

# St. Edward Stewardship

the language of our faith, spoken through our actions!

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## Stewardship – Spring 2009

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We all have a responsibility to support the parish community through our commitment to a stewardship of treasure. Our commitment begins with the understanding that we have been very blessed. At the heart of this understanding is the belief that these blessings flow from God. God has given us the talents and skills necessary to provide us with the means to produce a fruitful and satisfying life. As such, it becomes necessary to give thanks back to God. How do we do that? The church here at St. Edward is the central place for us to do that. We come here to pray and worship, to receive the sacraments, and to organize, plan and carry out God's mission in our local community. We are not isolated individuals. We live in a community that we should treat as a family, a community referred to by Saint Paul as the "Body of Christ."

There is an old Jewish festival called the "Feast of First Fruits" where people celebrate the blessings of God by giving back to God the first fruits of the harvest, not the last. This celebration is driven by the recognition that we would have nothing without God. We should challenge ourselves by asking: "Do I give to God first, or do I give to God what is left over?" As our faith grows, we should strive more and more to give first. It is a mindset that is hard to change because it requires deeper faith and trust in God. As you review your faith journey in stewardship of treasure, give your gifts to God from the first fruits, not what is left over.

### STEWARDSHIP CALENDAR

April	Stewardship God Centered Poster
May	Stewardship of Treasure #2 (BAA)
June-August	Stewardship of FREE TIME



*spotlight*

### Welcome Table Spotlight

The Welcome Table spotlight for this issue is on the Parish School of Religion (PSR). This ministry offers Catholic Faith instruction for the children and youth of all registered parishioners. Its primary purpose is to assist parents in their role of growing and nurturing an active, conscious and living faith for

their children. The program focuses on the progressive development of responsible and value-conscious Christian citizenship. An important part of the PSR curriculum is the preparation of baptized children and youth for parish celebrations of the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation. PSR encompasses preschool through Confirmation and coincides with the September through May academic year. Please stop by the Welcome Table in June where representatives of PSR will be available to provide more information and answer questions.

Beginning in September, we will be looking for new hosts for the Welcome Table. This is a great opportunity for the host ministry to “show its stuff” and enlist new members. Anyone interested in hosting the Welcome Table should contact Suz Shook.

### WELCOME TABLE CALENDAR

May	Rosary Memorial Garden Committee
June	Parish School of Religion

### Stewardship Recommitment Weekend

This year, on the weekend of September 19-20, we will celebrate **Stewardship Recommitment Weekend**. All members of St. Edward’s parish are invited to renew their commitment to St. Edward’s, to each other, and to God through service to His people. Each parish family will receive a Stewardship Renewal letter containing both a list of all the ministries each family member has committed to in the past as reflected in the Parish records, and a Recommitment Card. We will be asking each family member to sign the Recommitment Card and come to Mass on Recommitment Weekend ready to present this card as an offering to the Lord and your parish. On Stewardship Recommitment Weekend, baskets will be available at the doors of the Church to receive your Recommitment Cards as you arrive for Mass – should you forget to bring yours, blank cards will be available for you to sign and place in the baskets. At the Offertory, these cards will be brought forth with the other gifts and placed in front of the altar as a symbol of our renewed commitment to God, to our parish, and to each other. Please prayerfully consider a recommitment to the many parish ministries as we continue our stewardship journey together.

### Join Us

The Stewardship Ministry is always looking for people to help in its efforts. If you are interested in joining us, please contact the parish office or any member of the Stewardship Ministry: Amy Amspaugh, Dave Conway, Karen Guntharp, Ruby Hall, Nancy Hughes, Bev Knoderer, Rick Reiser, Bob Rodriguez, Suz Shook, Julie Waggoner, Merilee Wagner, and Whitney Wermter.