



WHY DO WE GIVE?

For the second installment in our “Why Do We Give” series, I want to briefly share with you my “Faith at Work,” which is principally giving back to God as much as I can of what really belongs to God...and doing so out of thankfulness for all God has given me.

Beyond the gifts of family, friends, health, and a few material things with which I have been blessed, there have been times in my life when only God, through the Holy Spirit, could have helped me – and God did...

When a number of years ago my younger daughter was in serious need of long-term medical care, God made sure – as only God can – that I had the necessary levels of faith, will, emotional strength, and financial resources to help her through that very difficult time. Because I have never quite achieved those levels before or since, I know that it was God who saw my need and provided for it.

I encourage all of us to think about some of the difficult times in our lives when God saw us through, as well as all of the other gifts with which we have been blessed.

Putting our Faith to Work doesn't necessarily require a world of talent or even a lot of time – I am proof certain of that.

I can't cook, can't sew, have mechanical skills so microscopic that I can't build or fix anything with my hands...and when it comes to people skills, some who know me or have worked with me – if asked to evaluate my people skills – would probably be tempted to check the box “needs improvement.”

But even without great talent or a lot of free time, it seems to me that most of us, even if we are already giving back a lot, can find new ways – important ways – to put our faith to work by:

- volunteering to supervise in the nursery
- training to be an usher
- spending 3 hours one winter's night checking in overnight guests at the homeless shelter in New Brunswick
- driving a recent surgical patient to a doctor's visit
- cleaning windows on one of our work days
- visiting or calling someone who is sick or lonely
- serving on a committee for a few months or joining one of the exciting new small group ministries
- setting aside a can of food or our spare change for a few months — and give that back
- the list goes on and on...

There are a myriad of needs and opportunities at Trinity and elsewhere to give a little more back to God – not the least of which are our brothers and sisters in Christ who are hurting all around us and are counting on us to put our “Faith to Work.”

Peace,

Dick Greenlaw
I&S Commission