



Grace Presbyterian Church
Transforming lives through God's grace

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Mark Tremblay
Interim Moderator
The Rev. Maren McLean Persaud
The Rev. Christian Persaud
The Rev. Jacob Van Pernis

STEWARDSHIP @ GRACE

The word “stewardship” is frequently bandied about in church circles, but often with little understanding of what it means. The term, “stewardship,” comes from the Biblical concept of “steward.” In Biblical usage, a steward is a person who manages the affairs of a household for the owner. It is a position of trust and responsibility. When Pharaoh made Joseph second in command in Egypt “You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command; only with regard to the throne will I be greater than you.” (Genesis 41:40), Pharaoh was in effect making Joseph his chief steward, a position of tremendous trust and responsibility.

TALENT

One dimension of stewardship is that of **Talent**. Stewardship of talent speaks directly to the differences between people. People are both born with and throughout life develop different abilities and capabilities. God recognizes this and expects that each person brings forth value from his or her life in proportion to what he or she has been given to work with. God recognizes that we aren't all equal in talent, so God doesn't require equal results. What God requires is equal effort in the use of our talents. There is a quote that fits this situation well: “My life is God's gift to me. What I do with it is my gift to God.” In exercising our talents, we increase them and in increasing them we enhance the lives of those around us. This is the important point: We exercise our talents not for ourselves, but for others. It is in this exercise of talents for others that we receive benefit ourselves from our talents.

TIME

A second and equally important dimension of stewardship is the stewardship of **Time**. We each have an unknown amount of time that is given to us. The Christian steward is aware of the importance of time and uses it wisely and with care in the service of God. For the Christian, there is no such thing as “killing time”. Time is a gift that must be used wisely.

TREASURE

A third dimension of stewardship is **Treasure** or **Financial Stewardship**. This focus is warranted because of the importance that our culture places on money and that our Lord Himself placed on money. Jesus knew, as do we, that what we do with our money reflects our priorities and commitments. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21)

2021 IN REVIEW

- Stewardship presentation to Elders and Conveners
- Expanded online presence within Grace and to external audiences
- Capital improvements including balcony railing, live streaming strategy and implementation

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2022 AND BEYOND

- Development of a Stewardship Committee and Stewardship strategy
- Increased participation in community activities and stakeholder engagement
- Operating deficit reduction and increased congregational participation in all things Stewardship