

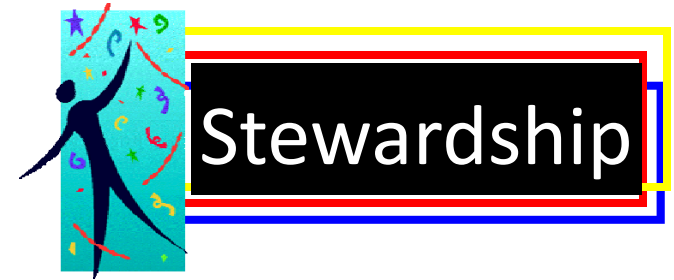
Our Core Values

- A Heart for the Lost
- Passion for the Gospel
- Willingness to Do Whatever it Takes
- Commitment to One Another

Our Purpose

Make, Mark & Mature Disciples

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St. Paul's Episcopal Church

What can I offer the LORD for all he has done for me?... I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD. Psalm 116:12, 17



Make, Mark, Mature

7. After we know why we give, then we can focus on the ones who receive what we give to the Lord.

"You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God; for the rendering of this service not only supplies the wants of the saints, but also overflows in many thanksgivings to God."

-2 Corinthians 9:11-12

ST PAUL EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 2008 PLEDGE CARD

In thanksgiving to God, I/we pledge in 2008*:

\$ _____ week/month/year to the ministry and mission of St. Paul's Church.
 (Circle one)

 Name

*You may change your pledge at any time by simply calling the parish office.

Stewardship

Our decisions about giving are spiritual decisions. The Bible calls us to give in thankful response to a loving God, who has entrusted to us all that we have. I believe that using guilt tactics, appealing to pride, duty or even to the importance of the ministries of the parish are not in keeping with what the Bible teaches us about giving. We are called to a personal commitment to Jesus Christ and for giving in thankfulness for all that He has done for us.

I hope you will read and reflect on the educational information in this brochure and pray about your giving. As the Lord call us into a deeper relationship with him, may we trust him more and more completely. Let us joyfully return to God with thanksgiving, for where our treasure is, there will our hearts be also.

Biblical Stewardship Principles

1. **God is the giver of all that we have. What we possess is not earned but a gift from God.**

“Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’ You shall remember the Lord your God for it is he who gives you power to get wealth.”
Deuteronomy 8:17-18

2. **We are accountable to God for what we do with what he has given to us. We are managers, not owners.**

In the parable of the talents, “After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.” To two of the servants he said, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of you master.” But to the third he said, “You wicked and slothful servant!...So take the talent away from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.”
-Matthew 25:14-30

3. **One aspect of being a trustworthy steward is giving. Our decisions about possessions are spiritual decisions. Giving brings us closer to God.**

Jesus said, “Fear not little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms; provide

yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” - Luke 12:32-34

4. **As we give, we are called to tithe, to return 10% of what he gives us.**

“All the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord’s; it is holy to the Lord.” -Leviticus 27:30

5. **The motive for giving to God is thankfulness. God wants us to give with joy.**

“Each one must do as he has made up his own mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” -2 Corinthians 9:7

6. **God calls us to give so that we might experience the quality of life that he wants for us.**

Moses said, “Be careful to heed all these words which I command you, that it may go well with you and your children after you for ever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of the Lord your God.” -Deuteronomy 12:28