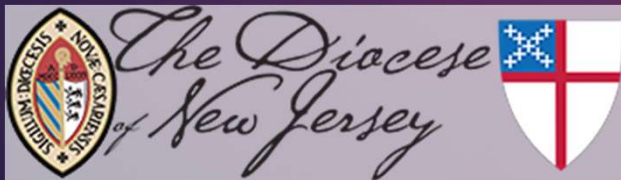


Stewardship of Everything Else: Living in God's Abundance

A PROJECT RESOURCE WORKSHOP ON
STEWARDSHIP - BEYOND TIME, TALENT, & TREASURE

Wednesday May 24, 2023



PROJECT  RESOURCE
The Stewardship Commission
of the Diocese of New Jersey

Opening Prayer

Fr. Bob+

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PROJECT  RESOURCE
The Stewardship Commission
of the Diocese of New Jersey



Fr. Bob Fitzpatrick
Co-Chair
Grace Episcopal Church,
Merchantville



Eva Lesniak
Co-Chair
Church of the Holy Spirit,
Lebanon



Tena Achen
St. David's Church,
Cranbury



Sergio Delgado
Christ Church Cristo Rey,
Trenton



Christy McGuire
St. Francis,
Dunellen



Natalie Krauser
All Saints' Church,
Scotch Plains



Fr. Chuck Messer
St. John's Church, Salem



Fr. William Ndishabandi
St. Augustine's Church,
Asbury Park



Mo. Megan Thomas
St. Luke's Church, Ewing



Shirley Thompson
St. Augustine's Church,
Asbury Park



Canon Phyllis Jones
Episcopal Diocese of
New Jersey

Agenda

Fr. Bob+

- Introduction to the *stewardship lifestyle* – a/k/a Holistic Stewardship
- Church highlights – Year-round stewardship in practice
- Year-round stewardship calendar
- Open forum
- Resources

Pop Quiz!

What qualifies as “good Stewardship”?

Christy

Vacation

- A. Yes 😎
- B. No 😞
- C. Maybe 😐

Honoring the Sabbath

- A. Yes 😊
- B. No 😞
- C. Maybe 😐

Farmer's Market

- A. Yes 😍
- B. No 😞
- C. Maybe 😐

Stewardship of Everything Else

How you live your life with
love for God,
love for yourself, and
love for your neighbor

- Stewardship: The conducting, supervising, or managing of *something*. That's it!
- Stewardship goes well beyond TT&T model
- Stewardship happens outside of the Fall Pledge Campaign – it's a year-round activity
- The *Stewardship Lifestyle*, or Holistic Stewardship, is STEWARDING THE BIG PICTURE

Stewardship of Everything Else

How you live your life with
love for God,
love for yourself, and
love for your neighbor

Examples:

- Time for God – Honor the Sabbath
Set time aside for God to work in us
- Time for ourselves – Body/Mind/Spirit self-care
Time to re-create ourselves – God's 7th day of rest
- Attitude & priorities – What *really matters* to you?
Attitude of Gratitude, putting your \$ where your mouth is
- Care of Creation – including us!
Environmentalism, vacation!
- Care of our Neighbors – Charity and Gospel justice
Who is our Neighbor?
- Relationships
Find Christ in all things and all people
- Money spent elsewhere – aka *the other 90%*
**ALL things come of thee, O Lord...
Where are your investments?**

How do I live the Stewardship Lifestyle?

- **It's how you live your life with love for God, love for yourself, and love for your neighbor**
 - Pay attention to see God's grace, love, and power in ourselves, our neighbors, and the world
 - **PRAY!**
 - Commit to being a good steward in **every** aspect of our lives, not just TT&T, including our attitude, actions/reactions, priorities, finances, relationships, and everywhere we leave a footprint



Caveats: How do we define Good Stewardship?

- What qualifies as “Good Stewardship”? There is no one way to define it – it’s really between us and God.
- There are nuances and grey areas: we need to be practical and flexible and find what works in each of our own lives. Rely on the gift of the Spirit and the gift of our minds to discern what is “good”.

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If beauty is in the eye of the beholder,
then “Good Stewardship” is in the eye of the giver & doer



Eva

Church Highlights

Year-round
Stewardship in Practice

- HOLY SPIRIT, LEBANON
- ALL SAINTS', SCOTCH PLAINS
- ST. AUGUSTINE, ASBURY PARK
- ST. FRANCIS, DUNELLEN

We 3 Kings (W3K) Epiphany House Blessings

- Our priest blesses every home in the parish
- Opportunity for parishioners to volunteer to help
- Strengthens sense of community
- Strategy for "keeping in touch" with every member of the congregation each year
- Parishioners can have their neighbors' houses blessed

Results:

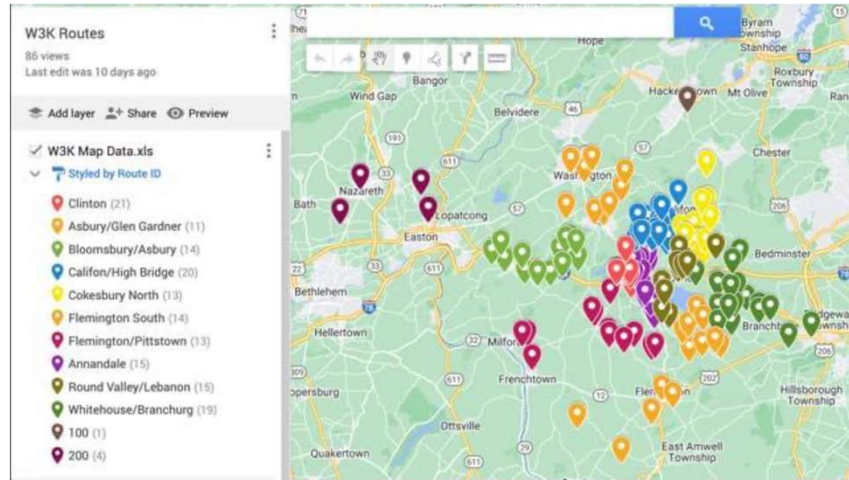
- Affords us an annual refresh of the full Parish List
- Re-engages members who used to be more involved & Engages new members of the congregation
- Once-and-done volunteering often yields deeper future engagement or repeat volunteering

Church of the Holy Spirit, Lebanon

Eva Lesniak



Google Maps to plot different house blessing routes:



Leave-Behinds from 2023 and 2022:

- St. Benedict Door Hangers
- Calligraphed House Blessing Cards & Easel

We 3 Kings
Epiphany House Blessings
2023

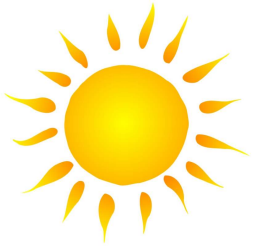


Church of the Holy Spirit
Our door is always open.



Church of the Holy Spirit,
Lebanon





Summer Socializing

- All Saints' hosts two summer breakfasts
- We do a mid-summer impact mailing with photos and simply a "THANK YOU" message

Your generosity enhanced All Saints' by expanding Christian Formation, Community Outreach and Pastoral Care!



Thank YOU!

The following page has specific details as to your gift. Any questions, please contact our Treasurer, John Brewer.



www.allsaints-spnj.org

All Saint's Church, Scotch Plains
Natalie Krauser



Stewardship Calendar of Events

St. Augustine Church, Asbury Park

Fr. William Ndishabandi

Year-round Events

- Parishioner of the Month
- June Summer Fling Ice Cream Social
- Care packages sent to college students in October
- Christmas Giving Tree
- Parishioner of the Year Award



Fall Campaign

- August “Tell Your Story” Kickoff of Stewardship Season
- Chat and Chew Coffee Hour
- September Talent and Gifts Festival
- Stewardship Sunday in October



CHAT
AND
CHEW!

- Migrated from Consecration Sunday to TENS* annual campaigns - 12 month program follows the liturgical calendar

More Than Enough (2022) & Rooted in Abundance (2023)



- TENS provides materials for planning, communications, & education
- Focus is on Wealth, Wisdom, and Works

St. Francis' Church, Dunellen

Christy McGuire

*The Episcopal Network for Stewardship
Diocesan Subscription
www.tens.org (Jeremiah17:8)

Give stuff! Physical reminders/representations of the year's theme

*Include a letter explaining how the tangible item connects to Stewardship

"More than Enough"

- * Mail Gratitude Journals to everyone during the summer
- * Hand out Loaves (literally) and Fishes (not literally) on campaign kick-off Sunday



"Rooted in Abundance"

- *Mail packets of seeds to everyone in May
- *Give flowers and plants on campaign kick-off Sunday



St. Francis' Church, Dunellen

Christy McGuire

Year-round Stewardship Calendar

Phyllis

January 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
Church Seasons: Christmas, Epiphany						Parishioner of the Month
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Prepare Annual Report Materials Epiphany House Blessings		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Fourth Quarter/Year-End 2022 Thank You/Pledge Summary Letters Sent						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
MLK Jr. Day of Service	Annual Pledge Campaign Thank-You/LYBUNT/PYBUNT Letters					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Annual Meeting after 10AM Service						
30	31					

EVENTS

Annual Meeting
Case Statement
Story Sharing
Financial Statement Review

Epiphany House Blessings
Invitations
Recruit Team Members
Plan Routes and Stops

MLK Jr. Day of Service
Promote Service Opportunities
Collaborate with Other Congregations & Community Partners



Open Forum

Discussion –

- What is your main takeaway from tonight's session?

Questions –

- How can you apply it to your own parish?

Tell us your story –

- What are you already doing that you've never considered to be "Stewardship"?
- Can you give another example of "Everything Else"?

Resources

➤ Books

- Marva J. Dawn, *Keeping the Sabbath Wholly*. Eerdmans Pub. Co. (1989)
- Adam J. Copeland, ed., *Beyond the Offering Plate: A Holistic Approach to Stewardship*. Westminster John Knox Press (2017)
- Lovett H. Weems Jr. and Ann A. Michel, *Generosity, Stewardship, and Abundance*. Rowman & Littlefield Pub. Co. (2021)

➤ Online

- <https://dioceseofnj.org/project-resource/>
- ProjectResource@dioceseofnj.org
- The Episcopal Network for Stewardship www.tens.org
Diocesan Subscription – PW is Jeremiah17:8
- Vanco resources for churches: [200+ Free Resources on Church eGiving | Vanco \(vancopayments.com\)](#)