



Our Stewards of the Month for January 2011: Betty & Dick Kroll

What better way to welcome the New Year than to express our appreciation to members of St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church (SSM) – those who go above and beyond – than through the “Steward of the Month” program. This month –with thanks to those who nominated them, **Betty and Dick Kroll** are very deserving of their recognition as Stewards of the Month for January 2011. They have been members of our congregation for thirty-seven years!

One of many who supported their nomination, stated, ***“Whenever there is a special need or project, the Kroll's – Betty and Dick, are there to lend a helping hand. Their warm smiles and unassuming leadership motivates me to try and be more like them.”***

Al Behling stated, ***“This is a well-deserved honor because of Dick and Betty’s dedication to SSM. They both do a lot of work yet are out of the spotlight and they should know it is appreciated. It is hard to appreciate the total value of church if you don’t participate.”*** Al also noted Betty’s dedication as the Financial Secretary for so many years.

Another member emphasized, ***“Their hard work over the many years has made a positive difference –from Betty’s sewing projects and diligence as our Financial Secretary to her willingness to roll up her sleeves to help where needed ... she is a great role model.”*** Regarding Dick’s involvement, another commented, ***“Not only does Dick give his all here at church, he is equally active in Boy Scouts of America (BSA) serving as Council Commissioner ... he even received the Silver Beaver Award!”*** (Note: Silver Beaver Award is given upon action of the BSA Council Executive Board for outstanding service to youth within the Council and/or for outstanding longtime service to youth with an average of ten or more years.)

Pastor Gail affirmed, “The number of hours that Betty and Dick have spent keeping track of contributions, sending out statements, reporting to the council, and answering financial questions from members (and all with a smile) is simply astonishing. I am very grateful to them, as Betty ‘retires’ from her Financial Secretary position, but as she and Dick continue with other activities at SSM and in the community.

Here is the “short list” of their Stewardship activities:

Dick: St. Stephen the Martyr serving as:

Usher; Communion Server; Sunday School Superintendent & Teacher; Reader; Vacation Bible School; and choir. Additionally, Dick served for several terms on Church Council as Chairperson of Christian Education, Property, and Stewardship coupled with sharing his camera skills to capture those “candid memories” from many church events.

Community service with:

Greendale Jaycees, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts for almost 30 years.

Betty: St. Stephen the Martyr serving as:

Financial Secretary for many years; Sunday School Teacher; Vacation Bible School volunteer and kitchen staff; the quilters group named *SSM Piecemakers*; church banner design and sewing; and kitchen help when needed.

Community service with:

Greendale Jaycettes; Greendale Recreation Department Volunteer; and Cub Scout Den Mother.

Upon receiving word of their nomination as Stewards of the Month, Betty and Dick reflected, “When we heard that we were to be honored as Stewards of the Month, we were a bit surprised because we don’t feel we have done anything special. We have been a part of this church family for a lot of years and we feel that we give back because we can. We have been blessed in so many ways that it just seems natural to give back.”

Dick and Betty Kroll are an inspiration to all who are blessed to serve with them in Stewardship. Thank you.