

October 2010

Dear Members & Friends,

As you read this letter, I hope you will set aside the narrow definition that stewardship is only about money. While money is part of the equation, it is not the whole picture when it comes to Christian stewardship.

First and foremost, it is about following Jesus. We have to begin here because if we don't, all other definitions of Christian stewardship will fall short. We make decisions everyday about following Jesus and those decisions paint a picture of our lives and tell the world of our faith.

Secondly, we act together as we follow Jesus. One cannot practice Christian faith in isolation from others. God has created us to be in community. We live in community and faith is best expressed and lived out in community. We can do so much more together than we can do alone. The church, a community of believers is the best hope for the world.



Thirdly, followers of Jesus, acting together, always results in generous giving. Generous giving is the fruit God creates in our lives that is shared with a world in need. As followers of Jesus, we are generous with our time, talent and financial gifts.

As a result of this generosity the fourth and final part of the equation happens when faith is put into action. Lives are touched, people are fed, hearts are healed and the love of Christ is revealed to a world in need.

The church of Jesus Christ exists to serve the world. That is why He came and that is what happens when followers of Jesus act together in a generous manner and put their faith into action.

You will be asked once again this year to make a commitment to following Jesus. This brochure tells a small part of the story of what Augustana is all about. It is the story of Jesus in our midst. It is the story of how we are putting our faith into action. Thank you for being part of the Augustana story and for saying yes to Jesus.

Peace,

Pastor Anne

vision

Augustana continues to be "Ridiculously Generous" in giving of their time, talent and money.

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| \$170,000 | St. Paul Area Synod |
| 10,000 | Habitat for Humanity |
| 9,000 | Missionary – Mark Jacobson |
| 9,000 | Preschool Scholarships |
| 8,800 | Loaves & Fishes |
| 6,300 | Lutheran Social Service |
| 4,900 | Seminary Student |
| 4,300 | Community Action Council |
| 4,100 | Neighbors Inc. |
| 3,900 | World Hunger |
| 3,200 | South East Asian Ministry |
| 3,000 | Pueblo De Fe |
| 3,000 | Lutheran Social Service |
| | Teen Housing |
| 2,800 | Lyngblomsten |
| 2,500 | St. Paul Area Council of Churches |
| 2,500 | Wapogasset Camp |
| 1,500 | Union Gospel Mission |
| <u>1,000</u> | Summer Youth |
| \$249,800 | |



The Augustana Preschool works closely with local families and organizations to identify needs of children in the community. Their outreach efforts are really working! There are currently **68** children enrolled in the preschool. Approximately **one-third** of the children enrolled are members of Augustana while **two-thirds** are from the community with **one-quarter** receiving tuition assistance.



"You are GENEROUS because of your FAITH. And I am praying that you will really put YOUR GENEROSITY TO WORK, for in so doing you will come to an understanding of all the GOOD THINGS we can do for CHRIST."

Philemon 1:6 (The New Living Translation)

Visit the Time & Talent Fair

October 10
Augustana Fellowship Hall
9:15 am - 12:15 pm

When you make giving to the Lord's work your first financial priority, you will learn about the love, care, and reality of God as Heavenly Father. Augustana's automated giving is a convenient way to practice first fruits giving. For more information on this option, please contact the church office.

Augustana
Lutheran Church

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West St. Paul, Minnesota 55118
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STEWARDSHIP SUNDAYS: OCTOBER 10, 17 & 24