



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE  
**HOLY COMMUNION**

**“All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.”**

Dear Friends,

Stewardship. What exactly does that word mean? Perhaps it's just a fancy Episcopalian term for asking for money during the annual Pledge Campaign, or as one person called it, “the annual beg-a-thon.” The dictionary defines it as “the conducting, supervising, or managing of something, especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.” The Rev. Chris Harris, a priest at St. Bart's church in Poway California, defines stewardship as “using the gifts we've been given to do the work God is calling us to do.” Stewardship is based upon the idea expressed above, that all that we have is a gift entrusted to us from God.

Part of our stewardship is the annual Giving Campaign, which begins this month. You will be asked to prayerfully consider making a financial pledge to Holy Communion for 2018. Our vestry will develop the church's budget based on these pledges. The budget is certainly important. But we invite you to consider pledging this year for an even more important reason. We invite you to commit to being part of the change you want to see.

These are both trying and hopeful times that we are living in. Your Stewardship co-chairs, one a long-time member and the other newer to Holy Communion, are both excited and energized by all of the many activities happening in our parish right now to reach out to serve God's people and to advocate for social justice and peace. Holy Communion and its parishioners are committed to being part of the solution to the ills of today's world.

Giving is a concrete spiritual practice, a way of serving God and God's people and being a good steward of God's gifts. Your pledge, regardless of its size, expresses your commitment to and support of the mission of Holy Communion.

Enclosed is a pledge card, or you can make your pledge online. (<http://holycommunion.net/pledge/>) We will celebrate the **Ingathering of Pledges on Sunday, November 12th.**

Please join us in making a commitment to do the work God is calling us to do. You may find yourself transformed in the process! Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this invitation.

In God's Love,

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