

December, 2014

Dear Parishioner,

The newly formed Church of Ascension Stewardship Committee invites you and your fellow parishioners to reflect on how God has blessed you and consider your response to His blessings through your gifts of time, talent and treasure. I write to you today to ask you to make a prayerful stewardship commitment to our parish.

**What is stewardship and what does it mean in my life?**

Stewardship is a lifestyle. It is a life of accountability and responsibility. Living as a good steward acknowledges God as the Creator and the Owner of all. Christian stewards see themselves as the caretakers of God's gifts. Gratitude for these gifts is expressed in our prayer, worship, offerings, and action. Stewardship is a way of thanking God for our blessings as we return a portion of the many gifts (our time, talent and treasure) that we have been given by God.

You will find a Time and Talent Response Form with this letter. Please take some time to reflect on the gifts God has provided you and determine how you can share your gifts to serve others through our parish. Your gifts will make it possible to continue supporting the needs of our parish in worship, education, and outreach.

Thank you for your past support. I ask you to join with other parishioners and return your completed Time and Talent Response Form at Mass in a basket labeled "Stewardship" in the back of church, or in the collection basket. Please return it soon, as we will follow-up to your responses after January 11, 2015.

God has blessed our parish in so many ways and you are a part of that blessing. Thank you for the gifts you have given to help us fulfill the mission that Christ has entrusted to all of us. May God bless you for generously sharing your gifts in service to the Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Gregory Abbott  
Pastor

Stewardship Committee  
Sue Tellers and Jan Pouliot, Co-Leaders

**Please send your response by email to**  
**[AscensionNYA@EmbarqMail.com](mailto:AscensionNYA@EmbarqMail.com)**

**Or**

**Mail to:**  
**Church of the Ascension**  
**323 Reform St N**  
**NYA MN 55368**

**Giving Our First Fruits**  
*The Church Of The Ascension*  
 323 Reform St, Norwood Young America, MN 55368  
**Time and Talent Response Form**

(Please complete one form per household)

Mark one box: ( ) We are registered parishioners; ( ) We are new and would like to register

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone H \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Please fill in name and age of each person in the above household. Please list the last names if different from family name.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member (Name/s)	Renew (check)	New (check)	Family Member (Name/s)	Renew (check)	New (check)
<b><i>Worship Ministry</i></b>			_____ Adoration – Thursday _____		
_____ Mass Server	_____	_____	_____ Decorating _____		
_____ Youth	_____	_____	Lent/Easter ___ Thanksgiving ___		
_____ Funeral	_____	_____	Advent/Christmas ___ Ordinary Time ___		
_____ Lector	_____	_____	_____ Liturgy Committee _____		
_____ Gift Bearers	_____	_____	(spec masses/music/programs..)		
_____ Greeters	_____	_____	<b><i>Music</i></b>		
_____ Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	_____	_____	_____ Piano/Organ/Other Instrument _____		
_____ Homebound Extraordinary Minister	_____	_____	List: _____		
_____ Usher	_____	_____	_____ Cantor/Song Leader _____		
_____ Weekend Funeral	_____	_____	<b>Choir</b>		
_____ Sacristan	_____	_____	_____ Adult _____		
_____ Weekend Funeral	_____	_____	_____ Youth _____		
_____ Sacristy Worker (laundrying linens, robes, vestments; cloth repair..)	_____	_____	<b><i>Ministry of Christian Service</i></b>		
_____ Ministry Scheduler	_____	_____	_____ Prayer Chain _____		
Backup	_____	_____	_____ New Member Committee _____		
			_____ Funeral Lunch Worker _____		
			_____ Stewardship Committee _____		

*Continued on back side*

**Family Member (Name/s)**                      **Renew (check)**   **New (check)**

**Family Member (Name/s)**                      **Renew (check)**   **New (check)**

***Ministry of Faith Formation***

***Parish Life Needs***

***Preschool – Elementary Program***

\_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher (PreK-grade 5)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Substitute (PreK- grade 5)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Teaching Assistant** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Classroom Helpers**

**Monthly**                      \_\_\_\_\_

**Occasionally**                      \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Special Event assistance** \_\_\_\_\_

                    Sewing, costume design,  
                    woodworking, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Parish Socials** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Bible Study**

**Assistant Leader**                      \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant**                      \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Respect Life Committee** \_\_\_\_\_

***Ministry of Administration***

\_\_\_\_\_ **Parish Council** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Cemetery Committee** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Office Support** \_\_\_\_\_

***Handy work***

\_\_\_\_\_ **Carpentry Repairs** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Lawn work/flower beds/ landscaping** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Snow shoveling assistant** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Minor Painting** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Church Cleaning** \_\_\_\_\_

***Organizations Independent of Ascension Church***

\_\_\_\_\_ **Knights of Columbus** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Catholic United Financial (Formerly Catholic Aid) Craft & Bake Sale** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Food Shelf** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Meals on Wheels** \_\_\_\_\_

***Junior High/High School Program***

\_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher (Grade 6-8)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher Confirmation (Grade 9-10)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Substitutes (Grade 6-10)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Small group discussion leaders** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Treats coordinator, monthly** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Youth Ministry Committee** \_\_\_\_\_

***Service & Outreach***

\_\_\_\_\_ **Faith Formation Eucharistic Adoration** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Vacation Bible School** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Ministry Involvement (please list time, talent or interest area you would like to offer).**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***God Bless You***