

# Stewardship Team 2016 Annual Report

*The purpose of stewardship is giving, not fundraising, and that stewardship actually provides a service to the giver. The role of those leading a stewardship campaign. .. is to help people discover their own generosity.” Giving and Stewardship in an Effective Church, church consultant and minister Kennon Callahan*

## Stewardship Team Roles and Responsibilities

The role of the Stewardship Team is to promote among our church family a sense of responsibility for the sustainment and growth of the institution of our church through increased generosity of time, talent, spirit, and money in consonance with our values and in support of our mission.

The Stewardship Team, working with and for the Minister/Executive Director, is responsible for:

- Creating and executing an annual Stewardship (Pledge Drive) Campaign
- Coordinating all fundraising activities within the congregation (such as the annual Goods and Services Auction) or held on church property to ensure all such activities serve the mission of the church
- Creating and maintaining the Stewardship Campaign Database and providing analysis to the Minister and the church community
- Maintaining awareness of best practices and emerging issues regarding stewardship through participation in discussion groups and training offered by the UUA, District/Regional staff, and other such professional organizations, as well as other churches who are thriving
- Coordinating with other committees/teams to ensure that the benefits of enhanced stewardship awareness are integrated into all programs
- Other stewardship issues as the Minister may desire

## 2015-2016 Goals and Accomplishments

Early in the church year, the Stewardship Team set out to define a set of goals--not just a financial pledge goal,--but goals to enhance the role of stewardship the team and for individual church family members. These goals are listed below along with a self-assessment of how we did.

- Goal #1: Grow the Stewardship Team into a function that attracts strong talent

Accomplishment: Our approach to this goal was to better define the concept of stewardship for ourselves and for the congregation. For the team, we participated in two in depth training opportunities, both helped us understand that our role was not just fundraising, but as Kennon Callahan says, “to help people discover their own generosity.” Our hope was that this shift in approach would help others step forward to serve on the Stewardship Team. For the congregation, we were fortunate to have a series of Sunday Stewardship Speakers who each brought a compelling reason why they said yes to our church--yes to the time, yes to the talent, and yes to the treasure they contributed to nurture our church. These have been collected as videos available on our new Stewardship Web Page as examples of the many types of stewardship possible, and as a continuing inspirational resource.

- Goal #2: Work to create a deeper and wider understanding of the church’s financial condition for our members so they can make informed decisions about stewardship.

Accomplishment: Our first foray into this goal was the publication of Rick Spitz’s Quartile Analysis of our giving profile. Several more metrics are proposed for next year so that pledgers can see where they fit into the overall financial picture and so that the team and the minister can make decisions based on trends we see.

- Goal #3: Create a long-term Stewardship Plan and keep it in front of the congregation to help ignite our imagination of what stewardship of our faith could mean in the world.

Accomplishment: This goal has suffered from lack of time and attention--probably because it is the least well understood. We have started working on one aspect of this goal by beginning to meet with other teams and committees to see how stewardship might collaborate to meet common goals.

And, on a final note, your generosity increased to \$313,477 (so far) from 171 pledges. That’s a direct result of you Saying Yes! Thank you.

Current Stewardship team members are: Jess Woods, Elizabeth Lewis, Rick Spitz, Russ Leonard, Garvin Warner, Stu Davidson, and Harry Purkhiser