

We serve as one body in Christ but we each bring unique gifts that God has provided to that service. We are all joined together to each other as different parts addressing different functions. With unity and our individual gifts, we can discern God's will and know what is "ours to do" for His work in our church, our community and the world.

We are advised that we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace that God has given us. We are to seek God's guidance, share God's gifts with others and serve Him in all that we do. Several years ago, we adopted this directive to focus our mission in Christ. These words give guidance as we discern what is "ours to do" as we address our Christian mission.

During this season of Stewardship, we join together to seek God's guidance as we share God's gifts, and we serve in the body of Christ. We hope you will prayerfully consider what is yours to do in your support of God's work within the Oxford Presbyterian Church during the coming year.



We believe that generous giving is a significant and meaningful part of our worship life. When we combine our gifts, they multiply to bring faith, hope and love to our community and bevond.

Join us as we celebrate
God's abundance
with your pledge on

## **Consecration Sunday**

November 12

## Every pledge counts!

We thank you for your dedication to OPC and your generosity to this campaign!



## Oxford Presbyterian Church Stewardship 2024

Ours to Do?



Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:4-5

101 N. Main St. Oxford, OH 45056 (513) 523-6364 Lawrence Bartel, Pastor Marc van Bulck, Assoc. Pastor



Every one of us has our own story to tell and our own gifts to share. Our stories are filled with God's love and grace, teaching us to use our gifts to serve others. As the young disciples tell us every Sunday, we don't keep our gifts to ourselves but open our circle to share freely with those in need and to reach out to support the common good for our friends and neighbors, near and far.

Each of us needs to recognize those gifts that have been provided and decipher how those gifts can be used most effectively in contributing to the work that God has laid out for us. Our faith provides an avenue for us to follow in determining what is "ours to do" and our gifts provide all that we need to make this sacred journey we are on. We praise God for giving us these gifts and we honor God by using them fully and wisely.

We give without regard for comparison or even thanks. Our gifts are often made behind the scenes, unknown to others. Our gifts are large or small, simple or complex, many or few. All are valuable and worthy and each gift contributes to the work God has asked us to do. If we put our hands and hearts and gifts together, we can use our gifts as a blessing and encouragement to others. We will know what is "ours to do" and with God's grace, we will share His love and serve Him gladly.



Using our unique gifts and talents, we believers in Christ are called to join hands and work together to meet the needs of the church and answer God's call to serve and work for the good of those who love Him. As individuals and together as the body of Christ, we acknowledge what God asks; we recognize that which is "ours to do" for God.

With our gifts of time and treasure, opportunities abound! We are able to maintain our annual support of our mission to seek, serve and share, promoting the Christian wellbeing of our youth and adult members through our Christian education programming. We are able to reach out to our communities and learn and grow and love our neighbors. We help those in need of food and housing and life experiences that threaten safety and sense of hope. We extend care for the sick and love to the unloved. We welcome the stranger, befriend the friendless and extend the love of Christ through our actions. And we do all this because it is "ours to do." It is God's call to us.

Apostle Paul tells us in Romans 8:28 "that in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Our church needs our financial support to work for God's purpose with our pledges for our 2024 ministry. Indeed, it is "ours to do."



As Christ's disciples, we recognize that everyone has vital work to do AND that our individual work is all part of a greater work - God's work in the world. This year's Stewardship theme inspired by Romans 12:4-5, "ours to do," reminds us we have all been uniquely called by Jesus to a significant work. At the same time, we are not alone in this work. We didn't start the work of sharing God's love with all, nor will we finish it. We depend on one another just as the one who harvests depends on the one who plants.

Every year in our ministry, we pause to consider and give thanks for the blessings we have received. Then joyfully and humbly, we offer the very best of these blessings as stewards through the ministry of our church to God's work here in the community, across our nation and around the world.

As we all prayerfully consider and make a pledge to support the ministry of Oxford Presbyterian Church, we engage the work that is "ours to do" through these challenging days. While people of every age strive to live lives of meaning and purpose, the work that we are called to do leads to abundant life. Join us as we celebrate God's abundance and give thanks for the opportunity to do the good that is "ours to do" in this time and in this place. Join us in this holy and joyful work!