



Spiritual Journey Through Giving Bob and Judith Krone

We have been attending St. Bart's for about seven years and have been pledging as part of the annual program for six years. We think that pledging is the best means of giving. It provides a known flow of funds for the vestry and budgeting. Our pledge is an electronic transfer that is fulfilled whether or not we are able to attend services.

St. Bart's is our spiritual home. As simplistic as it sounds, St. Bart's cannot support its ministries if it cannot keep the lights on, the heating and air conditioning working and the building in good repair. That is the first layer of support that our pledges provide. When the basic have been met, our pledges, combined with our hearts and hands, are used to support the ministries. We have been fortunate to be involved with the refugee committee, ushering, the arts, our Foyers group, Amerson House, and the library. These ministries are important to us and have brought us so much joy over the years. Special moments, at this very special place, let us know that we are where we belong and that we are doing our financial part as members of the St. Bart's family.



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Spiritual Journey Through Action - Page Love Smith

I started attending St. Bartholomew's in 2009 when I moved here to marry my husband Steve. About a year later I volunteered to help with the Diocesan Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) NetsforLife Fundraiser. It was a yearlong campaign to raise money to send insecticide treated bednets to protect the most vulnerable people (mostly children) against the worst strains of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. At the same time I became the ERD coordinator for our parish.

What I liked most about volunteering for the bednet campaign was witnessing the passion, conviction and generosity of average people like me and you who collectively effected a global change. Every \$12 we contributed saved 3 lives. By the end of 2015, the United Nations determined that never in the history of malaria had so many lives (6.2 million) been saved by anti-malaria efforts, due largely to bednet distribution – and St. Bart's was a part of that. Our fingers reached out and touched the fingers of mothers and babies under those nets.

I am jazzed that God equips us to solve problems not only globally but also locally. Hurricanes like Harvey, Irma and Maria leave us no time to rest on our laurels. I have learned these are not insurmountable challenges but rather invitations to live out our lives generously.



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- Are you aware of those who live sacrificially, and what it means?
- Are you curious about how you could live sacrificially?
- Do you seek a deeper understanding of God's presence in your life and hope to experience a more encompassing love for your neighbor?



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