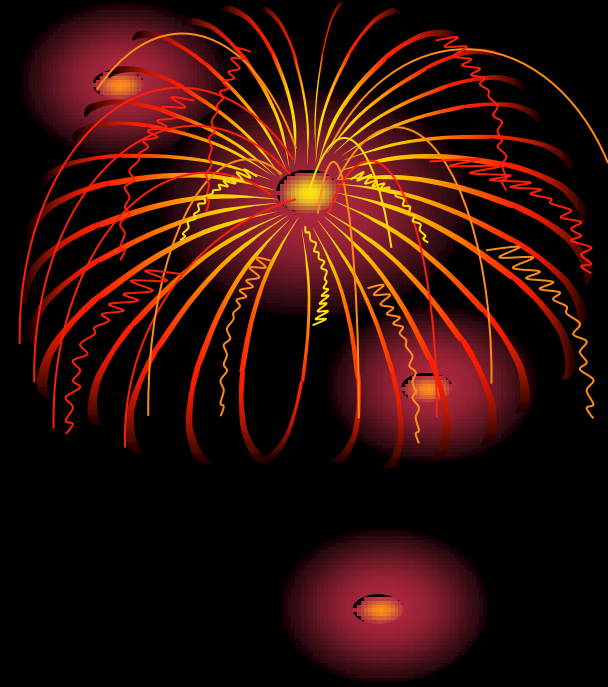
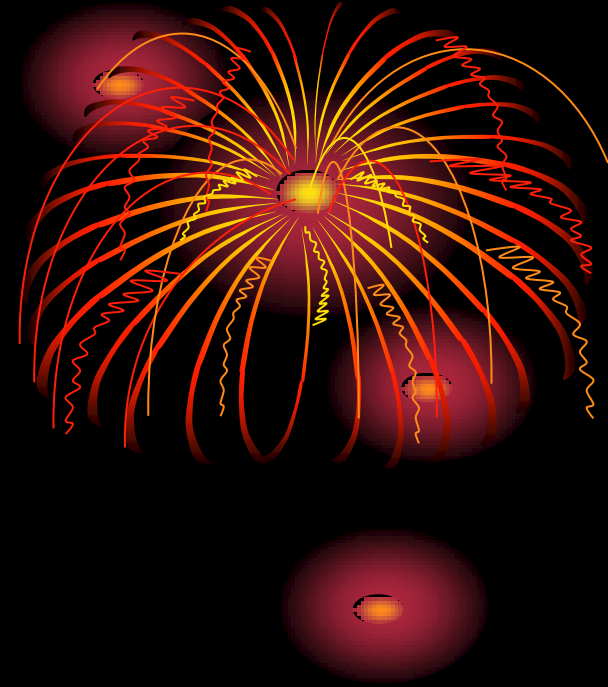


**Being a steward**



**The only gift is a  
portion of thyself.**

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**



Giving is a necessity  
sometimes...  
more urgent,  
indeed,  
than having.

Margaret Lee Runbeck

**STEWARDSHIP**

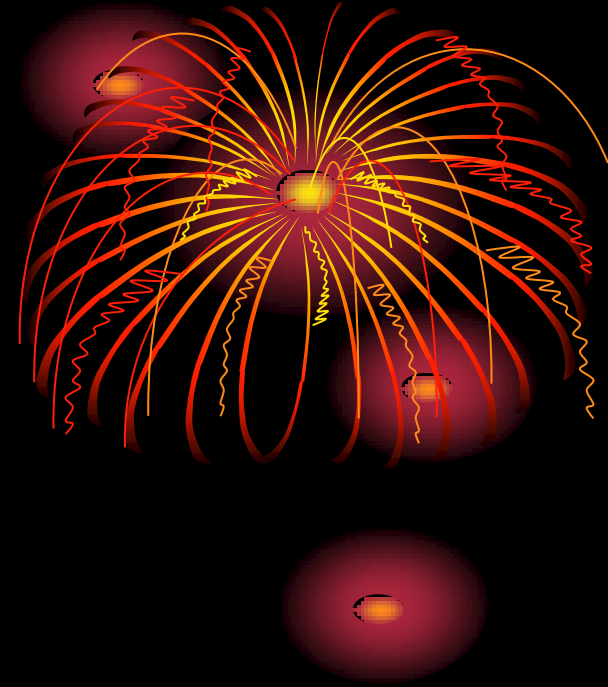
**IS EVERYTHING**

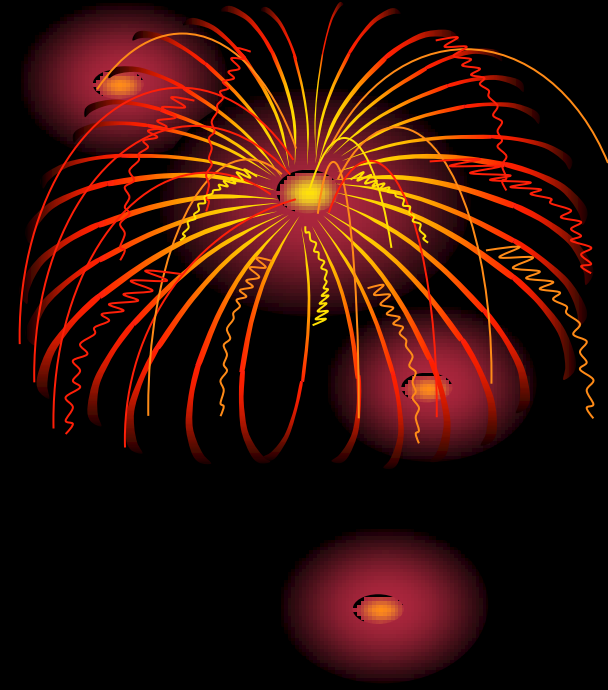
**I DO**

**AFTER**

**I SAY**

**I BELIEVE !**



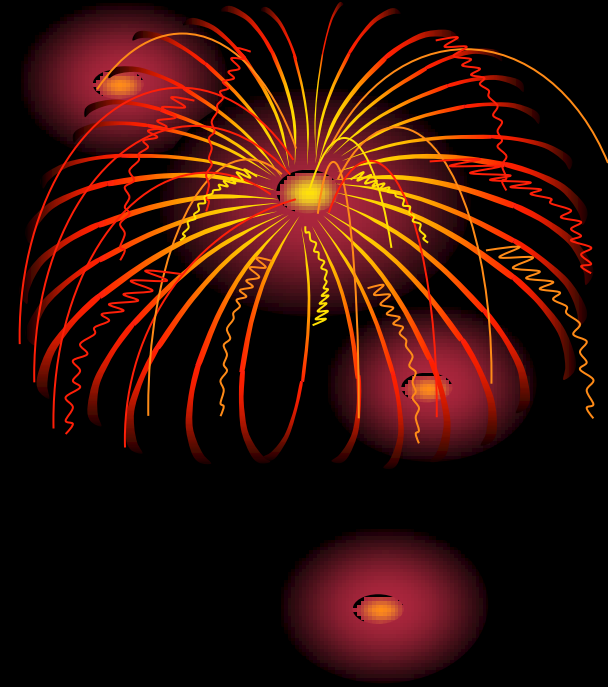


*"If you wish to be perfect,*

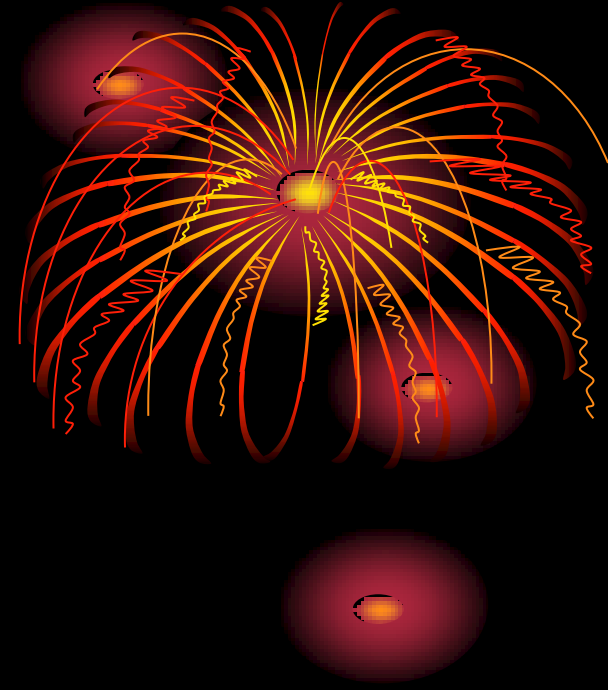
*go, sell your possessions,  
and give the money to the poor,  
and you will have treasure in heaven."*

**Matt. 19:21**

When the 7th day  
is recovered  
as the Sabbath,  
we will have time  
for generosity!



**Walter Brueggemann**



We are living in a time of great abundance, perhaps the greatest ever.

Why do we act like it is a time of scarcity?

Are we ruled by fear rather than love?

**Ken Neher**

# **Stewardship:....**

**is the willingness  
to be accountable for  
the well being of the larger  
organisation by operating in  
service, rather than control of  
those around us.**

**Simply it is accountability  
without control or compliance.**





**Discovering how to govern,  
to ensure the well being  
of our community, is how  
we create meaning in  
what we do.**



**This is the spiritual stream in  
which we stand.**

**Stewardship encompasses  
concerns of the spirit**

**but it also must pass the  
test of the market place.**

**Peter  
Block**

**Stewardship holds the possibility  
of shifting our expectation  
of people in power.**

**Part of the meaning of stewardship:**

**is to hold in trust the well-being of some larger entity –  
our organisation, our community, the earth itself.**

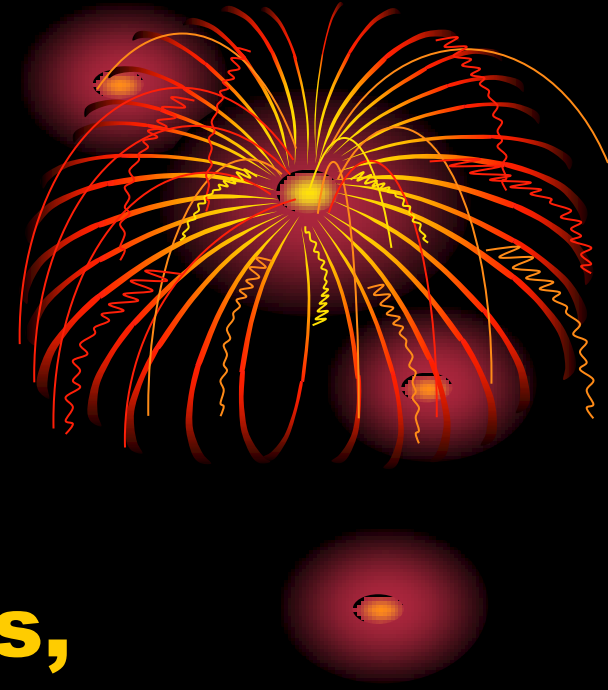
**To hold something in trust calls for placing service  
ahead of control, to no longer expect leaders to be  
ahead and out front.**

**There is a pride in Leadership,  
it evokes images of direction.**

**There is humility in Stewardship,  
it evokes images of service.**

**Service is central to the idea of stewardship.**





**Stewardship is a willingness to work on ourselves first, to stay in intimate contact with those around us, to own our doubts and limitations, and make them part of our dialogue with others.**

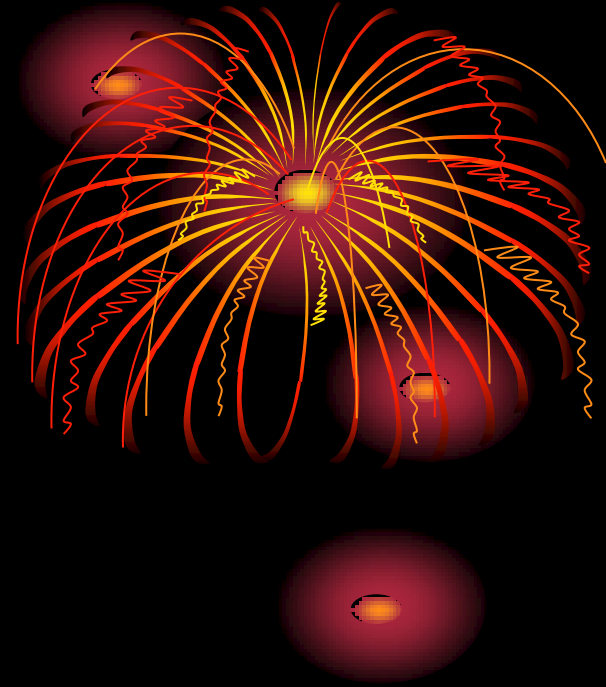
**Our humanity is defined more by our vulnerability than our strengths.**

**Peter Block**

**That's what I consider  
true generosity.**

**You give your all, and yet  
you always feel as if it  
costs you nothing.**

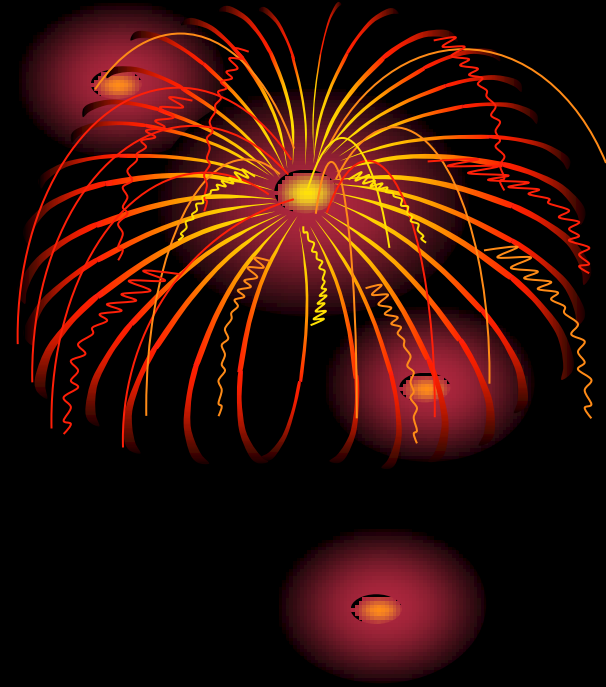
**Simone De Beauvoir**



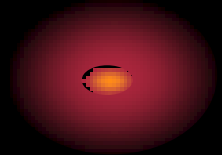
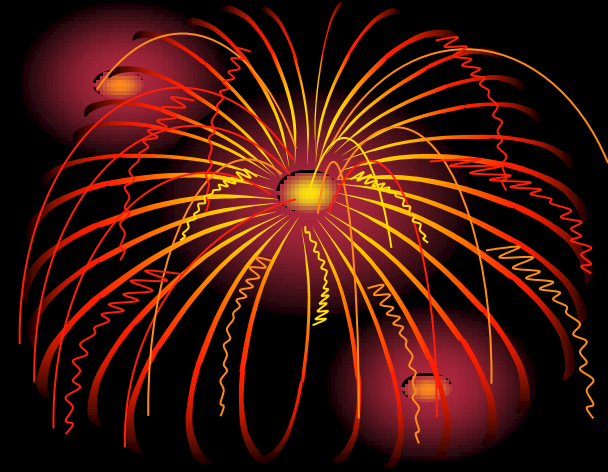
"Thou shall not covet"  
is economic policy.  
When you get into a  
safe place you will  
become greedy.

Your stuff will make you  
forget that it is all a gift!

**Walter Brueggemann**



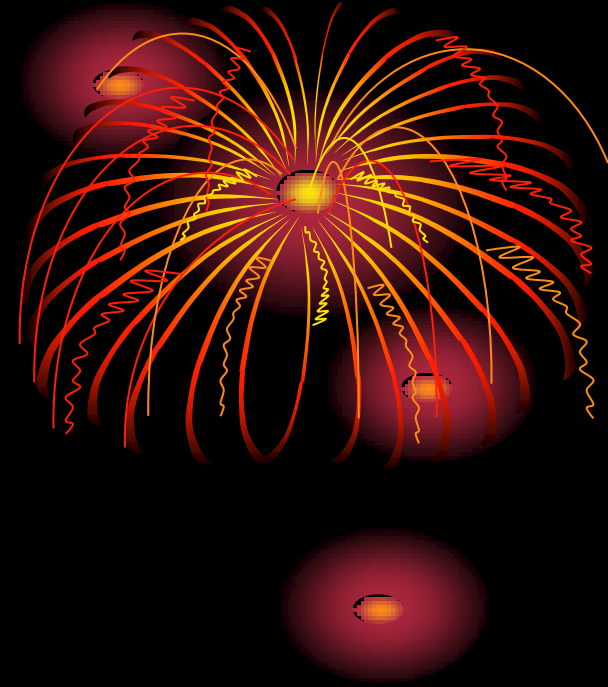
# Stewardship



HONOUR what has been given,  
use POWER with a sense of GRACE  
and pursue PURPOSES  
greater than the  
interest of SELF

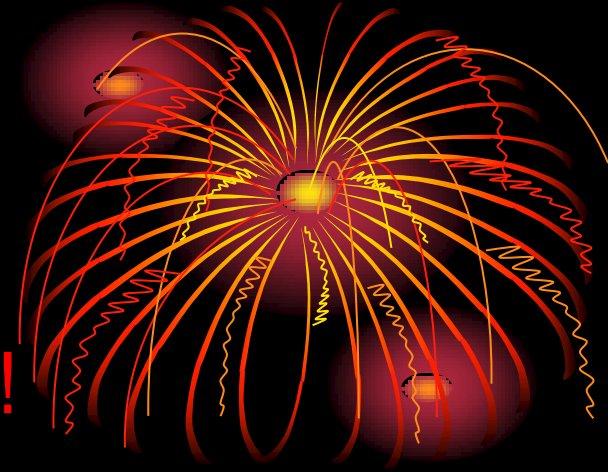


**The cause must  
catch the eye,  
warm the heart,  
and stir the mind.**



**If we merely recite the marvelous  
ways that God has chosen to use us,  
as His hands and feet in the world  
with due respect, then proclaiming  
His good works, is anything but  
conceit.**

# Stewardship maxims



Teaching must be credible and accurate!

## Avoid

Clever slogans -

people cringe.

Over use of proof texts -

people are smart.

Selfish motivations -

God cannot be bribed.

Clever formulae -

its people who count

Threats

to cut services

Emotional pressure-

its hard to sustain.

Unethical tactics-

they backfire.

Anecdotal evidence indicates that people are cynical about stewardship.

The empirical evidence however, shows that they appreciate serious instruction and will participate if asked.



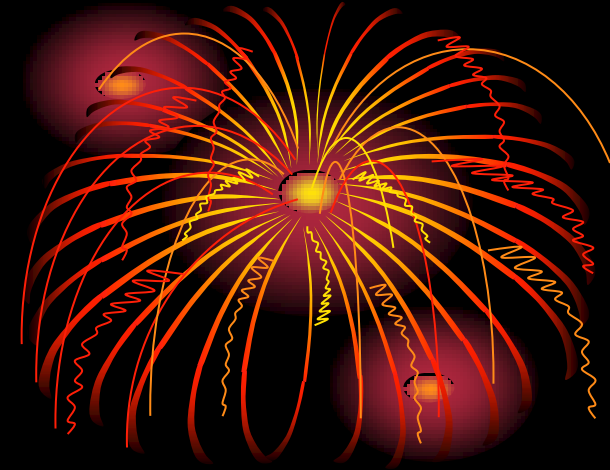
# Accountability as Covenant



- **Statement of personal commitment:**
- **toward the organisation and those served**
- **for my recognised radius of influence**
- **for my unique contribution made individually and in collaboration with others**

*If I am not for myself,  
Who am I for?  
If I am only for myself,  
Who am I for?*

# Donor giving as an infinite loop



Either the donor identifies the issue or the organisation identifies the donor

Organisation further engages The Donor-investor

Evaluation ongoing

Investment made

Relationship grows

Investment renewed

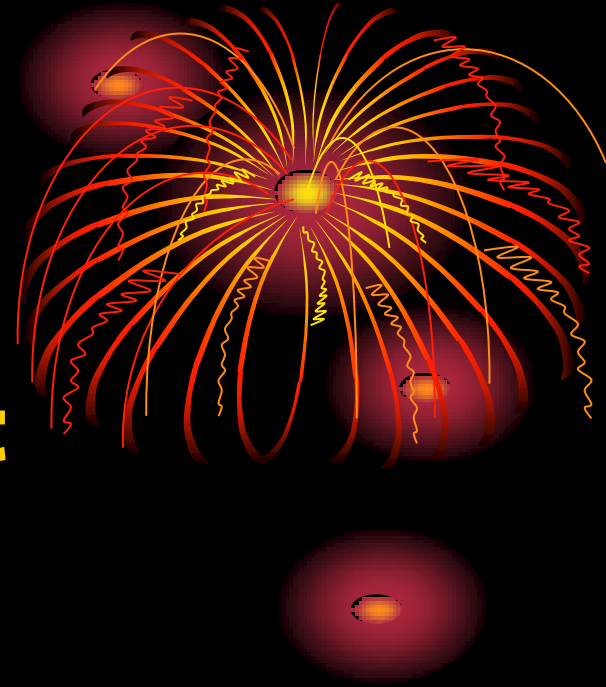


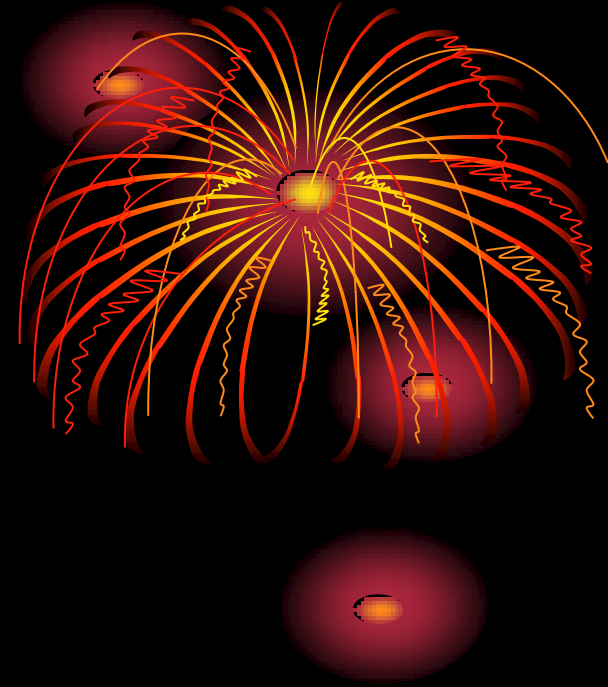
Stewardship leaders

keep the loop dynamic

**"No man can tell if he is rich or poor by turning to his ledger. It is the heart that makes a man rich. He is rich according to what he is, not according to what he has."**

***Henry Ward Beecher***





**"Hell begins on the day  
when God grants us a clear  
vision of all that we might  
have achieved, of all the  
gifts which we have wasted,  
of all that we might have  
done which we did not do."**

***Gian-Carlo Menotti***