

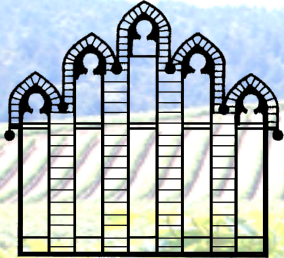
Giving Back in Thanksgiving to God

"Jesus said, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:15,23,24)

What we do with our treasure says a lot about how we live our lives. The first thing we are called to do with our treasure is to recognize it and be thankful. We often overlook the blessings and abundance that we have. One of the ways that we are asked to respond to God in the upcoming year is to feast on the gratitude that we feel and know. We are asked to explore, understand and take in all that it means to be grateful for all that we have. We are then asked to act out of that gratitude and to share in the feast by making a pledge to God of our treasure.

At St. Luke's, like most Episcopal parishes, we ask people to make a commitment about the gifts they will give in the upcoming year. It is through these gifts that we are able to offer all that we do to you and the world. It is through these gifts that we deepen our commitment to God. What we ask each person (or family) to do is to fill out the short pledge form below and return it to the church before Christmas. You may fill it out and fold it up and put it in the offering plate on Sunday or you can mail it into the office by stamping the other side. This is possibly the most important gift that you will give this season. Pray about where your heart is.

FEASTING ON GRATITUDE – A PLEDGE



2012

PLEDGE CARD

ST. LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

I/We pledge to give St. Luke's a total of \$ _____ in 2012 in gratitude to God for all of the blessings in this life, especially those we share in this St. Luke's community, as we reach into the world in love.

Signature(s) _____ & _____

Name(s): _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

This pledge will be paid (circle) Weekly / Monthly / Quarterly / Yearly-Single Payment

73 S. FULLERTON AVE, MONTCLAIR NJ 07042 PHONE: 973-744-6220 WWW.SLECHURCH.ORG

Feasting on Gratitude throughout 2012

Stewardship is using the gifts God has given us to do the work God is calling us to do and involves joyous acts of thanksgiving in response to all that God has given us.

Here are some suggestions to help calculate your 2012 gift:

- Tithe – calculate 1/10 of your income and pledge that to God through the church. The tithe is a standard of giving dating back to Abraham.
- Give proportionately. As you move toward the tithe, calculate a percentage of your income and increase the percentage each year.
- Increase your pledge by 10% - Calculate a 10% increase from your gift last year and joyfully make that change in 2011.

Fold

Return Address:

Please
affix
44 cent
stamp

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Attn: Stewardship Committee
73 S. Fullerton Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07042

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