

## **Commission on Stewardship**

### **Report to the 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Council**

*Mission: To mobilize clergy and lay leaders to develop stewardship resources, enabling parishes to worship joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually.*

This past year has been a time of change for the Commission on Stewardship. In August, long time member Archdeacon Juan Sandoval resigned from the commission to pursue other callings. Although he will be greatly missed, we are excited to see what God has in store next for Juan as we know he will be a blessing in whatever capacity he is called to serve.

We were blessed this year to have Ginny Heckel from St. James Episcopal Church in Clayton, GA, join the commission. Ginny comes to us with unique talents and a fresh perspective. She has already become an integral member of the commission and we look forward to continuing on this journey together.

With these changes, the members of the Commission on Stewardship are Tammy Pallot, Chair (Macon), Mal Underwood (Cartersville), Julia Gable (Decatur), Bill Monk (Sandy Springs), and Ginny Heckel (Clayton) who serve under the faithful guidance and leadership of Canon John Thompson-Quarthey with assistance from the amazing Sally Ulrey.

Most parishes in the diocese are currently experiencing a combination of in-person and online worship. Although some people have joyfully returned to in-person gatherings, there are still quite a few people who do not feel safe attending in-person events, including worship. We must respect each person's decision to do what they feel is best for them. Although it can be challenging, we are called to include people in the life of the church in as many ways as possible. At the August 6 Diocesan Wardens meeting, the Commission on Stewardship presented several options for annual campaigns that combined in-person and online elements.

On August 21, the Commission on Stewardship offered a free Stewardship During COVID workshop via Zoom. The workshop focused on detailed strategies for implementing hybrid annual stewardship campaigns, allowing for in-person and virtual components. We also spent some time focusing on the importance of telling our stories. A video of the workshop is available on the diocesan website.

The "Stewardship During COVID-19: Strategies for the Ministry of Stewardship During a Time Without In-Person Worship" manual created last year remains a valuable resource for electronic giving, alternative electronic giving options, social media, annual commitment programs during COVID-19, and a myriad of other resources. This manual is also available on the diocesan website ([www.episcopalatlanta.org](http://www.episcopalatlanta.org) and click "Resources" in the top right corner, then click "Ministry Dev. & Congregational Vitality", click again on the drop-down option "Ministry Dev. & Congregational Vitality", scroll down the page, and click on "Stewardship").

Finally, we would like to remind everyone that the diocese has provided each parish with access to The Episcopal Network on Stewardship (TENS). TENS.org offers a plethora of information including comprehensive annual giving programs available for download. The login information for TENS is available on the diocesan website.

We are grateful for the continual blessing of the Ministry of Stewardship and we are here to help.

Respectfully submitted by  
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