

THE POWER OF 'TOGETHER'

Working in a group may not always be easy. Finding a time that fits everyone's schedule can be a challenge. Well intentioned people may see things differently. And of course getting everyone moving in the same direction may need the equivalent of an orchestra conductor.

But despite these minor obstacles, incredible power results when people band together for a common purpose. There is a host of statements that convey this message such as:

many hands make light work,
alone we can do little but together we can do much,
none of us is as smart as all of us, and of course the Stewardship theme,
Together we are North.

The three arms of stewardship are sharing one's time, talents, and treasures. Sharing our treasures is what we graciously do when pledging or placing a financial gift in the collection plate on Sunday mornings. There are many ways at North to share your time and talents throughout the year.

For example, the Nominations Committee is about to embark on its annual task of staffing the Session and the Board of Deacons. In a general sense, Session is the policy-making arm of the church. The Board of Deacons is charged with providing care and comfort to members of the congregation. Of course, both the Session and Deacons do a lot more than these brief descriptions suggest. If you are contacted by a member of the Nominations Committee, please carefully consider the invitation to one of these bodies. If you would like to be contacted to discuss possibly serving, just leave a message in the office and someone will be in touch to discuss your interest.

In addition to the Session and Board of Deacons, there are twelve (12) standing committees where you could find a home. In alphabetic order, they are Adult Education, Children's Christian Education, Communications, Finance, Planned Giving, Membership, Mission, Nominations, Personnel, Property, Stewardship, and Worship. For further information, call the Church Office and someone from the appropriate committee will contact you.

Also, there are special interest groups like the Adult Choir, which always extends a warm welcome to anyone who wants to join in the fun. Singing talent of all kinds and levels is sought. The Children's Choir provides an excellent opportunity for youngsters who like to sing. There is also the Bell Choir, the Intergenerational Music group, Friends of Night People team, the Dress-a-Girl project, and members assisting local refugees. These are all wonderful opportunities to engage with others in the church and are constantly being supplemented when someone identifies a new need or interest.

As we move into the fall season, please keep in mind the stewardship theme of *Together We Are North* and look for ways to join with others in the life of the church. Even if you are already on a committee or participating in a special interest group, increase your fun and seek out a second or even a third opportunity. Don't be shy!

Nominations Committee

Joe Alber
Neil Arnold
Louise Cooper
Bill Hennessy
Heather Randall
Mitch Roemer
Marty Shafer