

Stewardship Corner

St. Timothy's is following the Growing Healthy Stewards (GHS) program from the diocese of Toronto. The following description is from <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/2015/05/13/growing-healthy-stewards-program-bearing-fruit/>:

“Growing Healthy Stewards is a year-round stewardship education program. One of its unique features is that it is coached. Each parish is teamed with an experienced lay volunteer who has a proven track record of leading stewardship in their own parish.

Another important aspect of the program is that each component has been tried and tested by parishes in the diocese. Over the past 10 years, more than 100 parishes have used various parts of the program. Based on their feedback, the material has been revised and collected into one manual.

Assisted by their coach, parishes in the Growing Healthy Stewards program work through the manual, which includes strategies for such things as introducing legacy giving, running an outreach campaign, celebrating gifts of time and talent, preparing a narrative budget and holding an intentional giving campaign. Some of the most innovative strategies, such as a “relay” of pledge cards from house to house, come from the parishes themselves.”

St. Timothy's is currently engaged in the part of GHS that encourages intentional giving, the **Joyful Giving** program. The following description is from the Joyful Giving reference manual:

“Joyful Giving requires that we put God's priorities before our own, that we put the support of God's Church and its mission before our own pleasure and comfort. Joyful giving involves four principles: it must be a gift, it is planned, it is proportionate and it is a sacrifice. It comes from our substance, not our excess. This act can lead us into a closer relationship with God because if we are giving an amount that is truly a sacrifice we are expressing the belief that our security lies not in our material wealth but in God.”

The main educational activities in the Joyful Giving program consist of the following:

1. bulletin announcements
2. sermons
3. lay witnesses
4. ministry appreciation
5. church snapshot (also known as a narrative budget)
6. pledge relay

We have shared the first 5 items with the congregation and started the pledge relay on Sunday Oct 14.

The pledge relay involves members of the congregation passing a package of stewardship information and commitment cards along a route of eight to ten households. Each group of households will have a relay captain whose job is to start the relay by handing the package to the first household and then collect the package after the last household is done.

There are about 240 households in St. Timothy's so we require 24 captains. 18 volunteered! **Thank you for prayerfully taking time to discern how God is calling you to share of your time, talent & treasure!**

May God bless you and your family.

Members of the Stewardship Committee:

- Kevin Chung (Co-Chair)
- Barry Applewhite (Co-Chair)
- Rev. Andrea Christensen
- Rev. Johanna Pak
- Monica Woklowski
- Susan Flowers
- Susan Thomas
- Alan Bacchus
- Bill Williams
- Gordon Longman (Diocesan Coach)

