



And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces. Luke 9:16-17, NRSV

Thursday, October 27, 2022

Dear Trinity Friends,

When we were asked to write a stewardship reflection, we had no idea what a pleasure it would turn out to be. We have had the opportunity throughout the year to witness the many ways that we all contribute to the church and to our neighbors. While our Trinity leadership does spend time and energy discussing and planning about our own finances and operations, they also with our collective input spend even more time discussing how we can serve our neighbors and focus our work on the world.

More Than Enough, our campaign for this year's pledge campaign, calls us to remember that when we share what we have with the world, miracles happen. Our theology of giving focuses on the three-legged stool of *Wealth, Works, and Wisdom*, the ways in which we make our gifts to the world. In today's message to you, we would like to reflect on Works.

In his epistle, St. James reminds us that our faith and our works are both necessary to activate our true calling as Christians. "So, faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." (James 2:17). It is not enough to simply believe, but we must act on that faith to serve our neighbors and change the world. All of us at Trinity do this all the time, in so many ways.

Your works are not just about the programs our church sponsors or arranges in our community, or the things we pray for on Sundays; they are also about the way you nourish your family, pursue your career, participate in the civic life of our community, volunteer your time in schools, shelters, and social causes. We are called to be the body, and we have seen you be the hands, heart, and head of God in our community. Inspired and informed by your faith, you give so much to our neighbors.

Thank you for all that you do for the Church and for the world. You recently received an invitation to pledge your gifts for the year to come. We ask that you pray with us at our annual gathering of gifts and gratitude on Sunday, November 13th and consider how you will contribute your gift of Work, Wealth, and Wisdom.

Our More Than Enough campaign theme this year reminds us of the American singer-songwriter Zak Brown who sings in his song Homegrown: "I've got everything I need, and nothing that I don't."

You friends in Christ,
John, and Pam Wilson