

Stewards of God's Bounty

Stewardship takes many forms: our talents, our time, our money. Stewardship is both personal and congregational. As individuals and families, we commit each Fall to support Trinity financially during the coming year. As a parish, we budget wisely, we invest prudently, and we maintain our beautiful buildings and grounds.

One aspect of stewardship that isn't often talked about is planned giving. That means making certain that when we die, we leave a share of what God has given us to Trinity to carry on His work even after we are no longer here.

This Spring, especially as we enter into Lent, we at Trinity will talk a little more about planned giving -- just enough to begin raising awareness and get people thinking. Our parish is fortunate to have a Planned Giving Team made up of talented, dedicated members: Michael Andry, Bob Carr, Mack Day, Erwin Gunnells, Jack Hamilton, Mary Bruce Woody, and Steve Woody. The Reverend Scott White, Senior Warden Judy Baldwin, and Vestry Liaison Adrian Vasallo also serve. If you have an interest in working with us, please let me know.

I regularly receive letters from my alma mater, conservation and preservation groups, museums and other organizations asking me to include them in my estate planning. All are worthy, but none seems nearly as significant to me as Trinity Episcopal Church. For 164 years this parish has been an important part of the fabric of our community, strengthening in countless ways the lives of men, women and children who heard God's call to do His work through Trinity. Many of those who no longer are with us made it possible for Trinity to survive and to thrive. I believe we have no less a responsibility to do the same.

As you hear more about Planned Giving at Trinity, I hope you will feel the same way and prayerfully consider including Trinity in your will or making other arrangements for a bequest of any size -- large or small.

Ralph Simpson