

Thanksgiving, Stewardship, and Offering

Br. David Gerns, OSB - Treasurer

One cannot be on the Christian faith journey very long before encountering the essential concepts of thanksgiving, stewardship and offering. As soon as you begin reading the Bible regularly you encounter these words. I suggest that is an indication of how important they are in our journey of faith. Beyond the wider Christian journey, they are important to us who follow the Rule of St.

Benedict. -- Sr. Brigid, Obl/OSB; fall 2005

First, I want to thank everyone in the Companions of St. Luke for their contribution to our Benedictine Community this year. Not just for your generosity in keeping up with your financial pledges; but your gifts of time and talent as well. Together, we were able to repair, maintain, and expand our website presence both for our community, and for the greater church. We have been able to contribute significantly to Episcopal Relief and Development this year. We completed the first years' work within our five-year plan. We welcomed new members and celebrated other members as they moved through formation and into profession. Finally, we transitioned to a new superior. Our community has grown spiritually and as a community, we praise God for all of this.

We continue to be good stewards as well. We have reached out and supported all who are struggling with loss, illness and injury, and those who are house-bound for all sorts of reasons. This is a stewardship of souls. We have worked hard to be good stewards of the financial gifts given to the community. Our financial management has become more professional and transparent.

For next year, with the support from each member, the community will continue this important work. The time and talent that you contributed this past year will be needed for continued spiritual growth and development of the community in 2024. Abbess Martha has asked for members to assist in a number of working groups and committees. At the next Chapter meeting council members will be elected. None of these opportunities to work for the community will be especially demanding; but are critical for our ministries for God and each other.

Sister Mary Magdalene will be sending a pledge form to each of us, asking each of us to continue to contribute a portion of our treasure for the work we need to do as a community next year. We set no expectations for the level of giving. We just ask each of you to prayerfully consider a gift that fits into your situation. The gift you will offer is not just to support the work of CSL, but a gift of thanksgiving for God's gifts to us. It does not matter the size of your pledge – small or large. If you cannot make a pledge at this time, please notify us on the pledge form. We need to hear from everyone.

Please respond to the pledge request before November 30. If you have any questions or concerns, please write or call me.

God Bless you all,
Br. David Gerns, OSB
Treasurer