

**Stewardship Message**  
**Lea Loucas, Selected Member of the Youth**  
**1985**

The celebration of Youth Sunday and Thanksgiving leave all in an uplifting holiday spirit.

Christmas time is right around the corner. Besides looking forward to the good cheer and celebrations among friends, everyone anticipates gift giving.

Today though, in our Church, God anticipates your personal gift-giving. The giving not only of material things but the giving of yourself.

An extension of you personally reaches beyond your home and material world into your heart and your Greek Orthodox Community. It's never too early to devote yourself in such a way that you become the Church. Receiving benefits of others and a Sunday School student for ten years, being involved in GOYA for the past five years and now having the opportunity to serve as an officer, I have gotten involved.

Learning from the examples (I feel that is an important statement) of my parents, family, teachers, advisors and Church members, I've begun to give myself and dedicated my time, talents, offerings and my heart to our Church.

As a Sunday School aide for 3 year olds, I have seen children learning what faith is and giving to the class at their young ages. It is never too early or too late to serve your Church.

Since my students are among the youngest of the congregation and add so much, I wonder what the older members can do. Become enthusiastic, sacrifice some of your time, (even if it's an hour a week) add a few more coins to clink in the tray, radiate a smile and take a firm grip in your handshake. For the Glory of God.

I leave you with a poem my father taught me as a little girl:

*The more you give, the more you get  
The more you laugh, the less you fret  
The more you do unselfishly the more you live abundantly.*

*The more of everything you share  
The more you'll always have to spare  
The more you love the more you'll find,  
That life is good and friends are kind.*

*For only what you give away  
Enriches you form day to day.*