

Year-Round Giving

Presented by the Rev. Canon Timothy Dombek, Stewardship University – Stewardship As a Way Of Life.

“Remember that our Lord Jesus said, ‘More blessings come from giving than from receiving.’” Acts 20:35. Stewardship As Giving – We need to make stewardship a year-round event, not just an annual campaign.

Some suggestions for year-round Stewardship that you can do – based on Stewardship University 2013

December – Advent – Beginning a New Year

- Advent Quiet Day for reflection and rest
- Promote alternative gift giving ideas
- Angel Tree for needy children/families
- Winter Discretionary Fund Appeal

January – New Year’s Resolutions

- Handwritten Thank You notes to Annual Response donors
- Spiritual Gifts Discernment opportunity for all
- Energy Audit facilities: look for ways to save money
- Begin planning for VBS
- Youth project “Souper Bowl of Caring”

February – Caring for Our Loved Ones

- Offer a wills workshop for all ages
- Offer community money management program
- Lent: Outreach offering/service project

March – Spring Cleaning!

- Offer classes on church membership including an introduction to Stewardship
- Good Friday offering: Diocese of Jerusalem
- Handwritten Thank You notes to Lay ministers

April – God claims Earth and everything in it

- Congregational clean-up day – with thank you lunch provided for all
- Observe Earth Day
- Offer family game or movie night – Talent Night!

May – Giving Thanks for Our Families

- Mother’s Day observation – focus on Women’s ministries
- Handwritten Thank You notes to ECW/Altar Guild members
- Welcoming New Members liturgy or event

June – Summertime!

2nd Handwritten Thank You note to all pledgers – “with your support, look what we are doing ...”
Provide bank draft, on-line or e-giving opportunities
Youth Service
“Vacation bulletin” bulletin board

July – Rest, Relaxation and Refreshment

Host a VBS (Vacation Bible School)
Parish picnic/cook-out
Sermon/story of transformation
Preach about Spiritual Gifts

August – Back to School

Blessing of Teachers and backpacks
School supplies drive for local school
Include prayers for students and Schools in Prayers of the People
Leader Appreciation Sunday

September – Offering Our Life and Labor to God

Parish retreat (Chanco on the James)
Spiritual Gifts Discernment for all
Ministry/Mission Fair – Where to serve and use your Spiritual Gifts
Repeat Money Management class for community

October – Harvest Time!

Introduce the Annual Response program
Offering for Episcopal Relief and Development
Preach on being a “steward”
Weekly stories/witnesses of transformation

November – Now Thank We All Our God

Luncheon/workshop: *While in Health: Preparing for Final things (wills, powers of attorney, funeral plans etc.)*
Ingathering of and prayer over pledges
Ecumenical/community Thanksgiving worship service
Thanksgiving meal outreach

Stewardship ministry committee meets monthly throughout the year.

Book Study Suggestions:

How Much Is Enough, A. Simon
The Soul of Money, Lynne Twist
Rich Church, Poor Church, by J. Clif Christopher
How Your Church Family Works, Peter Steinke
One Simple Act, Debbie Macomber