

**Stewardship Message**  
**Dr. Constantine Kaminaris**  
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The Community of Saint Demetrios Church has embarked on a program of Stewardship beginning with the new year of 1986.

Simply defined, Stewardship is the sharing of all that you have with God, His Church and your fellow man.

The concept is nothing new, nothing revolutionary or innovative. It is a way of life you've followed since childhood.

In that relationship of parent and child and child and parent a very intricate, deep and caring love has formed. One that is filled with much sincerity and compassion. There exists the same, if not more, love between God and man. God expresses his love for man by the gifts He bestows upon us – the gifts of life, time, talents and treasures or fruits of our labor. Man in turn expresses his love by the sharing of these gifts with Him, His Church and ourselves.

Of the three areas of sharing, time is probably the most important. We are created to share with God and to use that time, this life, wisely and according to His will. It is to be used to glorify Him through our involvement in the programs and curriculum of our community.

Whatever talents and abilities we possess are gifts of God. They are as personal as each of us are uniquely different – not talent you have to offer is similar to anyone else's. Your unique ability whether it involves a cooking utensil, a needle and thread, a pen, calculator or a paint brush, was given to you alone and you alone are the only one who can offer it back.

Without these two gifts from God, time and your talents, you would not be able to generate whatever financial resources you have. Thus they too must be shared with Him. Although God has no need for anything material from man, the Church ministers to us and in that ministering process, has personnel, programs, activities, physical facilities, utilities and the means of worship. In other words, there are bills to pay. Your financial contribution to the Church is a return to God for the purpose of propagating back to yourself and to others His word, the word of Salvation. Financial participation in the Church cannot be an afterthought. It should not be considered charity. It is a privilege.

God makes no unreasonable demands on us. We are asked to share our time, abilities and monies for our community, His Church, to exist and perpetuate for all time. Together we must share the calling to be responsible and fruitful Stewards.