

Update from Stewardship Committee 2019

The 2019 Stewardship vision is to:

“Increase our engagement as a parish by using the gifts God has given each of us”.

Stewardship is more than a discussion about money, it is about ‘What we do with all the gifts God gave us’

Our Stewardship goals for 2019 are to:

Assure that stewardship income fully supports parish operations in order to allow funds raised from other events, such as auction/festival, can be directed to additional philanthropic and outreach activities.

In order to achieve this goal we will need to meet or exceed a stewardship goal of \$1 million dollars over the next 3-5 years. Today our 2019 goal is \$520,000. And even with this goal, our expenses continue to exceed our income.

Our Parish is blessed with many talented members and volunteers who contribute unselfishly to our Parish. We are also blessed with many who contribute to projects and Parish improvements. In order to begin working toward our goal to fully support Parish operations with Stewardship dollars, we will need to understand our current state.

St Demetrios requires approximately 1 million dollars annually to support the operations of the parish;

- 54% of income is from stewardship
- 24% from the festival
- 10% from the auction
- 12% from other sources e.g. trays/candles, hall rental, rental houses, memorial donations etc.

As you can see just slightly more than half of the income to support operations comes from stewardship. In the past 5 years expenses have exceeded income for all but one year, resulting in a deficit budget. Our facilities are old and in need of many improvements. As we saw during Holy Week our roof now has a leak that requires extensive repair. Our goals also include growth through engagement and we seek to bring new members to Orthodoxy.

As of this month, \$449,796 has been pledged for 2019 Stewardship with a little more than 60% received. If you have made your 2019 pledge, we thank you. If you have donated but not signed a pledge card we ask that you consider doing so to help us plan better. If you have not yet signed a 2019 pledge card, we ask that you complete this in order for us to better plan for managing the daily operations of the parish. The earlier in the year we receive pledged dollars the easier it is for us to anticipate how to manage costs.

We ask for your support and welcome your input and questions. We hope you will join us for an upcoming opportunity to learn more about Stewardship following Sunday Liturgy, June 9, 2019.

Members of Stewardship Committee include; Barbara Trehearne & George Hatziantoniou (co-chairs), Fr. Photios, Fr. Daniel, Bob Read, Andrew Aliferakis, Dale Hazapsis, Gabriel Bayouk, Jason Wise, Bassam Bayouk, Chris Pallis, Cliff Argue, Jeff Brooks, Maria Barbas