

STEWARDSHIP CORNER ~ NOVEMBER 2019

Sharon Kemmerer, Stewardship Chair

2019-11-04

When gifted what you did not have

The following is my tale of an RUC version of the parable of the sons, each of whom received talents from their father. At the Stewardship season kickoff (10/20), there was a game prize if you guessed the closest value of purchasing any one of the five items presented. Each of the five winners received \$5 and was requested to let me know what they did with it. As the Stewardship luncheon wrapped up, the first \$5 "talent" came straight back to benefit RUC. The second \$5 talent was given to our Share the Harvest fund raising for Manna Food Rescue Program, while also providing vegetables for herself. The 3rd \$5 talent has multiplied to \$27.50 to give to RUC toward creating a "new roof" designated fund. The 4th \$5 talent will be used to purchase seeds for next year's garden. The fifth \$5 talent, bought Thai food at Thai Temple, to feed husband and wife. I loved the diversity of responses, and all stories of abundance in action. What would you do if gifted \$5? You may have that opportunity. Stay tuned for another round of Tale of the Gifted Talents parable come 2020.

2019-11-11

A biblical perspective

2 Corinthians 9:6-9: If you plant sparingly, you will reap sparingly, and if you plant bountifully, you will reap bountifully. You must give according to what you have inwardly decided – not sadly, not reluctantly, for God loves a giver who gives cheerfully. There are no limits to the grace of God, who will make sure you will always have enough of everything and even a surplus of good works, as scripture says: "God scattered abroad and gave to poor people; God's justice endures forever." If you have already pledged, Thank You! If you are still working through your inwardly decisions, take your time. If we have not heard from you by today, you will hear from us; simply to ask where you are in your decision-making process. Council and the congregation will use all gifts when and as provided, to continue the work, life, and mission outreach of Rockville United Church.

2019-11-25

We Welcome you, and appreciate greatly your generosity

The numbers are mounting, thank you! As of Sunday, 11/14, we have 87 pledges for \$343,646 or 75% of our challenge budget for 2020. We hope the remaining pledges still outstanding will help us meet or get closer to our goal. As we have just celebrated the traditional time of thanks giving with family and friends, let us continue to celebrate all the joys and love and gifts that surround us. Dependable God, in whom we live and move and have our being, once again you have filled us with hope and blessed us with grace. And we are grateful. We now offer our very selves as a fragrant offering to you. Receive us, transform us, and use us for your glory.

[prayer of dedication, some previous Sunday]