

St. Michael's Family Faith Formation

Participating in Community

November 13, 2016



Stewardship renewal is underway

- Everything in the universe belongs to Jesus Christ—everything and everyone
- All our time, all our talents, everything we have and are, belong to Jesus
- As Christians, we are asked to manage the time, talent and treasure that belongs to Jesus Christ

We only manage the time, talent and treasure entrusted to us by God – we don't own it!

Everyone was given talents to share

- If we use our TALENTS wisely, we can develop that talent in others – we will increase the talent given us
- But if we don't, we may lose even those TALENTS we do have

We are expected to share our talents with others

I'm not sure I have time to take on more....

- There are forces that make it hard for us to participate in community
- We find ourselves busy all the time with
 - TV
 - Computers
 - Facebook and other social media
 - Sports
 - Working extra hours
- We simply need to pray and the Lord will guide us in finding the time

Though we are busy now, the Lord will help us find the time

Why should we participate in a church, civil or world community?

- Participating in these communities shows the presence of Christ to the world
- We are joined together as members in the one body of Christ with a diversity of gifts that we use in service to God's kingdom

We were given gifts to use for the benefit of others

Why should we participate in a church community? (Cont'd)

- *“We have many parts in the one body, and all these parts have different functions. In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined to each other as different parts of one body. So we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace God has given us. If our gift is to speak God’s message, we should do it according to the faith we have; if it is to serve, we should serve; if it is to teach, we should teach; if it is to encourage others, we should do so. Whoever shares with others should do it generously; whoever has authority should work hard; whoever shows kindness to others should do it cheerfully.” —Romans 12:4–8*

Christians have a mission and gifts that are meant to be shared beyond the walls of their homes

Witness sharing

- Church Community – Sharmayne Naone
- Civic Community – Shirley David
- World Community – Cynthia Taylor

Witnesses have answered God's call to mission...what about you?

I don't really know with what talents God has entrusted to me...

- Inventories will help us identify
 - Gifts and Talents - Handout #1
 - Potential areas of involvement in church, civic and world communities – Handout #2
- *“Each one, as a good manager of God’s different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God.” -- 1 Peter 4:10*

You have received gifts and talents from God

In what type of community can I participate?

- Church, civic and world community involvement opportunities in “Home Kit” and ministry catalog
- Exhibits at Ministry Fair

Many communities available and welcoming

How can we find ways to participate meaningfully?

- Connect what you discovered from your inventories of gifts and potential areas of involvement with the variety of real opportunities provided in your “Home Kit”, ministry catalog, and exhibits outside church
- Pray for guidance first!

Use the “Home Kit” to develop your action plan, then “just do it!”