Church Ministries / Departments

The Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards

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Accomplishments/Progress Since the 13th All-American Council

The Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards (FOS) continued its focus on increasing the amount of annual funding provided to the Church Ministries and Departments.

The executive director of FOS and members of the Chancery staff make parish visits to share the work of The Orthodox Church in America's ministries and invite the faithful of the Church to make voluntary gifts to FOS in support of those ministries.

The major challenge during the past three years was trying to reach the budgeted goal for FOS as set by the Holy Synod and Metropolitan Council, while at the same time doing so with a less than full-time executive director and no increase in resources to raise the stipulated extra \$170,000 per year.

Plans for the Future

The Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards will again be asked to raise the necessary funds for our Church ministries during the next three years, as it has in the past. The new full-time executive director will be the V. Rev. Eugene Vansuch.

During the next three years, we propose that FOS income expectations be made more realistic based on the time and resources available to raise funds.

Accountability

The Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards is accountable to His Beatitude, the Holy Synod, the Chancellor, and the Metropolitan Council of the Church.

The Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards has a direct impact on the work of the Church Ministries as the major funding agent for their respective budgets.

The work of the Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards can be improved with targeted travel and more personal contacts with the clergy and faithful of the Church. It can also be assisted by the implementation of up-to-date donation tracking software that can better indicate the giving patterns and potential of donors.

In closing, it has been my joy to be the executive director of the Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards for the past ten years. I am grateful for the prayers and support of His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman and the members of the Holy Synod of Bishops. In addition, the day-to-day guidance of Protopresbyter Robert S. Kondratick has been invaluable. Given that the Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards concluded its most successful year in 2004, I am confident that Archpriest Eugene Vansuch will build upon this new level of support and continue to increase it year by year.