



Terri Gadzinski, Executive Director of Stewardship & Development for the Diocese of Marquette, presents the “Planning Your Personal Legacy Seminar” to parishioners of St. Michael Parish, Marquette.

### **“Planning For Your Personal Legacy”**

New Educational Seminar Piloted at Marquette Parish

Stewardship is a concept that reminds us to use our resources wisely.

Estate planning is more than planning for what happens after death. In many ways, there is more need to plan for situations which may present themselves during life.

Death is seldom convenient, never pleasant and usually traumatic even when expected. It is not a good time to make decisions but sometimes they must be made quickly. Preplanning a funeral now can save time, avoid stress and lessen confusion.

These topics and more were covered in an educational seminar held in January at St. Michael Parish, Marquette. The seminar, developed by the Planned Giving Advisory Committee, a subcommittee of the Diocesan Development Council, is being designed as a comprehensive packaged program for diocesan parishes and schools. It will include a power point slide presentation with presenter notes, a folder full of informative brochures and handouts, and helpful tips for advertising the seminar.

The Diocesan Development Council has developed the program as a way to help parishes and Catholic schools throughout the diocese with increasing awareness about stewardship and planning. The seminar presents topics important to everyone and offers practical ways to express stewardship through wise and prudent planning that benefits the individual, their family, and puts their Catholic, Christian values into action.

“Ideally, the seminar would be presented by knowledgeable local experts – parishioners or local community members who are estate planners, funeral home directors, and parish stewardship committee members,” said Karen Reese, a member of the Diocesan Development Council. “Our hope is to develop a quality program that empowers our parishes and schools to provide a valuable educational seminar, build relationships with local experts, and ultimately to help their members more fully live their lives as Christian stewards. “

Some comments from seminar participants:

- “The seminar touched on many topics that we didn’t even know we had to discuss.”
- “Invaluable information!”
- “I learned ways to think about my own financial situation, and ways to help my parents.”
- “Very informative, clear and concise. Easy to understand without someone trying to sell me something.”

**To schedule a seminar at your parish contact:**

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