeemer for a variety of reasons and by a variety of styles and every reason and style is valid:

- Some give only when they attend
- Some give as if they were paying dues
- Others give as a way of investing in the dream
- While others give from gratitude

## Why do you support Redeemer?

- Do you ask: What is the minimum I can give?
- Or do you ask: What is my fair share?
- Or do you ask: What does Redeemer need
- Or do you ask: What do I need to give in order to feel whole?

As you contemplate these questions, we ask that you be *generous with your gifts* in supporting the life and ministry of this wonderful family we call the Church of the Redeemer. *Let us be good Stewards* of both the past legacy of Redeemer and its present and future dreams and vision of what it means to be a people of faith who strives to create their vision of the Kingdom of God in this place.