

Stewardship Moment
October 16, 2022
Anne O'Dell

On behalf of the stewardship team, I want to thank you for your time this morning. I have been attending St. Paul's for almost 6 years, and everyday I find new reasons to give to the annual stewardship campaign.

I give because from the start, I have felt welcome here. It's not just the kindness of all of you, it's also this sacred space. It gently wrapped its arms around me and invited me to renew my faith after a long time away from the church.

I give because on most Sundays at 9:30 in the morning you will find me upstairs in the children's wing surrounded by a handful of my favorite young people. Together we explore stories from the bible with wonder, creativity, and the freshness of a child's perspective.

I give because I am grateful for the community that I have found through EfM. Our quest for learning brought us together, and curiosity, which is our superpower, continues to fuel our journey to a deeper understanding of our faith.

I give because I can't sing or arrange flowers. I am not a very good gardener, and you probably don't want me swinging a hammer, but there is an immensely talented group of people at St. Paul's who do all of these things. Through their examples, I have learned the joy of sharing my unique gifts and talents for the glory and honor of God.

I give because I am thankful for our clergy. I marvel at their commitment and dedication. I am inspired by their teaching as well as their willingness to walk with me - not ahead of me - on my faith journey. I am grateful that Father Michael and Mother Catherine agreed to devote a couple of days a week from retirement to minister to this flock while also providing Father Caleb with the needed support to faithfully lead this congregation into the future.

Mostly, I give because of you. You are the hearts and hands of Christ. You consistently lift me up and give me the strength and courage to live with hope in this crazy world. Please join me in giving to the annual stewardship campaign, and let's shine our light for all the world to see and experience the transformative power of God's love. Thank you.