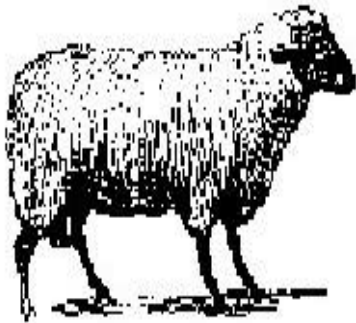
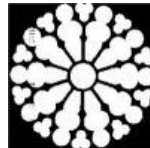




St. Paul's Stewardship Commission



*Don't Be Sheepish! Call the
Parish Office and join the
Stewardship Commission!*



**St. Paul's
Episcopal
Church**

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**Can Stewardship
Be Fun? Does the
Rector Live in San
Rafael?**



The Stewardship Commission

At St. Paul's, *Stewardship* has at least two distinct meanings. First, it's the name we assign to our yearly pledge drives. Running the drive is work, but there's a real feeling of accomplishment at the end. When pledging goals are met, it generates a warm feeling, something like getting an unexpected raise. It lets us know that the lights will be on for another year, the plants won't die, and we won't have to sell the Rose Window tomorrow on eBay. And in those *very* good years, the Rose Window is rebuilt to last another 100 years, or the Parish Hall is redone from scratch.

For those of us involved in this side of Stewardship, there's a lot of fun. You get to figure out what this year's theme will be, how the graphics for the yearly

mailings will look, what the focus of the campaign will be. Most important, you get to talk to a lot of parishioners in the process, and get a very good idea of all that's going on around the old place; you *have* to if you're going to tell the entire parish about what makes you especially proud about St. Paul's this year and why everyone else should support it.

But Stewardship in its second sense goes a lot beyond the yearly pledge drive. It's a way of life, an ongoing and carefully considered dedication of all of one's time, talent and treasure to its best use—and a means of deriving great and constant pleasure from open, giving acts. Pledge drives have an annual ending. Personal stewardship is a source of spiritual growth that lasts as long as we are on this earth. At least.

Over the past several years, the

Commission has sponsored talks on the nature of stewardship and the pleasures of the giving life. It has regularly organized the will writing program, which has provided wills to parishioners at little or no cost. It has worked with other commissions and ministries at St. Paul's to find ways to help them thrive and prosper. It hopes in the next year to develop an adult education program on how to find and live the giving life.

What's next? Most of all, the Commission intends to continue having fun. You know that any place that got its Rose Window—one of the best pieces of stained glass anywhere—through a poker game has made fun a habit for a long, long time. The Commission has a *tradition* to live up to.