

St. Mary-Holy Cross

Stewardship Meeting 8/8/2017

6:00 PM

Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank you for teaching me to be generous

as you have been generous with me.

Thank you for showing me that all I am and have
are gifts from you and that these gifts from you,

Lord, are meant to be shared.

Show me the joys of generosity.

Help me to understand that others,

perhaps unknown to me, depend on me for help.

Remind me that my world, my parish,

needs "Good Samaritans"

to heal the wounds of our times.

Make me a gift to others in your name.

Amen.

Stewardship prayer from St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Altamonte Springs, Florida

2017/2018 Stewardship Focus

While we will continue our efforts of offering a welcoming environment efforts and encouraging parishioners to engage and drive efforts, our 'new' focus areas for Stewardship in 2017/2018 are:

1. Increase Steward Group membership and stewardship/involvement of parishioners overall
2. Targeted outreach to aging and disabled with initial focus on parishioners. Outreach will include in-home or nursing home visits as well as maintenance/task help and invitation & transport to senior citizen breakfast.

AGENDA

This Month's Agenda & Notes

1. Welcome!

Welcome to attendees including Paula Sommers-Applebaum, Kelly Hoffmeier, and Nicole Cory.

2. Tammi as Co-Lead

Tammi volunteered to co-lead the Stewardship group. New ideas and excitement are already happening!

3. Everyday Steward Book Discussion

6 Characteristics: Talked about the characteristics of stewardship and what they mean and to us.

1. Mindful - Being present and living and paying attention to each day
2. Prayerful - The need for prayer (and it's many ways) so we realize God is with us constantly and we are always in God's presence
3. Grateful - Focus on our blessings and consistently give thanks for them
4. Gracious - Good will and treating all of creation in a gracious manner
5. Committed - Persevere
6. Accountable - We are accountable to each other and responsible for one another

We added the following to stewardship characteristics: Friendly, Community, Involvement, Action, Support

Chapter Discussions: Tammi provided copies so that we can all read and discuss (see follow up)

Brainstormed additional actions we'd like to take but ideally, we'd like to focus on intergenerational activities that allow for interactions

- Fix a weekend out of the month where we have an activity.
- Parish Fun Night (themed around liturgical calendar for example)
- Make it one-on-one, personal connections
- Games, bingo, cards -- during donuts?? Start small
- Examples of other churches: Required/commit to participate in small group, prayer groups
- Donut Sunday -- September 3rd bring games

4. November Newsletter - Submissions Due October 20th

Topic	Stewardship Responsibility
Births, new members, weddings	Sue
Andrew Cory's Mission Trip	Arlene
Parishioner Spotlight of the Month	Tammi
The Blessing Box	Arlene
Photos	At the Fair (Tammi), Stubenville (Nicole)

RE, EDGE, Confirmation/Youth Group - Stubenville	Nicole
Other?	Trunk or Treat Blood Drive Pool Party

5. **Time and Talent Follow up and ongoing utilization.**

Want to bring more excitement to being involved in and a part of our church community. Many churches require involvement and they are able to retain and grow their numbers. Nicole suggested drafting up a brochure that better explains, welcomes and gets people excited about belonging and contributing.

6. **Outreach plans: next steps**

Want them to let parishioners and extended parish family know we haven't forgotten them (whether parishioners, past parishioners or family members). Initial brainstormed list includes: Rita Smith, Elaine Barnwell, Emma, Ellen McClaughlin (contact Jerrienne), Sally Kresse (her mom?), Kory Conwell, Ole Mottland

Action: Send cards to anyone on the prayer chain for the past month. Bring cards that you have and during our next meeting we'll sign and address.

7. **Website Update**

Working on updating to a new website builder/host. Better allow other contributors, blogs, etc.

ACTION ITEMS

- All:** Read Stewardship articles and reflect (packets available!). If something stands out to you that you'd want to talk about, make a point to highlight and bring that it up in Sept meeting.
- Sue:** Bring cards (anyone who has some should bring them -- get well, sympathy, etc.)
- Nicole and daughter, Taylor:** Brochure of our church and different ways to be involved.
- Arlene:** Send the time and talent link to group and send descriptions to Nicole

NEXT MEETING AGENDA - 9/12/2017

1. Everyday Stewardship: What
2. Cards