



FaithLines

The quarterly information e-letter from Stewardship Development™



Growing together through time & talent

By: Gordon Longman

Growing together through time & talent

Whenever Anglicans gather to talk about stewardship, subsequent discussion inevitably becomes polarized around the topic of finances.

When parishes have challenges meeting their annual operating budget, it is most often a symptom of much deeper problems than just financial stewardship. We need to recognize that Time and Talent are critical aspects of stewardship. Are your church members being



encouraged and nurtured into becoming involved with ministry? One of our most important responsibilities is surely to bring others into a greater knowledge of the Good News of Jesus Christ. As we become more involved with ministry we build our own personal ownership of the overall ministry of our church. As our church life becomes more important to us then we become more motivated to support it financially. The goal of good stewardship is not fundraising but rather, building the faith and commitment of the laity.

“Growing Together” is a visitation program

What's inside...

Top ten excuses not to give!

Excuses that persist with donors and non-donors alike.

Our Faith-Our Hope funding makes an impact

Over \$1,200,000 has flowed back to parishes participating in Our Faith-Our Hope. Here is what some are doing with the money.

FaithWorks Speakers Bureau

The FaithWorks Speakers Bureau can put you in touch with the Ministry Partner of your choice.

What did you give up for Lent?

Staff at the diocese share their sacrifice or commitment for Lent.

designed to encourage people to share their Time and Talent. It is a stewardship program that doesn't talk about Treasure – imagine? The program has proven to be effective in recruiting new volunteers into a welcoming and nurturing church community. We “grow together” because it is very gratifying to see someone who you have visited, encouraged, and nurtured, into becoming a ministry leader themselves. It is a win-win situation. Occasionally new ministries are discovered. God's will is being done.

For more information contact Gordon at stewardship@toronto.anglican.ca

Top ten excuses not to give!

By: The Rev. Bill Welch and Peter Misiaszek, CFRE

Over the years we have heard almost every excuse that exists for why people can't or won't give, the ten most common that we encounter include:

1. I don't like the church's position on....
2. I have nothing to give
3. I'm on a fixed income
4. My gift won't make a difference
5. Our parish is going to close anyways so there is no sense in supporting it
6. I'm saving for a and can't afford to give right now
7. It's not my responsibility to pay for the upkeep of the church
8. I've given all my life, ask someone new
9. The church has mistreated people, they don't deserve my money
10. I give enough through my time and talent, my treasure is mine

We are convinced that many lifelong, well-meaning

In His Own words

“I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the temple treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood.”
(Mark 12:43-44)

Upcoming Events

The Ontario Stewardship Network Conference

generosity@mission.god

Date: November 3, 2012
Venue: St. David, Orillia
Registration: \$50, or \$35 before Sept 21

[Click here for more information](#)

Bishop's Company Annual Dinner

Date: Monday, May 7th, 2012
Venue: Toronto Marriott Hotel
Tickets: \$175.00 or \$140.00

[Click here for more information](#)

Trent – Durham Regional Dinner

Date: October 17th, 2012
Venue: Holiday Inn, Peterborough
Tickets: \$75.00 or \$70.00

More information coming soon!

Anglicans don't give because they are unfamiliar with what it means to be a Christian. If you understand the very tenets of our faith then giving is merely a by-product.

We give because a generous God gave us the free gift of life. We give because the model of generosity has already been laid out for us by Christ's own example of service. The church needs all of us to be joyful and generous givers in all walks of life. It is an invitation that is central to the calling of a Christian.

Our Faith-Our Hope Funding Makes an Immediate Impact

By: Peter Misiaszek, CFRE



Because healthy parish life is central to the mission of the church, the largest portion of Our Faith

– Our Hope monies is being allocated directly for parish needs. Since June, 2012 nearly \$1.2-million has already flowed back to parishes to be reinvested in what is important to them. By the time the campaign pledge period comes to an end in 2018, \$17-million will be returned to parishes.

Every parish has needs. Some require repairs or renovations to make their facilities more conducive to worship and education, to provide easier access for the elderly and disabled, or to create the capacity for new outreach ministry. Here is sample of how parishes have already put some of their retained funds to use:

- New front doors, awning and light – St. Martin, Bay Ridges
- Paid off outstanding cost of installing a new roof – St. Peter, Erindale
- Replenishing the building fund – St. David, Lawrence Ave

You Asked?

Question: Should I give from my net or gross salary?

Answer: Pray and ask God what to do. If God prompts you to give from the gross amount, go ahead and do this, trusting God with the results. If you are uneasy about this, begin giving from the net amount for a few months and see what happens. After a few months, if you experience God's creative care in your life, then begin to give from your gross income.

Please email us your questions at stewardship@toronto.anglican.ca

What did you give up for Lent?

From the humorous to the bizarre, many faithful Christians make special commitments to help remind them daily of Christ's sacrifice for humankind. By sacrificing some of our comfort and indulgences, we learn to empty ourselves so that we may be filled with the loving message of God. Staff at the diocese share their sacrifice or commitment below!

Archbishop Colin Johnson: I gave up playing computer games so I would go to bed at a decent hour!

Canon Elizabeth Hardy: Alcohol and red meat.

Anonymous: I gave up going to Starbucks, and am setting aside the money I would normally spend there to give to FaithWorks at Easter.

Sheryl Thorpe: I gave up meat... and I really love meat!

Jennifer Brown: I gave up the obviously

- Funds to be invested in retreat centre – St. Andrew, Alliston
- Fixed parish driveway, replaced 2 furnaces – Christ Memorial, Oshawa

Book a FaithWorks Speaker Today!

By: Julie Poore

If you're looking for something to kick-start or give a boost to your FaithWorks Campaign this year, a speaker from one of our Ministry Partners could do the trick! It might be one of the Ministries that is in your area, or one which serves a community need in which your congregation has a particular interest or concern.



And we can help you with that! The FaithWorks Speakers Bureau can put you in touch with the Ministry Partner of your choice. You can check them out on the Diocesan

website at: www.faithworks.ca

Then contact me at fwspeakersbureau@toronto.anglican.ca or 705-326-6598. Tell me the date you would like to have the speaker come to your parish, and the Ministry Partner you would like to invite, and I'll make the necessary contact and put you in touch to make the arrangements.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Prayerfully Consider a Gift of Stock to FaithWorks

Donations of publicly listed securities to public charities are exempt from Capital Gains Tax. A charitable gift of shares, bonds, mutual funds or other publicly traded securities will help others while you benefit from the tax savings today.

For more information, please call Peter Misiaszek,
CFRE

sugar-filled items which I really CAN live without, such as cookies, cakes, muffins, chocolate, candy/sweets, and sweet drinks.

Anonymous: I gave up wearing my good jewellery, and am wearing just my plain wedding band and some simple earrings for Lent. A lot of people (especially my mother!) think this is a pretty lame discipline, but I find that my diamonds are a source of vanity and pride for me, so it's good to put those things aside for forty days.

Blog Question

How do you live out stewardship in your everyday life?

Please email your response to:
stewardship@toronto.anglican.ca

Director of Stewardship Development
(416) 363-6021, ext. 264

Or visit our website at www.faithworks.ca and follow
the “donate”
Link at the bottom of the page.

Spread the good news about FaithLines

FaithLines is the quarterly information e-letter from the Stewardship Office, produced as a service to clergy, parishioners, donors and those interested in supporting the various ministries in the diocese of Toronto.

FaithLines can be downloaded directly from the diocesan website and printed for personal use. Feel free to share FaithLines with those who might be interested in our work. In whole or in part, it may be included in parish bulletins, posted on bulletin boards or attached to your own newsletters.

If you have any comments about FaithLines or would like to see a particular story covered in future editions, do not hesitate to let the Stewardship Office know.

Contact

416-363-6021 Ext: 243

Donate

Send us your parish stewardship stories

Email: stewardship@toronto.anglican.ca

Follow the Diocese



If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with “Unsubscribe” in the subject line or simply click [unsubscribe](#).