

Interim Ministry Resources

Chapter 8 Stewardship

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Introduction

An Intentional Interim Concept: Interim Ministry Association

3. Attention to **Stewardship**/Financial Matters

The interim period is an opportune time to review assumptions about stewardship and financial support for the church. At such a time, there is probably more openness to new understanding of Christian stewardship as more than simply underwriting the budget. The interim pastor can teach basic Christian stewardship principles without people thinking he or she simply wants more money in order to have a higher salary. It is also a good time to examine the procedures for handling finances. Any problems are better handled by an interim pastor than the next pastor who is called and who will want to be there over a long period of time.

<http://interiministry.org/resources/an-intentional-interim-concept/>

[Images for An Intentional Interim Concept: Interim Ministry Association 3. Attention to Stewardship/Financial Matters](#)

Ask, Thank, Tell: Improving Stewardship Ministry in Your Congregation by Charles R. Lane

Ask, Thank, Tell: Improving Stewardship in Your Congregation, authored by Charles R. Lane, Director of Stewardship Key Leaders for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, states that the goal of stewardship ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances God has entrusted to them. (Page 11) The first section gives biblical and theological background for stewardship in the following chapters: Discipleship, Not Membership; It All Belongs to God; Money and Possessions in the New Testament; Portrait of a Biblical Giver; Practicing Biblical Stewardship; while the second section offers advice on practical matters in the following chapters: Ask: The Annual Response Program; Ask: Making the Pie Larger; Improving How You Ask; Thank; Tell; Organizing Your Stewardship Ministry.

The goal of this book, says author Charles Lane, is to perform a dramatic rescue of stewardship, freeing it from any connection whatsoever to "paying the bills." When the Bible talks about stewardship it almost always talks about the intimate connection between how a person handles financial matters and that person's relationship with God. Stewardship is an intensely spiritual matter that lies close to a disciple's relationship with Jesus. The book is designed especially for use in congregational planning and study. Congregational stewardship leaders will come back to three foundational verbs — ask, thank, tell — over and over as they help individuals experience the joy of giving generously. The author makes the convincing case that there is little in life today that can help a disciple grow in relationship with Jesus more than a solid intentional biblical stewardship.

<http://www.amazon.com/Ask-Thank-Tell-Stewardship-Congregation/dp/0806652632>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1463287.Ask_Thank_Tell

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/ask-thank-tell-charles-r-lane/1122985168>

<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/7366/Ask-Thank-Tell-Improving-Stewardship-Ministry-in-Your-Congregations>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Ask_Thank_Tell.html?id=wJFAwoNrOkC

[Ask, Thank, Tell: Improving Stewardship Ministry in Your Congregation](#)

<http://www.centerforfaithandgiving.org/Reviews/AskThankTellCLane/tabid/932/Default.aspx>

[Stewardship Resources for Parish Leaders – Anglican Church of Canada](#)

Page 56

<http://www.realepiscopal.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Admin-Ask-Thank-Tell-Abridged-Outline-201203.pdf>

[Ask, Thank, Tell: Improving Stewardship Ministry in Your Congregation - Pinterest](#)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2016/10/five-ways-grow-giving-congregation/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0o_UZAcupl4 Minneapolis Area Synod, ELCA Stewardship Lab - Chick Lane - YouTube

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Year_round_Planning_Calendar_for_Growing_Stewa.pdf

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/686274.Charles_R_Lane

[Images for Charles R. Lane, author](#)

[Images for Ask, Thank, Tell: Improving Stewardship Ministry in Your Congregation by Charles R. Lane](#)

Beyond the Offering Plate: A Holistic Approach to Stewardship by Adam J. Copeland (Editor)

Everyone knows that stewardship is more than money and finances. Nevertheless, seldom do we give time to explore the profound concept of stewardship in its many dimensions, including stewardship of time, work, body, mind, spirit, community, technology, and more. *Beyond the Offering Plate* does just that.

Written by ten engaging pastors, seminary professors, and church leaders, this unique resource offers a diverse and holistic approach to stewardship. In ten accessible chapters, readers will learn how they can faithfully and practically discuss and engage with stewardship on a regular basis. Ideal for church leaders, seminary students, and pastors, this book includes questions for reflection and applications for life together at the end of each chapter. Copeland adds a special section with biblical references and preaching themes at the end of the book.



<https://www.amazon.com/Beyond-Offering-Plate-Holistic-Stewardship/dp/066426235X>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/beyond-the-offering-plate-adam-j-copeland/1125946594>

<https://www.christianbook.com/beyond-offering-holistic-approach-stewardship-ebook/adam-copeland/9781611648119/pd/93214EB>

https://www.thethoughtfulchristian.com/Content/Site115/FilesSamples/307137Beyondthe_00000026374.pdf

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/introducing-beyond-the-offering-plate/>

https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/tag/books-and-further-reading/?_page=2
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/stewarding-your-iphone/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/stewardship-of-life-at-its-end/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/stewardship-of-the-body/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/stewarding-our-finances/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/the-gift-of-mind/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/being-good-stewards-of-time/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/can-the-church-steward-work/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/blog/stewardship-posts/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/tithed-tired-vs-storied-inspired/>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1611648114>
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/book-review-beyond-the-offering-plate-a-holistic-approach-to-stewardship>
<https://www.facebook.com/VoicesOnStewardship/posts/740547609470389>
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2016/10/19/voices-on-stewardship/>
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2017/01/11/what-im-up-to/>
https://www.luthersem.edu/faculty/fac_home.aspx?contact_id=acopeland001 Adam J. Copeland – Director of Stewardship Leadership
https://www.luthersem.edu/photos/facultypublish/CVs/CopelandCV_July_2015.pdf Adam J. Copeland - Faculty - Luther Seminary
https://digitalcommons.luthersem.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1210&context=faculty_articles Stewardship 101: An Invitation to Financial Stewardship Adam J. Copeland Luther Seminary, acopeland001@luthersem.edu
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/> Adam J. Copeland: Welcome
<https://sojo.net/biography/adam-copeland> Adam Copeland | Sojourners
<http://www.christiancentury.org/contributor/adam-j-copeland> Adam J. Copeland | The Christian Century
<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/rev-adam-j-copeland> Rev. Adam J. Copeland | The Huffington Post
<https://concordiacollege.edu/files/resources/copelandcv.pdf> Adam J. Copeland - Concordia College
<https://twitter.com/ajc123> Adam J. Copeland (@ajc123) | Twitter
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/adam-copeland-563a2725> Adam Copeland - Director, Center for Stewardship Leaders
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5Jfcl-vclc> Young Adults & Giving: From Myths to Ministry by Rev. Adam Copeland - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWT-E7z9BZw> Crowdfunding the Church by Rev. Adam Copeland – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JvwNaCuvsD0> Minneapolis Area Synod 2016 Stewardship Lab (Adam Copeland) - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SwuJi12VzMo> 2016 Stewardship Seminar - Adam Copeland - "Generosity Across the Generations"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8S8hs2zy-hA> Stewardship in a Digital Age pt. 1 - Rev. Adam Copeland - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A85quxdA3hY> Stewardship in a Digital Age pt. 2 - Rev. Adam Copeland – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ac-1UwZYB4> Building a Stewardship House – YouTube
<http://www.slideshare.net/adamjcopeland> Adam Copeland presentations | SlideShare
<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Money-Mission-of-the-Church-.pdf> Professor: Adam J. Copeland
http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ESC_Giving_Magazine_ELCA_16.pdf Page 6
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2015/08/16/discerning-wisdom-a-sermon-on-1-kings-210-12-33-14/>
<http://www.slideshare.net/adamjcopeland/new-media-stewardship-presentation-luther-seminary-conference>
<http://scsynod.com/download/stewardship-in-a-digital-age-with-keynote-speaker-rev-adam-copeland>
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2015/11/young-adults-giving-myth-1/>
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2015/11/young-adults-giving-myth-2/>
<http://www.elca.org/en/Living-Lutheran/Seeds/2015/11/151125-Young-adults-and-giving-Myths-4-5>
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/tag/young-adults/>
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/writing/>
<https://www.churchleadership.com/authors/>
<https://stewardshipresources.org/generosity-now-workshops>
<https://www.amazon.com/Adam-J.-Copeland/e/B00M32Q8OU>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/9556789.Adam_J_Copeland
[Images for Adam J. Copeland, author stewardship](https://www.adamjcopeland.com/)
[Images for Beyond the Offering Plate: A Holistic Approach to Stewardship by Adam J. Copeland \(Editor\)](https://www.adamjcopeland.com/)

Center for Stewardship Leaders - Faith+Lead - Luther Seminary

Stewardship goes beyond congregational giving to the household and society. The Center for Stewardship Leaders strives to consider the full spectrum of stewardship practice and theology, including financial stewardship, holistic stewardship, and leadership.

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/stewardship/>

[Images for Center for Stewardship Leaders - Faith+Lead - Luther Seminary](https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/blog/stewardship-posts/)

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/blog/stewardship-posts/>

Rethinking Stewardship - Word & World - Luther Seminary

Rethinking Stewardship: Our Culture, Our Theology, Our Practices Edited by Frederick J. Gaiser. You now have before you the work of the bright minds who came to the Rethinking Stewardship held at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota in July 2010 and wrote something about stewardship. As one would expect, the essays in this volume are disparate in tone and genre. Some read like standard theological essays, some more like sermons, and others read a bit like the transcripts of speeches. There is no stewardship model here for you to implement, no canned sermons for you to deliver. Rather, the essays are seeds. The ideas and questions contained in them are meant to take root and grow in your own mind and life. We trust –

like the original 400 conference attendees – that the thoughts that these thinkers have provided will assist you in the difficult theological task of rethinking stewardship.

https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/supplement_6.aspx

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUU0xBzg1AjQ0l1lShCG59ev--dJLSJt2>

http://www.luthersem.edu/elerts/article.aspx?article_id=519&elert_id=61 Join the conversation about stewardship

https://books.google.com/books/about/Rethinking_Stewardship.html?id=WYDkZwEACAAJ

[Images for Rethinking Stewardship: Our Culture, Our Theology, Our Practices - Word & World](#)

Rethinking Stewardship - Luther Seminary

Posted on April 19, 2012

Join us July 24-26 for Luther Seminary's Rethinking Stewardship conference. The theme of this year's conference is Connecting Faith and Finances. Featuring 12 speakers from a variety of fields and leadership positions, this year's conference will tackle why American Christians have such a difficult time connecting their faith with their financial lives.

Speakers include: William Cavanaugh, Nathan Dungan, Rolf Jacobson, Chris Farrell, Gary Langness, David Lose, Catherine Malotky, Wayne Meisel, Linda Norman, Mark Allan Powell, Margaret Waters, Andrea White,

This conference is sponsored in part by Luther Seminary's Center for Stewardship Leaders and Center for Lifelong Learning and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

<https://www.luthersem.edu/news/2012/04/19/save-the-date-rethinking-stewardship-connecting-faith-and-finances/>

The First Move: Consumerism and Culture

William Cavanaugh, "Consumerism as the Opposite of Greed"

Chris Farrell, "A Frugal Embrace"

David Lose, "Money Can't Buy Me Love... Or Can It?"

The Second Move: Connecting Faith and Finances

Linda Norman, "For Richer or for Poorer"

Nathan Dungan, "Money Sanity Solutions: Linking Money and Meaning"

Catherine Malotky, "Choosing Resilience"

The Third Move: Discipleship and Generosity

Mark Allan Powell, "Good News for Tough Economic Times"

Andrea White, "Stewardship Turned on its Head"

The Fourth Move: Learning from Success

Gary Langness, "Pastor, People, Generosity & Joy!"

Margaret Waters, "Fishing on the Right Side of the Boat"

Wayne Meisel, "Success in Stewardship"

Past Rethinking Events - Luther Seminary Rethinking Stewardship (2012)

<https://www.luthersem.edu/rethinking/archives.aspx>

<https://www.luthersem.edu/story/2012/11/02/rethinking-stewardship-conference-brings-together-faith-and-finances/>

Rethinking Stewardship 2014: Exploring Year-Round Stewardship – Luther Seminary

This conference encouraged participants to consider how they might incorporate stewardship into the life of their congregation beyond the fall campaign. They imagined new ways to celebrate God's abundance and all that God has entrusted into our care.

http://www.luthersem.edu/elerts/article.aspx?article_id=1007

For most churches, stewardship is a year-round reality that includes so much more than money management. Why is it, then, that so many congregations only address it as a budgetary concern during a few short weeks each year? Join us July 28-30 for Rethinking Stewardship: Exploring Year-Round Stewardship to learn how your congregation can incorporate stewardship into all seasons and functions of the church.

<https://www.luthersem.edu/news/2014/05/15/explore-year-round-stewardship-2/>

[Daniel Bell - Rethinking Stewardship 2014 - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vuU21WtNJag>

[Robert Veninga - Rethinking Stewardship 2014 - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THB6PSVCuVY>

[Glenn Taibl - Rethinking Stewardship 2014 - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDXojP0dgkA>

[Mark Hanson - Rethinking Stewardship 2014 - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yzj8KmKKzK0>

[Michael Binder - Rethinking Stewardship 2014 - YouTube](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11_bBr95tZ8

[Catherine Malotky - Rethinking Stewardship 2014 - YouTube](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mfamv_Zw_hw

[David Lose - Rethinking Stewardship 2014 - YouTube](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VH499vGA_w

[Terri Elton - Rethinking Stewardship 2014 - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILPKr0Ncu98>

Rethinking Stewardship Videos - Faith+Lead - Luther Seminary

In summer 2018, Luther Seminary and the Center for Stewardship Leaders hosted a conference considering the changing nature of stewardship. We noted shifts in culture, as well as shifts in church. These days, trust in institutions like the church is low, and individuals value their power to choose...where to give, what to click, and whether to attend at all.

Around 200 people attended the Rethinking Stewardship conference, enjoying workshops, meals together, and opportunities for further conversation. We also recorded the presentations and have now made them available on our website: luthersem.edu/rethinking.

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/rethinking-stewardship-videos/>

View all presentations from Rethinking Stewardship 2018, held July 25-27, on Luther Seminary's YouTube playlist.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUU0xBzg1AjQ0l1ShCG59ev--dJLSJt2> 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Church Administration: Programs/Process/Purpose [Robert Bacher, Michael Cooper-White]

Chapter 6. **Raising the Resources:** Theology Talks and Money Matters!

A comprehensive guide from two experienced and thoughtful church men, treats each aspect of congregational governance as a sacred calling with an overriding religious mission.

<http://store.fortresspress.com/store/product/2687/Church-Administration>

For discussion questions on this book go to www.augsburgfortress.org/education/academic/churchadministration/

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/20809035-church-administration>

<http://fortresspress.com/author/robert-bacher>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/115303.Robert_Bacher

<http://fortresspress.com/author/michael-cooper-white>

<https://www.amazon.com/Michael-Cooper-White/e/B001KHNEOG>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2936620.Michael_Cooper_White

[Images for Church Administration: Programs/Process/Purpose \[Robert Bacher, Michael Cooper-White\] Chapter 6. Raising the Resources: Theology Talks and Money Matters!](#)

Congregational Stewardship - Evangelical Lutheran Church

Developing a culture of gratitude and generosity is the focus for growing stewards in many congregations. Through the study of Scripture, we develop a trust in God's abundance and strive to be faithful disciples and stewards. The formation of these stewards is a lifelong journey, and one in which we accompany each other.

<http://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Stewardship/Congregational-Stewardship>

[Images for Congregational Stewardship - Evangelical Lutheran Church](#)

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Stewardship>

[Images for Stewardship - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - ELCA](#)

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Stewardship/Mission-Interpretation>

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Stewardship/Personal-and-Household-Stewardship>

<https://www.elca.org/Resources/Stewardship>

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Annotated_Bibliography.pdf

<https://www.elca.org/Resources/Ministry-Practices> Seven Faith Practices Bible Study: Give

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/givebiblestudy.pdf?_ga=2.97354591.1568010708.1541448388-1300080783.1535476976

http://stpaulslutherville.org/files/2016_seven_faith_practices_st_pauls.pdf

Page 3

<http://www.elca.org/growingstewards>

<https://www.womenoftheelca.org/ministry-action/stewardship>

http://resources.elca.org/Stewardship-Stewardship_Competencies_for_Rostered_Leaders.html

http://resources.elca.org/Stewardship-Stewardship_Competencies_for_Lay_Leaders.html Stewardship Competencies for Lay Leaders

[Images for Stewardship Competencies](#)

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/10_Stewardship_Principles_Placemat.pdf

[Images for Stewardship Principles](#)

<http://www.spas-elca.org/congregations/stewardship/elca-macedonia-project>

[Images for ELCA Macedonia Project](#)

Embracing Stewardship: How to Put Stewardship at the Heart of Your Congregation's Life by Charles R. Lane and Grace Duddy Pomroy

Embracing Stewardship will help you strengthen your congregation's stewardship ministry. Mindful of generational perspectives and attuned to the world in which congregations live, this book provides eight pathways your congregation can follow to deepen your members' understanding of themselves as stewards of the bounty of God.



<http://embracingstewardship.com/>
<https://embracingstewardship.com/products/embracing-stewardship-book>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/embracing-stewardship/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/stewardship-2-0/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/talking-about-money-when-not-asking-for-it/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/blog/stewardship-posts/>
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2016/08/highly-recommended-embracing-stewardship/>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/686274.Charles_R_Lane
<http://www.tens.org/resources/free-resources/free-resources-blog/bibliography-theology-and-practice-of-stewardship>
<https://stewardshipresources.org/content/conversation-grace-duddy-pomroy-part-1>
<http://www.stewardshipoflife.org/2016/03/embracing-stewardship/>
<http://augustana.com/sermon-speaker/grace-duddy-pomroy/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYSzW4jGE> ESC Author Chat with Grace Duddy Pomroy and Chick Lane February 2017
[Images for Embracing Stewardship: How to Put Stewardship at the Heart of Your Congregation's Life by Charles R. Lane and Grace Duddy Pomroy](#)

How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper

What Is Christian Stewardship?	
How to Use this Study-Discussion Resource	Page 2
Study-Discussion Session #1: Causes of Generous Giving	
I. The Financial Giving Paradox	Page 3
II. How Did Congregational Giving Methods Get Off-Track?	Page 3
III. Fund-Raising and Christian Stewardship Get Different Results!	Page 4
IV. What Motivates People to Give Generously?	Page 5
IV. What Is Christian Stewardship?	Page 6
V. Generous Giving Has Strong Biblical Roots	Page 6
VI. Thirty-One Myths that Create Low-Per-Capita-Giving Congregations	Page 8
Study-Discussion Session #2: Annual-Operating-Budget Methods	
I. Eighteen Principles from High-Per-Capita-Giving Congregations	Page 15
II. Ingredients in Effective Annual Stewardship Education	Page 21
III. Ten Types of Annual Stewardship Campaign	Page 21
IV. Budget-Building and Resource Management	Page 25
Study-Discussion Session #3: General Stewardship Methods	
I. Effective Year-Around Stewardship Education	Page 29
II. Guidelines for Special Offerings	Page 31
III. How to Increase Stewardship of Accumulated Resources	Page 35
IV. Building Enthusiasm for Missions/Benevolences Giving	Page 38
IV. The Bottom Line	Page 39
Appendix: New Consecration Sunday, 2007 Revised Edition, Stewardship Program	Page 40

[PDF] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 5--How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 5: How to Increase Financial Stewardship
[Images for How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper](#)
<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>
<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/>
<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

lacrosseareasynod | Stewardship Resources

Educational Resources for Download

www.lacrosseareasynod.org/stewardship-resources
[Images for lacrosseareasynod | Stewardship Resources](#)

[DOC]Model Constitution for Congregations 2019 - ELCA Resource Repository

Chapter 8.

MEMBERSHIP

- *C8.04.** It shall be the privilege and duty of members of this congregation to:
- make regular use of the means of grace, both Word and sacraments;
 - live a Christian life in accordance with the Word of God and the teachings of the Lutheran church; and
 - support the work of this congregation, the synod, and the churchwide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through contributions of their time, abilities, and financial support as biblical **stewards**.

Chapter 9.

ROSTERED MINISTER

- *C9.03.** Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

- b. Each pastor with a congregational call shall, within the congregation:
- 5) endeavor to increase the **support** given by the congregation to the work of the ELCA churchwide organization and of the *(insert name of synod)* Synod of the ELCA.

<https://www.elca.org/constitution> [2019 Model Constitution for Congregations](#)

<https://download.elca.org> > [ELCA Resource Repository](#) > [Model Constitution](#)

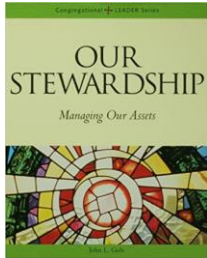
<http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/Office-of-the-Secretary>

[Images for Chapter 8. MEMBERSHIP *C8.04. It shall be the privilege and duty of members of this congregation to: c. support the work of this congregation, the synod, and the churchwide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through contributions of their time, abilities, and financial support as biblical stewards.](#)

[Images for b. Each pastor with a congregational call shall, within the congregation: 5\) endeavor to increase the support given by the congregation to the work of the ELCA churchwide organization and of the \(insert name of synod\) Synod of the ELCA.](#)

Our Stewardship: Managing Our Assets (Congregational Leader Series) by John L. Golv (Author)

Our Stewardship looks at how to identify, manage, and build up the assets needed for your congregation's mission and ministry (such as a building, grounds, equipment, information, and finances). God gives assets to each person and every congregation and calls us to grow in faith as we serve as stewards of these gifts. The book also talks about what to look for when selecting materials for a financial stewardship program. See Excerpts for reproducible tools that can be downloaded and customized.



<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/6607/Our-Stewardship-Managing-Our-Assets>

<http://www.amazon.com/Our-Stewardship-Managing-Assets-Congregational/dp/0806644060>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/golv-our-stewardship-managing-our-assets.html>

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/john-l-golv/1793624/>

[Images for Our Stewardship: Managing Our Assets \(Congregational Leader Series\) by John L. Golv \(Author\) images](#)

<https://www.goodreads.com/series/148656-congregational-leader-series>

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/category/286319/Congregational-LEADER-Series>

[Images for Congregational Leader Series](#)

Step by step: Fostering financial stewardship in your congregation [Michael Meier]

This book is a gem for pastors and lay leaders looking for a general overview of stewardship practice and theology! It is written in a 17-step format for pastors and lay leaders to build a solid commitment among their members to financially support their church. Includes a bonus section on the theology of stewardship that can help leaders and members discover lives of meaning and purpose.

<http://www.amazon.com/Step-step-Fostering-stewardship-congregation/dp/B0006RT148>

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Step_by_Step_Fostering_Financial_Stewardship_i.pdf

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/How_to_Improve_Financial_Stewardship_A_Guide_f.pdf

http://www.stewardship-dwtx.org/Treasure_Annual_ELCA_Stewardship.php

http://books.google.com/books/about/Step_by_Step.html?id=AXZWPAACAAJ

<http://resources.elca.org/Products-Stewardship.html>

<http://semnsynod.org/for-congregations/stewardship/resources/congregational-leadership/>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15974627-step-by-step>

[Images for Fostering financial stewardship in your congregation](#)

<http://www.lss-elca.org/resources/stewardship/>

Stewardship - Wikipedia

Stewardship was originally made up of the tasks of a domestic **steward**, from *stiġ* (*house, hall*) and *weard*, (*ward, guard, guardian, keeper*).^{[9][10]} Stewardship in the beginning referred to the household servant's duties for bringing food and drink to the castle's dining hall. Stewardship responsibilities were eventually expanded to include everything the domestic, service and management needs of the entire household. Commercial stewardship tends to the domestic and service requirements of passengers on ships, trains, airplanes or guests in restaurants. This concept of stewardship continues to be referenced within these specific categories. Stewardship is now generally recognized as the acceptance or assignment of responsibility to shepherd and safeguard the valuables of others.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewardship>

<https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/stewardship>

[Images for stewardship](#)

Temporary Shepherds: A Congregational Handbook for Interim Ministry [Roger S. Nicholson]

The Need for Viable **Stewardship**

The third reality is the challenge to exercise viable Christian stewardship.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996465> xiii.

[Images for Temporary Shepherds: A Congregational Handbook for Interim Ministry \[Roger S. Nicholson\] The Need for Viable Stewardship The third reality is the challenge to exercise viable Christian stewardship.](#)

<http://www.amazon.com/Temporary-Shepherds-Congregational-Handbook-Ministry/dp/1566992087>

The Practice of Stewardship by Pastor Gary Hedding – Stewardship Director of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

The practice of stewardship begins with hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is the power of the Holy Spirit working through Word and Sacrament that changes our hearts and wills so that we become the generous children of God.

The practice of stewardship continues by providing opportunities for people to live out their faithful and joyful response to the Good News of Jesus. Stewardship is everything that we do after we say, “I believe.”

The practice of stewardship involves the way we speak of Jesus and our faith. Paul says that we are “stewards of the mysteries of God” which have been revealed in Jesus. As good stewards of the Good News of Jesus we speak generously we speak confidently of what Jesus has done for the world and for us. Our participation in worship and the Eucharist “proclaims the death of Jesus until he comes again.”

The practice of stewardship involves the way we devote out time and energy in daily life to God by serving others. As we are faithful in our vocations (family, citizen, job, member of a congregation, friend, etc.), we serve God with our daily activities, some of which occur within the congregation, but most of which occur outside of it.

The practice of stewardship involves the way we care for the earth. As people who share in dominion over the earth, we exercise careful management of the earth’s resources. We value the creation not only for its usefulness to us, but also for God’s evaluation that it is “very good.”

In the Sty - The Practice of Stewardship

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin – July 2002

THE SMALL CATECHISM

THE FIRST ARTICLE

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still preserves them; that He richly and daily provides me with food and clothing, home and family, property and goods, and all that I need to support this body and life; that He protects me from all danger, guards and keeps me from all evil; and all this purely out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all which I am in duty bound to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

<https://www.blc.edu/comm/gargy/gargy1/ELSCatechism.htm>

[Images for He richly and daily provides me](#)

We Give Thee but Thine Own

We give thee but thine own,
Whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive,
And gladly, as thou blessest us,
To thee our first fruits give.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

http://www.opc.org/hymn.html?hymn_id=788

[Images for We Give Thee but Thine Own](#)

What is Stewardship?

“Stewardship” is everything we do after we say, “I believe.” Stewardship is not fund raising, it is one aspect of the Christian life—like worship, prayer, Bible study and service. The path from membership to discipleship can be traveled by focusing on authentic stewardship ministry and telling the story of what we do together.

[SD Synod Discuss Stewardship - SD Synod](#)

<http://www.sdsynod.org/ministries/stewardship/>

[Images for “Stewardship” is everything we do after we say, “I believe.”](#)

Reflections and Resources

1) Steward

The Faithful or the Unfaithful Steward

⁴² And the Lord said, "Who then is the faithful and sensible **steward**, whom his master will put in charge of his ^[a]servants, to give them their rations at the proper time? ⁴³ Blessed is that slave whom his ^[b]master finds so doing when he comes. ⁴⁴ Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

Luke 12:42-44 NASB - Bible Gateway

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+12%3A42-44%2CLuke+19%3A17&version=NASB>

[Images for Faithful or the Unfaithful Steward](#)

My perspective on stewardship through the years of pastoral ministry since 1980 has grown beyond a simplistic notion to a more wholistic comprehension.

2) Current context

A preview of Rethinking Stewardship: From Solemn Obligation to Inspired Choice July 25-27, 2018 Luther Seminary succinctly characterizes the current context.

Rethinking Stewardship: From Solemn Obligation to Inspired Choice

July 25-27, 2018 – Luther Seminary

The church is shifting from a time when people gave money out of a sense of duty and obligation. We've entered a period in which trust in institutions is low, and individuals value their power to choose where to give, what to click, and whether to attend at all. Yet, Jesus' warning that one cannot serve both masters, God and mammon, is as relevant as ever. What does contextual stewardship require today? What can we leave behind? And what must we never forget? Click on the button below to glean insights from these three days of conversation and exploration.

Rethinking Stewardship - Luther Seminary

<https://www.luthersem.edu/rethinking/>

[Images for Rethinking Stewardship: From Solemn Obligation to Inspired Choice](#)

3) Biblical, theological, technological

Craig Alan Satterless, author of **Preaching and Stewardship: Proclaiming God's Invitation to Grow**, spoke at the 2018 Winter Theological Event for the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. It was refreshing to hear the biblical and theological case for stewardship when so many other cases for stewardship are made from the technological perspective.

Saying the "M-word" from the Pulpit

In the US, money is a powerful force that seeks to reign over Christ's church. Our time together will celebrate giving money in response to an explicit proclamation of the Gospel as worship, participation in God's own mission of reconciliation and resurrection, and active resistance to the powers of death at work in the world. The goal is to encourage and equip pastors to preach both the annual stewardship sermon and on the topic of money as it is found in Scripture. Joining us for this event will be Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee, PhD., Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod. Bishop Satterlee also serves as an adjunct professor at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. In addition to congregations, he also served as Dean of the ACTS Doctor of Teaching program and as an adjunct professor in the Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame.

[PDF]Winter Theo Flyer 2018 - Amazon S3

https://s3.amazonaws.com/media.cloversites.com/0a/0a854394-3a19-4d9f-b1ae-f93021508921/documents/Winter_Theo_Flyer_2018.pdf

[Images for Saying the "Money word" from the Pulpit](#)

Preaching and Stewardship: Proclaiming God's Invitation to Grow (Vital Worship Healthy Congregations) [Craig A. Satterlee]

Both new and veteran preachers alike find the annual stewardship sermon a challenge and are eager for encouraging, practical advice. In *Preaching and Stewardship*, Craig Satterlee offers a nuts-and-bolts handbook on preaching stewardship, raising issues preachers need to consider when preparing stewardship sermons and offering advice on how to address them. Satterlee argues that stewardship preaching must include a bold and concrete proclamation of God's love, will, and justice, as well as an invitation to grow as stewards in response to this proclamation. He focuses each chapter on a question preachers ought to ask themselves as they prepare the stewardship sermon, beginning with, 'What do you mean by stewardship?' and 'Why should we give to the church?' In chapters 3 through 6, he explores what the Bible says about stewardship. In chapter 7, he names some of the assumptions both preachers and worshipers bring to the stewardship sermon. The final chapter a variety of ways congregations can support the stewardship sermon. Satterlee illustrates the premise of each chapter with anecdotes from congregational life. Preachers who desire examples of stewardship sermons will especially appreciate stewardship sermons he shares from various preachers to illustrate points in the main text.

<http://www.amazon.com/Preaching-Stewardship-Proclaiming-Gods-Invitation/dp/1566994179>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/12974992-preaching-and-stewardship>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566994170>

<https://www.overdrive.com/media/1680771/preaching-and-stewardship>

<https://alban.org/archive/preaching-is-not-fund-raising-from-the-pulpit/>

<https://alban.org/archive/rethinking-ourselves-as-preachers/>
<http://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4983> Preaching and Stewardship
http://www.churchleadership.com/leadingideas/leaddocs/2012/120118_article2.html
<http://www.abebooks.com/book-search/author/satterlee-craig-a/>
<http://craigasatterlee.com/>
<http://craigasatterlee.com/books/>
<https://www.workingpreacher.org/profile/default.aspx?uid=2-satterlee>
<https://www.lstc.edu/academics/faculty/craig-satterlee>
https://s3.amazonaws.com/media.cloversites.com/0a/0a854394-3a19-4d9f-b1ae-f93021508921/documents/Winter_Theo_Flyer_2018.pdf
<http://mittensynod.server303.com/leaders/directory/name/craig-satterlee/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Craig-Alan-Satterlee/e/B001JS2LW2>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/290034.Craig_A_Satterlee
 Images for Craig A. Satterlee, author
 Images for Preaching and Stewardship: Proclaiming God's Invitation to Grow (Vital Worship Healthy Congregations) [Craig A. Satterlee]
<https://alban.org/archive/vital-worship-healthy-congregations/>
<https://rowman.com/Action/SERIES/RL/RL3VWO/Vital-Worship-Healthy-Congregations>
<https://www.librarything.com/series/The+Vital+Worship,+Healthy+Congregations+Series>
 Images for Vital Worship Healthy Congregations

4) Of theology and technology

The conduct of a holy people

²²Set apart a tithe of all the yield of your seed that is brought in yearly from the field. ²³In the presence of the LORD your God, in the place that he will choose as a dwelling for his name, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, your wine, and your oil, as well as the firstlings of your herd and flock, so that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.

oremus Bible Browser: Deuteronomy 14:22-23

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Deuteronomy+14:22-23&vnum=yes&version=nrsv>

[Images for conduct of a holy people](#)

The appointed feasts of the Lord

⁹ The LORD spoke to Moses: ¹⁰Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you and you reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest. ¹¹He shall raise the sheaf before the LORD, so that you may find acceptance; on the day after the sabbath the priest shall raise it. ¹²On the day when you raise the sheaf, you shall offer a lamb a year old, without blemish, as a burnt-offering to the LORD. ¹³And the grain-offering with it shall be two-tenths of an ephah of choice flour mixed with oil, an offering by fire of pleasing odor to the LORD; and the drink-offering with it shall be of wine, one-fourth of a hin. ¹⁴You shall eat no bread or parched grain or fresh ears until that very day, until you have brought the offering of your God: it is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your settlements.

oremus Bible Browser: Leviticus 23:9-14

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Leviticus+23:9-14>

[Images for appointed feasts of the Lord](#)

I get it that the form of the offering changes through time. Society in developed countries has changed from agrarian to digital, but the reasons for giving an offering to the Lord remain.

Resources

Crafting A Theology Of Stewardship (and why your church needs one) by Joel Mikell (Author), Ben Stroup (Editor)

Crafting A Theology of Stewardship is a call to the local church to re-visit and re-think their beliefs and practices in the area of stewardship, generosity, money, and giving and then to re-calibrate and re-cast those beliefs based on the teaching of scripture. In this eBook, Joel Mikell lays out seven perspectives that should be at the heart of a theology of stewardship and presents five significant value propositions that will result. Joel also suggests a step-by-step strategy for creating a written document that articulates a theology of stewardship for the church and provides several examples to guide the process. The last section lists twenty helpful resources in the areas of stewardship, giving, and generosity.

<http://www.horizons.net/resources/publications/>
<http://stjohnssummit.org/stewardship-committee/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/joelmikell>
<https://www.amazon.com/Joel-Mikell/e/B00J2JIPV6>
<http://www.voicesonstewardship.com/faith-before-finances/>
<http://www.voicesonstewardship.com/resources-follow-relationships/>
<http://www.voicesonstewardship.com/mission-and-ministry/>
<http://www.voicesonstewardship.com/generosity-changes-people/>
<http://www.voicesonstewardship.com/give-blessed/>
https://issuu.com/powertrademedia/docs/ce_may-june_dv
<https://www.amazon.com/Joel-Mikell/e/B00J2JIPV6>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7289330.Joel_Mikell
[Images for Joel Mikell \(Author\)](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/Ben-Stroup/e/B00J2JISMC>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3271055.Ben_Stroup
[Images for Ben Stroup, author stewardship](#)
[Images for Crafting A Theology Of Stewardship \(and why your church needs one\) by Joel Mikell \(Author\), Ben Stroup \(Editor\)](#)

[Introducing the New Testament chapter 14: Principles for Giving \(Mark Allan Powell\) - YouTube](#)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nFUAABlqEZY>
[Images for Introducing the New Testament chapter 14: Principles for Giving \(Mark Allan Powell\) - YouTube](#)

5) Thank

Paul Thanks God for the Colossians

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God.

[oremus Bible Browser: Colossians 1:3-6](#)

<http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=181716250>

[Images for Paul Thanks God for the Colossians](#)

Saying “thank you” in as many ways as possible is important. Gratitude acknowledges and begets generosity. Following is a statement I use in bulletins and newsletters often following attendance and financial figures:

Thank you for your participation in and
support of the life and mission of this congregation!

Following is a letter from the pastor with the quarterly statement.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings to you in this season of Pentecost as we give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit to call us together into the church and strengthen our faith. Thank you for the partnership of the gospel during this first half year!

Thank you for your financial support of this congregation. Your contributions make possible the ministry of the local congregation and of the larger church. It is only through your regular giving that the mission and ministry continues at this congregation and with our partners in ministry in the wider church.

This year is a time of transition. To give you a quick update, a Call Committee has been elected and has started work on the Ministry Site Profile. An invitation is extended to you to come to a special Congregation Meeting on Sunday, July 17 after worship to offer a mid-year state of the church and an opportunity for contributing to the call process. A survey is included in the July newsletter for you to give input and to bring to the meeting or turn in to the church office. Your thoughts are welcome. Pray for the mission of the church in this time of transition.

Again, please know that especially in the summer months your regular and steady offering are a real blessing to the church and its ministry!

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Lowell Bolstad

Following is a thank you letter from a bishop.

Dear Congregations of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

How quickly we complain when we are unhappy or disappointed. How seldom we say “thank you” when we are appreciative. Perhaps you’ve heard that it takes over 20 positive affirmations to counter-balance the effect of one negative criticism.

Because of the office I hold, I am often caught in the crossfire of whatever complaints members, congregations, or rostered leaders might have. This isn’t surprising because when we are unhappy or upset, we tend to be highly motivated to express ourselves especially in this era of internet anonymity. But, when we are appreciative, we too often remain silent.

Thus, at a time when expressions of thanks seem to be few and far between, I think it is important as the pastor of the synod that I express my thanks to *you*:

Thank you for all the ways you live out your baptismal vocation in everyday life, living for Jesus in whatever arena you find yourself, following the Lord as a disciple Monday through Saturday, not just Sunday.

Thank you for every effort your congregation makes to live beyond itself in Jesus’ name for the sake of neighbor. Keep centering everything you do in God’s call to engage the world.

Thank you for seeking to be a transformative community dedicated to witness and service, healing the fractures of the world, and living for the sake of others through Gospel witness and work.

Thank you for the countless ways that you have blessed me and my staff as we support one another in living as God's missionary people.

As you review your congregation's annual report celebrating your mission of this past year and as you gear up to worship, witness, and serve in 2012, may the Spirit blow mightily in and through you!

Duane C. Pederson, Bishop

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin – ELCA

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

944 24 1/4 Street, Suite 2, Chetek, WI 54728

office: [715-859-6810](tel:715-859-6810) fax: [715-859-6812](tel:715-859-6812)

www.nwswi.org

Resources

A Step at a Time: Growing Givers through Stewardship Letters by Glenn Borreson

In his practical and easy-to-follow book, Glenn Borreson offers a plan for increasing giving in a congregation through personalized stewardship letters. His example, timeline, and step-by-step procedures will provide an excellent resource for any pastor who wants to help his or her congregation grow in Christian stewardship. Borreson's suggestions not only help to increase giving, they also do it in a non-threatening way.

<https://www.amazon.in/Step-at-Time-Glenn-Borreson/dp/0788018477>

<http://www.christianbook.com/time-growing-givers-through-stewardship-letters/glenn-borreson/9780788018473/pd/18477>

[http://store.csspub.com/products_results.php?Search=1&ProductCategoryID\[\]=116](http://store.csspub.com/products_results.php?Search=1&ProductCategoryID[]=116)

<https://www.linkedin.com/pub/glenn-borreson/61/b13/601>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0788018477>

https://www.amazon.in/s?i=stripbooks&rh=p_27%3AGlenn+L.+Borreson&ref=dp_byline_sr_book_1

[Images for Glenn Borreson, author](#)

[Images for A Step at a Time: Growing Givers through Stewardship Letters by Glenn Borreson](#)

Advice to a New Pastor of a small town Church | Loving the Word with the Mudpreacher

3. Learn to be content with the people and building God provides for you. Give **thanks** for them every day. Express thanks and appreciation publicly and constantly.

<http://mudpreacher.org/2012/11/15/advice-to-a-new-pastor-of-a-small-town-church/>

[Images for Advice to a New Pastor of a Small Town Church 3. Learn to be content with the people and building God provides for you. Give thanks for them every day. Express thanks and appreciation publicly and constantly.](#)

Church Administration: Programs, Process, Purpose [Robert Bacher, Michael Cooper-White]

<http://store.fortresspress.com/store/product/2687/Church-Administration>

The Most Important Word: **Thanks!**

Page 138

For discussion questions on this book go to

www.augsburgfortress.org/education/academic/churchadministration/

[Images for Most Important Word: Thanks!](#)

For this, I give thanks by Center for Stewardship Leaders - Luther Seminary

I know several families who, after Thanksgiving dinner, go around the table and invite each person to share something for which they are thankful. My family never adopted this tradition, perhaps because it likely would have led to my brother attempting to one-up one another with snide humor. Even the most sincere Thanksgiving table ritual, however, would be challenged to take-in the power of story Rev. Ingrid Rasmussen shares today. I'm so thankful for her words, for her friendship, and for the life of my good buddy, Paul.

Check out the rest of the Giving Thanks series:

[A Gratitude Campaign](#) by Catherine Malotky

[Stewardship in the Shadow of the Shema](#) by Raymond Bonwell

[The Ancient Art of Thanking](#) by Robert Hay, Jr.

[Gratitude and the Simplicity Movement](#) by Adam J. Copeland

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/for-this-i-give-thanks/>

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/tag/gratitude/>

[Images for For this, I give thanks](#)

Ideas for Recognizing and Thanking Your Donors

Whether yours is a complex research program, a public policy group, or a local health services clinic, there is a compelling way to recognize your donors with the facts about what their money allowed you to do and the firsthand stories about the lives it changed.

<http://nonprofit.about.com/od/fundraising/a/donorrecog.htm>

[Images for Ideas for Recognizing and Thanking Your Donors](#)

Meister Eckhart Quotes - BrainyQuote

If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is **thank** you, it will be enough.

http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/m/meister_eckhart.html

[Images for Meister Eckhart Quotes - If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough.](#)

Saying Thank You by Center for Stewardship Leaders - Stewardship

Pastor Formo reports: "As a child I was taught to say thank you. As a Pastor in Roseville, MN, I visited the 30 largest givers and gave them a calligraphed piece of Paul's words 'I thank my God every time I remember you.' They were surprised and said they had never been thanked like this. I spent about one half hour in each home.

<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=3897>

[Images for Saying Thank You by Center for Stewardship Leaders - Stewardship](#)

Six Key Words: Thank You, Thank You, Thank You By Alan Mead

1. How do we encourage churches to continue to give in times of transition, especially with an interim pastor serving the congregation?

The leaders and staff of the foundations that serve our churches and denominations are always watching what others are doing well. Denominational leaders swap notes regularly and share information with each other. What they observe is that while giving in times of transition can be a challenge, it is also a time to plant seeds. During the interim times, communicate extensively, even to the point where you think you are over communicating. Keep it simple. Don't dive into the weeds but remember that giving is an emotional act, not an intellectual act. It is counterintuitive that any of us would give our money away and is always a response of gratitude. Interims and other congregational leaders need to build a sense of gratitude.

Communicate often. Communicate clearly in measured ways. Evaluate everything and measure engagement even more than attendance and giving. An example was given of Coca Cola, that is the most recognized brand in the world and yet they continue to spend a lot of money on advertising. We need to keep getting our message of mission out. It is important to speak of inspiring, communicating, and thanking, whether in transition or not. Tell your story. How are you connecting lives? How are you connecting people to the holy? Tell your story. Tell it well. And importantly, give invitation because if you don't ask you probably won't receive. This must be done well and sensitively; but it must be done. The ministry of appreciation is even more important during transition. Inspire, invite, thank!

<https://files.constantcontact.com/fbaed027be/1e2094a5-7c20-4dd8-9032-68690b8d6973.pdf>

[Images for ministry of appreciation. Inspire, invite, thank!](#)

<https://imnedu.org/> IMN | Interim Ministry Network

<https://imnedu.org/series/2019imnconference/>

<https://sites.google.com/imnedu.org/2019imnannualconference/home>

[PDF] Staff & Laity: Organizing for Mission - Feautor.org

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

Consider how your congregation affirms, supports, and thanks those who volunteer
Develop strategies to make sure there is positive reinforcement when gifts are shared
The quiet, subtle "thank you" always leaves a positive impression
Celebrate success

<http://www.feautor.org/uploads/contributions/11956953849/organizing.pdf>

[Images for Thank You, Thank You, Thank You](#)

Thanksgiving Quotes - BrainyQuote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/thanksgiving>

https://www.brainyquote.com/lists/topics/top_10_thanksgiving_quotes

[Images for thanksgiving quotes](#)

<https://www.countryliving.com/food-drinks/q2059/thanksgiving-quotes/>

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/thanksgiving>

www.keepinspiring.me/thanksgiving-quotes/

What Does the Bible Say About Giving Thanks? - OpenBible.info

https://www.openbible.info/topics/giving_thanks

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/thanksgiving>

[Images for bible and thanks](#)

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/thanksgiving-bible-verses/>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/thankful-bible-verses/>

<https://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2016/11/23-bible-verses-about-thanksgiving-and-gratitude/>

[Images for bible-verses-about-thanksgiving-and-gratitude](#)

<https://www.theodysseyonline.com/10-bible-verses-thanksgiving>

<https://onethingalone.com/bible-verses-to-help-you-say-thank-you/>

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/what-the-bible-says-about-giving-thanks.html>

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/5-people-in-the-bible-who-gave-thanks-with-all-their-heart.html>

Youth Group Says Thank You! - YouTube

Some members of the First Baptist Church, Girard, youth group say "thank you!" for the support they have received from the congregation. On Jan. 18th - 21st, 12 members of the youth group will be attending a ski retreat weekend in WI and they were only able to make the trip because of the generous support given by the congregation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ADi33i93r3c>
[Images for Youth Group Says Thank You! - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JHioVg3wQc)
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JHioVg3wQc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aXLaUT7e4EA) Increase Church Giving By Saying Thank You - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aXLaUT7e4EA> The Importance of Saying Thank You ! - YouTube
https://www.ted.com/talks/laura_trice_suggests_we_all_say_thank_you/up-next Laura Trice:Remember to say thank you|TED Talk
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3G5sdUUd1Y> Calling to Say Thank You | The Science of Happiness - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BzkDB9nAM> The Power of Thank You - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7uzynHWxn5Q> Say "Thank You" - A Motivational Video On The Importance of Gratitude

Thank You

6) Getting and giving

I was washing clothes at the local laundromat one morning. I admit to being slightly annoyed that some of the machines didn't work, that water was standing on the floor, and that loud "s/he did me wrong" songs were playing on the radio. Then the radio announcer asked a question that got my attention, "Who is happier – those who are getting or those who are giving?" I never heard the answer on-air, but I looked online to see what others had to say.

Resources

Emphasize giving over getting: Parent asks how to encourage children to think of others - The Lutheran Magazine

Q: Each year my kids get caught up with their individual wish lists of presents they want for Christmas. They tend to forget that giving to others is an important part of the holiday season. How can I excite them about the spirit of giving?

A: One way to get your kids' attention is to flip through this year's [ELCA Good Gifts](#) catalog. It includes affordable opportunities to support the animal-related projects of [ELCA World Hunger](#). A \$10 donation, for example, is enough to provide a flock of chicks to an impoverished family. Eggs produced by the chickens provide food and a source of income. Donations like this can be made in honor of a child's friend, teacher or relative — and you can send a gift acknowledgement card by e-mail or print one out on your computer. For more information, visit the [Good Gift](#) website.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=9550

[Images for Emphasize giving over getting: Parent asks how to encourage children to think of others - The Lutheran Magazine](https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

Giving really is better than receiving | Psychology Today

During the holiday season, one custom that is shared across many religious and cultural traditions ranging from Christmas to Hanukkah to Kwanzaa is the act of giving to others.

For instance, we often hear the phrase that "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35) quoted a lot during this time of year. Although holiday gift giving has often become associated with shopping aggravations and as a key indicator of the economy's general state of health, there is considerable evidence in support of this frequently-cited biblical passage.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-social-self/201012/giving-really-is-better-receiving>

[Images for Giving really is better than receiving | Psychology Today](#)

H. Jackson Brown, Jr. Quotes - BrainyQuote

Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.

<https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/h/hjacksonb124527.html>

[Images for H. Jackson Brown, Jr. Quotes - Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.](#)

Science of Generosity: Why Giving Makes You Happy | New Republic

Start giving your money and time away: New research shows you'll be happier for it.

<https://newrepublic.com/article/119477/science-generosity-why-giving-makes-you-happy>

[Images for Science of Generosity: Why Giving Makes You Happy | New Republic](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Paradox-Generosity-Giving-Receive-Grasping/dp/0199394903>

[Images for Paradox-Generosity-Giving-Receive-Grasping](#)

Want to Be Happier? Give More. Give Better. | HuffPost

So, giving gives you pleasure and can make you happier. And while there are many reasons why you don't give (here are six of them according to Peter Singer, author of *The Life You Can Save*) I want to focus on 5 ways you can maximize your happiness when you do give based on some research summarized in the book *Science of Giving: An Experimental Approach to the Study of Charity*.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/brady-josephson/want-to-be-happier-give-m_b_6175358.html

[Images for Want to Be Happier? Give More. Give Better. | HuffPost](#)

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/brady-693>

<http://recharity.ca/6-reasons-why-people-dont-give-more/>

Americans donate over 300 billion dollars a year to charity, but the psychological factors that govern whether to give, and how much to give, are still not well understood. Our understanding of charitable giving is based primarily upon the intuitions of fundraisers or correlational data which cannot establish causal relationships. By contrast, the chapters in this book study charity using experimental methods in which the variables of interest are experimentally manipulated. As a result, it becomes

possible to identify the causal factors that underlie giving, and to design effective intervention programs that can help increase the likelihood and amount that people contribute to a cause.

For charitable organizations, this book examines the efficacy of fundraising strategies commonly used by nonprofits and makes concrete recommendations about how to make capital campaigns more efficient and effective. Moreover, a number of novel factors that influence giving are identified and explored, opening the door to exciting new avenues in fundraising.

<https://www.amazon.ca/The-Life-You-Can-Save/dp/0812981561>

[Images for The Life You Can Save: How to Do Your Part to End World Poverty](#)

<https://www.amazon.ca/The-Science-Giving-Experimental-Approaches/dp/1848728859>

[Images for -Science-Giving-Experimental-Approaches](#)

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/9525375-the-science-of-giving>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-science-of-giving-danny-oppenheimer/1111797961>

<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0899764012457866?journalCode=nvsb> Book Review

7) Thrive rather than simply survive

Luther Park Camp Director, Keith Newman, speaking at the annual Towering Pines and Way Club Dinner (an appreciation dinner for donors) on 4/12/2014, spoke of how since his arrival 14 months previously Luther Park Bible Camp of Chetek, Wisconsin had been able to decrease its debts and increase its involvement. He characterized this as "thrive rather than simply survive." He thanked the donors present as did the director of church relations and a camp counselor.

Resources

[PDF] [American Congregations 2015: Thriving and Surviving - Hartford Institute for Religion Research](#)

Against this backdrop the last five years captured in the 2015 survey might be characterized as: More of the same, but a little less so and with a few interesting twists. The details of this assessment are more fully developed in the following sections of this report:

<http://hrr.hartsem.edu/American-Congregations-2015.pdf>

[Images for American Congregations: Thriving and Surviving](#)

[From Surviving to Thriving: A Practical Guide to Revitalize Your Church by John H Krahn \(Author\)](#)

For years, Rev. Dr. John H. Krahn has been a successful interim pastor whom God has used to save many dying churches. He shares his proven methods for helping churches which are barely surviving to once again thrive. Whether your church is on life support or is doing quite well, *From Surviving to Thriving -- A Practical Guide to Revitalize Your Church* is a hands-on approach that will assist you and your church greatly.

Pastor Krahn has done what he recommends and seen the results of intentional missional ministry in more than one context. Overflowing with good stories and examples of excellent ministry, his comprehensive approach includes getting the church's financial house in order, practicing good stewardship, developing a strategic plan and vision, marketing the church in new and old ways, and developing an evangelism program. Here is a book by a veteran pastor who knows how to revitalize a congregation that is long on hope and short on excuses.

<https://www.amazon.com/Surviving-Thriving-Practical-Revitalize-Church/dp/0788028812>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/33258492-from-surviving-to-thriving>

<https://www.christianbook.com/surviving-thriving-practical-guide-revitalize-church/john-krahn/9780788028816/pd/028816>

<https://www.concordia-ny.edu/alumni/news/1639043/rev-dr-john-h-krahn-63>

<https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/Academics/Syllabi/S2018/EVAN6221DayS2018M.pdf>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1579559.John_H_Krahn

[Images for John H Krahn \(Author\)](#)

[Images for From Surviving to Thriving: A Practical Guide to Revitalize Your Church by John H Krahn \(Author\)](#)

Future Directions - ELCA

Goal 1: A thriving church spreading the gospel and deepening faith for all people

<https://elca.org/future>

[Images for Future Directions - ELCA Goal 1: A thriving church spreading the gospel and deepening faith for all people](#)

[Thrive Don't Just Survive: The Secret to a Happy and Profitable Health and Fitness Business by Karen Ingram \(Author\)](#)

Are you one of the many skilled therapists or fitness instructors who went into business to share your passion for what you do and to help other people? Do you struggle to attract clients, earn a living wage and manage your time? Are you surviving, rather than thriving, in business? In *Thrive* Karen Ingram shares the secret of how you can combine your talent and passion for what you do with simple and effective business tools to make being in business a joy. She outlines some of the common pitfalls that therapists and fitness instructors fall prey to when starting out in business and takes you through 5 clear steps to get your business healthy, happy and thriving. As you read this book and work through the Do! Exercises you will learn to: * Change your Mindset to value what you do and start thinking like a business person * Map your business so you know exactly where you are going, how much you will earn and how your working week will look * Monetize your business so that you can make a good living doing what you love * Effectively Market your business to attract a steady flow of paying clients * Manage your business so that it is enjoyable and scalable! Whether you are a Pilates or Yoga Teacher, Massage Therapist, Counsellor, Nutritional Therapist, Osteopath or Acupuncturist, you too can learn the secret of running a profitable and happy lifestyle business when you read this book.

<https://www.amazon.com/Thrive-Dont-Just-Survive-Profitable/dp/1781332371>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/thrive-dont-just-survive-karen-ingram/1125945265>

<https://www.waterstones.com/book/thrive-dont-just-survive/karen-ingram/9781781332375>
<https://www.mightyape.co.nz/product/thrive-dont-just-survive/26755838>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Thrive_Don_t_Just_Survive.html?id=BVDsAQAAACAAJ
<http://rethinkpress.com/product/thrive-dont-just-survive-karen-ingram/>
<http://www.thrivedontsurvive.com/>
<https://www.tonyrobbins.com/leadership-impact/thrive-dont-just-survive/>
<http://kolettehall.wordpress.com/2008/07/31/thriving-vs-surviving/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXt8s7agX-c> THRIVE! Don't Just Survive: Theme Song For Living - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnD-DDGJpcc> THRIVE! Don't Just Survive: Theme Song For Living - YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7B_SXXtbS9s Zach Short's Story - Thrive. Don't just Survive. - YouTube
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/karen-ingram/971677/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Karen-Ingram/e/B06XL1BHNM>
[Images for Karen Ingram \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Thrive Don't Just Survive: The Secret to a Happy and Profitable Health and Fitness Business by Karen Ingram \(Author\)](#)

8) Facts tell, while stories sell

While facts are informative, stories are formative. Tell stories in as many different ways as possible about how the mission of Jesus Christ is being lived out in the congregation and in partnership with the larger church. Temple talks and sermons may be used in services of worship. One congregation set aside time in the worship on the second Sunday of the month for a "Stewardship Second" in telling what the congregation meant to that person and how stewardship is a way of life in receiving from God and then giving back and sharing with others. Stories may be told in bulletins, the newsletter, website, and many other ways. Also, letters accompanying individual financial statements can give the message - "Your contributions to this congregation make possible these ministries. These ministries make a difference in the lives of people."

Resources

Cultivate Generosity in Your Church by Sharing the Story – Margaret Marcuson

If you want people in your church to show more generosity, try telling them a story.

<https://margaretmarcuson.com/cultivate-generosity-church-sharing-story/>

[Images for Cultivate Generosity in Your Church by Sharing the Story – Margaret Marcuson](#)

Facts Tell Stories Sell - YouTube

Have you ever heard the statement that facts tell stories sell?

Have you have said that from stage or on a call?

Have you ever done a presentation where you actually said, Facts tell stories sell?

Now, obviously, you want to highlight success stories because it's true, they DO sell, but...

NEVER, EVER, EVER actually say facts tell stories sell! It's one of my biggest pet peeves because it's an almost certain way to get the lowest numbers possible!

So don't say facts tell stories sell. Just showcase the success stories and let them do the selling.

Be sure and enter your name and email address at <http://www.mattmorris.com> for my highly popular FREE 5 Day Special Video Training on "How To Go From Amateur To Professional In Network Marketing!"

If you've got a question I can help you out with be sure to send it in to: askmatt@mattmorris.com and as always Make Life An Adventure!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnFCsjgyDnk>

[Images for Facts Tell Stories Sell - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIPO2baaYUE> The Walk Around And Facts tell, Stories Sell - YouTube

<http://www.untappedusa.com/blog/the-blog/?id=8624> Facts tell, but stories sell - Untapped Resources, Inc.

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/75083518765427062/> facts tell. stories sell. | Quotes | Pinterest

[Images for facts tell. stories sell. | Quotes | Pinterest](#)

Lay Testimonials Strengthen Financial Giving! —The Parish Paper

The Bottom Line. In one congregation, these lay testimonials increased total annual giving 23 percent!

http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/1c51b0_8720061660df4efaa64f4d08ec8db872.pdf

<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper> July 2009: Lay Testimonials Strengthen Giving

[Images for Lay Testimonials Strengthen Financial Giving! —The Parish Paper](#)

Reclaiming the Testimony by Center for Stewardship Leaders by Center for Stewardship Leaders – Luther Seminary

In this week's article, Cesie Delve Scheuermann reminds us of the power of **storytelling**. In the midst of the numbers, let's not forget the narrative.

<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4330>

[Images for power of storytelling](#)

6 STEWARDSHIP Ken Sloane Background Reading: Handouts

Goals:

5. Understand the imperative of **telling the story** of how the generous giving of our people makes a difference, locally and globally.

<https://www.nyac.com/files/websites/www/Module-6-Leader.pdf>

Page 1

[Images for telling the story of how the generous giving makes a difference, locally and globally](#)

Stories of Faith in Action - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The publication *Stories of Faith in Action* and the resources that go along with it are designed to share how important your weekly offering in your congregation is in sustaining and growing God's mission. The portion of your offerings that support the ELCA's synodical and churchwide ministries is called Mission Support. The publication and resources found here help explain and answer questions about Mission Support and tell the story of those gifts in action.

<http://www.elca.org/Resources/Stories-of-Faith-in-Action>

[Images for Stories of Faith in Action - ELCA](#)

Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share | African Descent Resource

The Multicultural Ministries unit, in partnership with the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit has developed *Stories To Tell & Gifts To Share: An ELCA African Descent Stewardship Resource*.

During the four-week emphasis, this stewardship resource will help the congregation to discuss both storytelling and giving as grateful responses to the grace that comes from God. The focus includes: What if a Child Shares, Tithing Flows from the Heart, Blessed to be a Blessing, Consecration Liturgy: Gathering-A River of Life, Invitation to Give letter, Dedication Sunday. The foundational biblical texts for this resource are: "All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you" (Deuteronomy 16:17) and "All tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the Lord's; they are holy to the Lord" (Leviticus 27:30).

http://www.augsburgfortress.org/community/storiestotell/africandescent_resource.jsp

<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Ethnic-Specific-and-Multicultural-Ministries/African-Descent>

[Images for Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share | African Descent Resource](#)

Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share (CD-Music and PC) – Ken Medema

A brand new CD rom which includes 4 new original, congregational, singable, memorable songs by Ken Medema based on scriptural texts that help us understand what offering is all about.

<http://kenmedema.com/storiestotellandgiftstosharecd-musicandpc.aspx>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/KenMedemaMusic> Ken Medema - YouTube

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ken_Medema

<https://www.amazon.com/Ken-Medema/e/B001LHOW78>

[Images for Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share – Ken Medema](#)

9) Facts are important

Facts are important in this day, as people hold a high expectation of being kept informed.

[Following is a financial scorecard:]

Financial Scorecard

Receipts this past week	\$
Receipts year to date	\$
Expenses year to date	\$
Anticipated expenses (budget) for the year	\$

(I argue against dividing the anticipated expenses (budget) by weeks, months, or quarters because the annual graph of giving is typically bell shaped rather than linear.)

[Following is a more detailed financial scorecard:]

Financial Scorecard

Weekly budget received last Sunday	\$
Designated offering received	\$
We are ____% through the budget year.	
Average % of budget (based on 5-year average) ____% usually expended to date	
We have received ____% of our anticipated income for the year totaling	\$
We have expended ____% of our anticipated expenses for the year totaling	\$
We have received \$____ of income in excess of expenses this year	
Our budget for the year	\$

Resources

[PDF] [50 Ways to Encourage Faithful Giving.pdf](#) - Lewis Center for Church Leadership

44. [Keep the congregation informed of financial matters](#) in meaningful ways. Issue timely financial reports and make them available to any member who requests them. Report financial concerns in a consistent manner.

<http://www.churchleadership.com/pdfs/50%20Ways%20to%20Encourage%20Faithful%20Giving.pdf>

[Images for 50 Ways to Encourage Faithful Giving.pdf](#) - Lewis Center for Church Leadership 44. [Keep the congregation informed of financial matters](#)

<https://www.churchleadership.com/category/50-ways/>

Finance Committee - Orange Presbyterian Church

Keep the congregation informed about the financial giving of members through monthly reports to the congregation on the church budget and special offerings.

<http://www.orangepc.org/committees/finance.aspx>

[Images for Finance Committee - Orange Presbyterian Church Keep the congregation informed about the financial giving of members](#)

How to communicate financial information to your church

On a weekly basis include:

What was given for the past few weeks AND what was budgeted. It's also nice to include the sum over and under (saves people trying to figure it out).

The reason both numbers are important is that if you only give what comes in people have no idea if that meets the budget or if it falls short. Numbers without context don't mean anything and don't provide either cause for praise or concern.

If you conducted a special offering, also include the results of that.

If you have a special offering coming up, let people know and what your goals are for it.

Have a link to your website where you have year-to-date totals and other information that might be useful, which I'll explain more below.

http://www.ccmag.com/2014_05/ccmag2014_05yvon.pdf

[Images for How to communicate financial information to your church](#)

Sharing Our Gifts

Your Giving Blesses Many

Thank you for every offering you share for Regular Ministries and Mortgage Payment. Your offerings make possible so many God-pleasing missions which serve the needy, instill faith in hundreds of children, and extend the spirit and love of our congregation into this community and world. Thank you!

Your Regular Ministries offering does awesome things to improve lives and shape people for faithful living. Your Mortgage Payment offerings make possible the monthly payment of \$8,413 on the loan from our building expansion and improvement in 2005. In addition, we regularly make direct principal payments because you've been generous. Thank you again! If you're not already helping with this effort, please join us yet this year. Please continue to give regularly. To be sure your love for God and Christ's church is always first in your charitable giving, consider using electronic fund transfer for your offerings toward Regular Ministry and Mortgage Payment. Set it up online at www.trinity-ec.org Give page or phone Amber Moltzau, Office Administrator, at 715.832.6601 for assistance.

January – July	2013	2012
Offering Income for Regular Ministries	\$ 567,376	\$ 581,710
Expenses	\$ 546,618	\$ 570,171
Difference	\$ 20,758	\$ 11,539

September 2013 newsletter - Trinity Lutheran Church

http://www.trinity-ec.org/newsletters/newsletter_2013_09.pdf

Page 4

http://www.trinity-ec.org/newsletters_archive.phtml [September 2013 newsletter](#)

[Images for Sharing Our Gifts Your Giving Blesses Many](#)

Sharing Our Gifts

Making Offerings Easy

You can make your offerings for Regular Ministry and Mortgage Payment easy when you opt for electronic fund transfer. Set it up online at www.trinity-ec.org Give page or phone Amber Moltzau at 715.832.6601 for assistance.

Be sure your love for God and Christ's church is always first in your charitable giving by using this easy option for offerings.

Thank you for every gift you share.

Your Giving Blesses Many

Thank you for every offering you share for Regular Ministries and Mortgage Payment. Your offerings make possible so many God-pleasing missions which serve the needy, instill faith in hundreds of children, and extend the spirit and love of our congregation into this community and world. God continues to do many great things through our church because you give back to God a portion of what God has entrusted to you. Thank you.

In 2012 offerings to Regular Ministries are up over 7%, and this is very good news!

Please continue to give regularly.

Through July 31	2012	2011
Offering Income	\$581,710	\$540,463
Expenses	\$570,170	\$560,060
Difference	+11,540	-19,597

Making the Mortgage

Your offerings for "Mortgage Payment" are important, too! Every dollar you give goes directly toward the \$10,485 monthly payment.

Please be generous with your offerings in September, and come and see the great things being done on Trinity's campus as we "Serve in Christ's Love and Share the Good News."

Through July 31	2010	2011**	2012
Mortgage Offerings	\$96,950	101,352	113,480
Mortgage Payments*	\$156,846	105,937	139,429

*Includes Mortgage Pre-Pay Dollars.

** Loan Re-financed March 2011

September 2012 newsletter - Trinity Lutheran Church

http://www.trinity-ec.org/newsletters/newsletter_2012_09.pdf

Page 5

http://www.trinity-ec.org/newsletters_archive.phtml September 2012 newsletter

[Images for Sharing Our Gifts Making Offerings Easy](#)

Stewardship - Our Savior Lutheran Church

Stewardship is responsible for the stewardship of commitment and resources of the congregation. Year round stewardship emphasis concerning the use of our time, talent, and treasure is necessary. **Consistent communication with the congregation** through the newsletter, bulletins, letters, etc., is essential.

<http://www.oursaviormcallen.org/StewardshipFinance.html>

[Images for Stewardship - Our Savior Lutheran Church - Consistent communication with the congregation](#)

What Are You Trying To Hide About Your Church Finances?

Leaders need to lead, striving for **clear communication and transparency, especially in the area of the church's finances.**

Three core communication practices can help transform even the most challenging situations. Open communication from church leaders begins with a commitment to truth telling. Sometimes the truth is not pretty, tell it anyway. Sometimes leaders do not have much to add from the last time they communicated. Let people know the situation has not really changed.

Whatever you do, don't attempt to hide behind a lack of communication.

<http://www.horizonsstewardship.com/blog/what-are-you-trying-to-hide-about-your-church-finances/>

[Images for clear communication and transparency of the church's finances](#)

There is an argument to be made, though, that weekly reporting of giving in the bulletin actually can be counterproductive.

A Better Way to Report on Giving - Lewis Center for Church Leadership

Stewardship experts Kristine Miller and Scott McKenzie explain why publishing weekly and year-to-date giving amounts in the Sunday bulletin with a "woe is us" message can undercut people's desire to give by creating the impression that your church is not financially stable and fiscally responsible. Income for churches never comes in fifty-two equal installments, so long-term giving trends must be considered to know if giving is on track.

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/better-way-report-giving/>

[Images for A Better Way to Report on Giving - Lewis Center for Church Leadership](#)

<https://ministrytech.com/giving/how-to-communicate-financial-information-to-your-church/>

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/better-way-report-giving/>

A congregation may consider semi-annual and quarterly meetings of the congregation in addition to the annual meeting.

[DOC]Model Constitution for Congregations 2019 - ELCA Resource Repository

Chapter 10.

CONGREGATION MEETING

C10.01. The [annual][**semi-annual**][quarterly] meeting of this congregation shall be held at a time specified in the bylaws.

<https://www.elca.org/constitution> 2019 Model Constitution for Congregations

<https://download.elca.org> > ELCA Resource Repository > Model Constitution

<http://www.elca.org/Resources/Office-of-the-Secretary>

[Images for Model Constitution for Congregations 2019 - ELCA Resource Repository Chapter 10. CONGREGATION MEETING](#)

[C10.01. The \[annual\]\[semi-annual\]\[quarterly\] meeting of this congregation](#)

In some congregations, I have continued the practice of writing a cover letter that goes out with the quarterly giving statements.

[PDF] 50 Ways to Encourage Faithful Giving.pdf - Lewis Center for Church Leadership

45. **Send out pledge reports/giving statements in a timely fashion, always with a thank you** and a reminder about any update that may be needed.

<http://www.churchleadership.com/pdfs/50%20Ways%20to%20Encourage%20Faithful%20Giving.pdf>

[Images for 50 Ways to Encourage Faithful Giving - Lewis Center for Church Leadership](#)

A Congregation Council president at a congregation I served wrote the following letter.

Philippians 4:13, I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.

Fellow Members,

It is my responsibly to advise my fellow members of our current financial situation. Fortunately, the Building Fund offerings have been consistent enough to pay our monthly mortgage payment. Our general fund offerings have been covering 50% of our regular monthly budgeted expenses. This is compounded typically in the summer with lower attendance and giving. We do have a small

amount of savings that has been designated for future repairs, but that will be drawn down in the next 2 months, exhausting our reserves. After that time, the general fund will only be able to pay salaries, insurance and basic utilities. The council has made drastic cuts to our annual budget leaving just the operational needs over the past few years. This is still not enough to keep pace with the reduction in overall attendance and monetary giving to the church for operations.

Our congregation is not alone in its financial struggles. Many churches have lost pastors or closed because of low attendance. We do not see this as an option. I have faith that we can find a way to solve this situation and make our congregation grow.

What can each of us do to grow our congregation now and into the future?

Pray

- Pray for our congregation and all of our members, that they may grow in faith, hope and love.
- Pray for the unchurched in our families and in the community that they might come to know Christ's gift of Grace.
- Pray for all events, programs and missions that our congregation supports.

Give Thanks

- Thank God daily for all of our blessings and the abundance we can share.

Commit

- Commit ourselves to attend church regularly and let the Holy Spirit guide our daily living.
- Commit to sharing the gifts God has presented us by giving regularly with a glad and generous heart.
- Commit to invite others to be active members in the mission of our congregation.

Change and Renew

- Think of ways that you can increase your church participation and giving.
- Consider using the Simply Giving direct offering system. This program will make sure that your offering gets to the church even when you are unable to attend.
- Check out the Caring for Our Congregation board for opportunities to choose items that you might support.
- Consider adding an extra Sunday's giving to a month as a way to challenge yourself to increase your monthly gift. Try passing up the extra coffee and roll or dessert and giving that amount in addition to your regular offering. Every offering is important.
- All of us can be resourceful when we want a special item for ourselves. Let's see if we can be just as resourceful when it comes to giving back to God what is God's to start with.

Grow

- Grow with Our Congregation as we look forward to welcoming a new pastor. Study the Word and let the Scriptures grow your faith.
- Grow personally as a member of the Christian community by living the motto, "God's Work – Our Hands".

Live and Rejoice

- Live in the presence of God's grace, knowing that you are a Called and Redeemed child of God.
- Be an inspiration to others in faith by leading through example as Jesus has taught us.
- Share your faith as a way of showing Christ's love.

Rejoice in knowing that our congregation makes a difference in your life but also the lives of everyone that we help, teach, and love.

This is a joyous time as we welcome Pastor (name) to (name). It is a time of change, growth, new beginnings, and uncertainty. We look forward to building new relationships with him and his family.

This congregation has always been a congregation of sincere and caring individuals that make a difference in our community and the world. This has not changed. We will continue to be a blessing to everyone around us. Meanwhile, we must not forget to take care of the essentials of our operational budget. We need growing support of our congregation in time, talent and treasure to continue to serve God.

The Congregation Council invites your input to solve our current situation.

Thank you for supporting our congregation. Please know that we appreciate everything that you do in the name of Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,

(name)

Congregation Council President

Resources

A Better Way to Address an End-of-Year Shortfall | Church Law & Tax

When communicating an end-of-year shortfall, experts advise church leaders to emphasize what God can do with generous givers, rather than what members are not doing with their personal funds.

<http://www.churchlawandtax.com/web/2009/november/addressingshortfall.html>

[Images for A Better Way to Address an End-of-Year Shortfall | Church Law & Tax](http://www.churchlawandtax.com/blog/2012/november/four-ways-to-boost-year-end-giving.html)

<https://www.churchlawandtax.com/blog/2012/november/four-ways-to-boost-year-end-giving.html>

[Images for ways-to-boost-year-end-giving](#)

Guiding Your Church through Financial Crisis

He says the two questions churches must answer:

1. What are they going to do to help people maintain a confident, biblically-based outlook?
2. How are they going to inspire generosity?

<http://www.buildingchurchleaders.com/articles/2009/guidingyourchurchthroughcrisis.html>
[Images for Guiding Your Church through Financial Crisis](#)

How do you communicate a budget shortfall to your church?

We live in challenging times and though our churches are about good news in Jesus, sometimes we have to communicate bad news and currently many churches have to communicate that the budget is not being met.

I recently got the email below from a church communicator asking how to do that. Below her question I'll give some answers and I'd like to invite you to add your comments in the comment section.

<http://www.effectivechurchcom.com/2011/03/how-do-you-communicate-a-budget-shortfall-to-your-church/>
[Images for communicate a budget shortfall to your church](#)

Successfully Communicating Financial Information to Your Congregation

No matter when or how you're talking about financial information with your church, your messages should always have these three elements in them:

<http://magbookkeeping.com/successfully-communicating-financial-information-congregation/>
[Images for Communicating Financial Information to Your Congregation](#)

10) Numerous opportunities to give

One congregation I served offered a Mission of the Month. The following announcement was written by the Stewardship Committee.

Mission of the Month

As we begin to think of summer vacations and family activities, keep in mind the many missions that our congregation supports. The number of God's people that rely on the support of this congregation continues to increase and, for many of these people, vacations are not part of their lives. Their thoughts are on providing the basic needs to themselves and their families. To remind each of us of these missions we have designated a specific mission for each of the upcoming months. A description of the Mission of the Month and its impacts will be available each month. The Mission of the Month is a way to personally support each of the missions of this congregation.

This beautiful offering box was hand crafted and donated by one of our talented members from cherry wood harvested from their homestead. This work of art is a symbol of putting your individual God given talents in support of the missions of this congregation. The purpose of this box is to provide a way you can contribute and show your support of missions. Your support can be done with monetary gifts or an indication of time spent in joyful giving of volunteer hours. If you are not drawn to support the designated Mission of the Month, please support any of the missions as listed here.

Please use the envelopes provided for your offering towards one of the missions of this congregation. This "Mission of the Month" box is a way for you to personally give in support of missions.

As you enjoy the wonders of life, please remember we are drawn to stewardship as a way to honor God's gifts that we have been given and share them with others.

January	ELCA World Hunger
February	TBD, suggestions welcome
March	Food Pantry
April	Lutheran World Relief
May	Community Garden
June	Good Samaritan Fund
July	Vacation Bible School
August	Weekend backpack lunch program – quality food choices
September	Volunteer Caregivers – supplies
October	Lutheran World Relief Kits
November	Community Thanksgiving Dinner
December	Angel Tree Program

Resources

52 Ways to Ignite Your Congregation...Generous Giving [William C. Green]

Biblically centered, liberally evangelical, and practically oriented, the second volume in the 52 Ways to Ignite series gives pastors, lay leaders, and stewardship/mission committees 52 thoughtful, biblically based, action-oriented ideas that will encourage members to become disciples who give and give generously. Each idea, which begins with a Bible passage, will invite reflection and discussion, igniting greater responsiveness to God's generosity.

<http://www.amazon.com/Ways-Ignite-Your-Congregation-Generous-Giving/dp/0829818529>
<http://www.centerforfaithandgiving.org/Reviews/52WaystoIgniteYourCongregationGreen/tabid/937/Default.aspx>
[Images for William C. Green, author generous giving](#)
[Images for 52 Ways to Ignite Your Congregation...Generous Giving \[William C. Green\]](#)

44 Ways to Expand the Financial Base of Your Congregation [Lyle E. Schaller, Edward L. Tucker]

Here is a treasury of 44 proven-effective stewardship ideas by the man *Leadership* magazine calls "America's foremost authority on the dynamics of church life."

"When all is said and done," says Lyle E. Schaller, "here are only two good reasons why anyone should be asked to contribute money to the church. The first is to help promote the giver's spiritual growth... The second reason is even simpler. Christian discipleship is Christian stewardship. How could it be anything else? How else do God's people grow in grace?" In the tradition of Schaller's many other top-selling books, *44 Ways to Expand the Financial Base of Your Congregation* contains strategies tested and proven in scores of local congregations across the U.S. and Canada. The 44 strategies are humorously illustrated by Edward Lee Tucker's "Friar Tuck" cartoon characters.

<http://www.amazon.com/Ways-Expand-Financial-Base-Congregation/dp/068713286X>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/4460138-44-ways-to-expand-the-financial-base-of-your-congregation>

<http://www.cokesbury.com/forms/ProductDetail.aspx?pid=439410>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/schaller-44-ways-to-expand-the-financial-base-of-your-church.html>

http://www.abingdonpress.com/lyle_e_schaller

<https://www.amazon.com/Lyle-E.-Schaller/e/B0011R1J9K>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/179868.Lyle_E_Schaller

[Images for lyle e schaller author](#)

[Images for 44 Ways to Expand the Financial Base of Your Congregation \[Lyle E. Schaller, Edward L. Tucker\]](#)

How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper

Guidelines for **Special Offerings**

Page 31

People Enjoy Giving to their Church in at least **Ten Ways**

Page 32

[PDF] **Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 5--How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper**

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 5: How to Increase Financial Stewardship

[Images for How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper](#)

[Images for Guidelines for Special Offerings](#)

[Images for People Enjoy Giving to the Church](#)

<https://ottawa.anglican.ca/stewardship/>

11) Friends of the congregation

I attended Den Norske Lutherske Mindekirke – The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church in Minneapolis, MN on 1/27/2019 while using an allotted vacation Sunday. I arrived at 10:30am for what I thought to be the 11am service only to come at the end of a 10am service on annual meeting Sunday. I usually stayed for lunch so stayed also for the annual meeting as a friend of the congregation with neither voice nor vote. I was given the following letter.

January 27, 2019

Dear Friends in Christ,

Each year our congregation approves a budget that will direct spending for the entire year. The budget is paid for primarily by offerings, donations, inheritances, and fundraisers.

Relative to most congregations, Mindekirken relies heavily on **friends of our congregation** in addition to our members. Over half of our annual expenses is covered by the gifts of our friends rather than our members. In fact, each year we require more from our friends than before, as our personal offerings have not been keeping up with the spending needs for running the congregation.

While the gifts of friends are critical and much appreciated – as members, we must also recognize that this leaves our congregation vulnerable to the giving priorities of people who are not as connected day-to-day to our congregation as our members are.

The budget we are presenting to the congregation today likewise requires much support from our friends, but we can change this dynamic a little and help make our congregation more reliant on the steady, predictable and recurring offerings of our members.

Each year we ask our congregational members to consider what they will give and put it in writing to the congregation as a pledge. The accompanying pledge sheet can help you think through how much you are able to pledge. By filling this out and returning it, you can share your pledge with the congregation. Mindekirken, in turn, can help you track how you are doing to meet your pledge.

As Christians, we are called to make wise use of our gifts and resources. I want to thank everyone for not only what you have provided financially, but also for your time and talents as volunteers. Mindekirken could not survive without the thousands of volunteers that are given by people like you each year. We rely on both time and money.

Tusen takk!

Erik Pratt

Treasurer, Mindekirken

Mindekirken

Whether you are returning to Mindekirken or visiting for the first time, you are heartily welcome! The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church, or Mindekirken, is an ELCA church with services in both Norwegian and English. Services are held every Sunday at 9:00am (English) and 11:00am (Norwegian, translations provided). Mindekirken is located 1 block south of E. Franklin and 10th Ave. S. In addition to weekly church serves, Mindekirken serves its members and the Norwegian-America

community with a variety of faith-base and cultural programs. We invite you to explore our website for all that is happening at Mindekiren!

<https://www.mindekirken.net/>

[Images for Mindekirken - The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church](#)

<http://www.mindekirken.net/index.php/about-us/support-us>

<https://www.elexiogiving.com/g3/>

12) Memorials

The Congregation Council at one congregation debated what to do with one memorial that came in. The donor wanted it used for one purpose, while the council did not think that project was needed. They asked me for resources on putting together a policy. At the time, I referred them to the [Synod Resource Center](#). I have found it helpful for congregation leadership to develop a list of suggested uses for memorials so that, when people ask if there is something that can be designated, options can be provided.

Resources

[PDF] Christ Church Policy Regarding Memorial Gifts

From time to time parishioners and others with close connection to Christ Church make gifts to the Church either in their own names or in memory or honor of a loved one. Such gifts fulfill mutual needs: the donor finds a meaningful way of expressing his or her gratitude, love and remembrance and the gift benefits the Church and furthers its mission.

<http://rdgchristchurch.org/Christ%20Church%20Memorial%20Gift%20Policy1.pdf>

[Images for Church Policy Regarding Memorial Gifts](#)

Memorial Gift Fund Policy - Synod Resource Center

Contributed by: Hope Lutheran Church, Everly, Iowa

http://synodresourcecenter.org/admin/constitution/policies/0002/memorial_gift_fund_policy.html

[Images for Memorial Gift Fund Policy](#)

http://www.actonc.org/media/1/10/ACC%20%20Gift%20Fund%20Policy_amendedNov-12-2013.pdf

<http://oslc norge.org/resources/policies/memorial-fund-policy>

http://www.faithinradcliff.org/home/140002120/140002426/docs/Memorial%20Policy.pdf?sec_id=140002426

<http://linworthumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Gifts-and-Memorial-Police.pdf>

<http://www.hope-lutheran-church.com/uploads/MemorialGiftPolicy.pdf>

[Images for Memorial/Gift Policy](#)

[DOC] Wesley United Methodist Church Gift Acceptance Policy

The teachings of Jesus and all of the Holy Scriptures promote stewardship as a fundamental to our Christian faith. Our Judeo-Christian heritage leads to an understanding of stewardship as the responsible gratitude and relationship of trust for all of God's many blessings. A faithful response to this mandate includes a commitment to the highest ideals of stewardship by all parties to charitable giving, including the donor as well as the recipient ministry. In order to ensure that such ideals are pursued for all gifts to be received whether as donee or trustee, WUMC commits itself to responsible administration of all prospective gifts. WUMC understands this commitment to include careful examination of the actual condition, use, and benefits of the gift taking into consideration all legal, ethical, and practical aspects. WUMC understands these considerations to be necessary steps toward the fulfillment of its own stewardship commitments, as well as those of the prospective donor. It is from this foundational understanding of stewardship, that WUMC adopts the following policy.

www.wesleyfamily.org/clientimages/38960/giftpolicy.doc

[Images for Church Gift Acceptance Policy](#)

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/sample-gift-acceptance-policy>

www.wesleyfamily.org/clientimages/38960/giftpolicy.doc

<https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/tools-resources/gift-acceptance-policies>

<http://uccfiles.com/pdf/UCC-Gift-Acceptance-Policy.pdf>

<http://plainfieldumc.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Gift-Acceptance-Policy.pdf>

<https://nccumc.org/treasurer/files/Sample-Gift-Acceptance-Policy.pdf>

<http://stlukes-sisterbay.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Gift-Acceptance-Policy-StLs-3.pdf>

<https://resources.ecww.org/congregational-gift-acceptance-policy-sample>

<https://ucfunds.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Policy-Samples.pdf> [PDF]Why You Need [Gift Acceptance Policies](#)

13) Planned giving

One of the largest transfers of wealth is currently taking place.

Biggest Transfer Of Wealth In History - Business Insider

We are currently witnessing the 'Great Transfer' of wealth from the Greatest Generation to the baby boomers, according to Bank of America's Sarbjit Nahal and Beijia Ma. The Greatest Generation refers to the generation in the U.S. that experienced the Great Depression and then fought in World War II and was coined by Tom Brokaw.

But Nahal and Ma point out that "a second and even larger wealth transfer from the Boomers to their heirs is starting now and will continue over the next 30 to 40 years."

<http://www.businessinsider.com/biggest-transfer-of-wealth-in-history-2014-6>

[Images for Biggest Transfer Of Wealth In History](#)

Congregations can provide an opportunity for people to remember the church in its various expressions as well as partner agencies in their planned giving.

Endowments and Foundations 101

March 26, 2015, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Larry Westfield, Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin will be at Luther Park Bible Camp, Chetek, WI to lead this workshop for pastors and congregational leaders. He will explain the importance of endowment funds and foundations and ways to set them up. He will also talk about other gift options, gift annuities, and wills. Check out his website at <http://www.lpgwgift.org/>

Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin
A Partnership of ELCA Ministries Serving Wisconsin
Rev. Larry G. Westfield
2909 Landmark Place, Suite 202
Madison, WI 53713

Telephone: 262-224-9574
Toll Free: 877-224-9574
Email: larry.westfield@elca.org



<http://www.nswswi.org/>

info@nswswi.org

<http://nswswi.org/generosity/charitable-giving>

[Images for Endowments and Foundations](#)

Resources

Congregational Endowment Funds: Empowering the Vision of God's Coming Kingdom [Gerald W. Bauer]

This paper provides useful questions for congregational leaders to consider when dealing with endowment funds.

<http://www.amazon.com/Congregational-Endowment-Funds-Empowering-Kingdom/dp/1566991617>

http://www.episcopalfoundation.org/uploads/pages/files/FS_3.11_Finances_Resources_-_032912_.pdf

<http://home.earthlink.net/~koinoniaelibrary/Stewardship.htm>

<https://www.amazon.com/Gerald-W.-Bauer/e/B001KCA98K>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4795018.Gerald_W_Bauer

http://www.thegeneroussteward.com/Resources_and_Links.html

http://www.episcopalfoundation.org/uploads/pages/files/Bibliography_-_041513.pdf

[Images for Congregational Endowment Funds: Empowering the Vision of God's Coming Kingdom \[Gerald W. Bauer\]](#)

Creative Giving: Understanding Planned Giving and Endowments in Church [Michael P. Reeves, Rob Fairly, Sanford Coon]

Intimidated by numbers? Most church leaders are. If you're not the sort who would find it fun to plot your budget in Roman numerals, this book is for you! Creative Giving is the perfect resource to teach ""words-rather-than-numbers"" staff about distinctive strategies for church financial planning, such as bequests and other planned giving. This book lays out a systematic means for non-experts to think about stewardship and long-term fiscal planning within the ministry and mission of the church. The authors will help church leaders understand the transfer of wealth through estates, wills, and other development arrangements. While comprehensive and complex in its topic, Creative Giving is written in a spare style. After reading this book, you'll have the tools needed to develop a successful and creative giving program within your congregation.

<http://www.amazon.com/Creative-Giving-Understanding-Planned-Endowments/dp/0881774707>

<https://www.betterworldbooks.com/product/detail/creative-giving-0881774707>

http://www.gettextbooks.com/author/Michael_Dr_Reeves

<http://www.nicumf.org/about/stewardship/bibliography/>

<http://www.printsasias.com/book/creative-giving-understanding-planned-giving-and-endowments-in-church-0881774707-9780881774702>

<https://eoumf.org/books-on-stewardship/>

www.archspm.org/.../Stewardship_Workshop_Planned_Gvg_Bill_Marsella_8.13.ppt [PPT]Planned Giving Presentation

<https://www.amazon.com/Dr.-Michael-Reeves/e/B001KJ07R6>

[Images for Michael P. Reeves, author planned giving](#)

<http://www.horizons.net/team/sanfordcoon/>

[Images for Sanford Coon, author creative giving](#)

[Images for Creative Giving: Understanding Planned Giving and Endowments in Church \[Michael P. Reeves, Rob Fairly, Sanford Coon\]](#)

ELCA Foundation - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

You have the desire and passion to change the world but where do you start? The ELCA Foundation has a variety of resources to assist individuals and congregations with their gift planning education and endowment needs. Together with your regional gift planner, we can help you with a charitable giving plan that will have lasting impact. Review these resources and call us at 800-638-3522. Together, we achieve things on a scale and scope that we could never do otherwise.

The ELCA Foundation has gift planning tools for every situation. All of our services and tools are available to individuals and congregations without obligation.

<http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/ELCA-Foundation>

[Images for ELCA Foundation - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#)

ELCA Mission Investment Fund: Home

The Mission Investment Fund is a financial ministry of the ELCA, offering church building loans funded by investments –of congregations and their members.

www.mif.elca.org/

[Images for ELCA Mission Investment Fund](#)

Gift Planning Services - Staff

As Christian Gift Planners, we offer a unique blend of services to guide you through the sometimes difficult process of transferring your assets while sharing your faith and values with your heirs. Gift Planning Services, LLC, is faith-based – meaning we work from a foundation of Christian faith.

<http://www.giftplanningservices.com/staff/main-staff/>

[Images for Gift Planning Services](#)

How to Create a Mission Endowment Fund: A Guide for Congregations

How to Create a Mission Endowment Fund — a guide for congregations

This resource provides a systematic approach to establishing a mission endowment fund for your congregation. This flexible guide can be used by congregations considering an endowment and by endowment committees looking for guidelines. Please note: this resource comes bundled in packs of five.

http://resources.elca.org/Stewardship-How_to_Create_a_Mission_Endowment_Fund.html

[Images for Create a Mission Endowment Fund: A Guide for Congregations](#)

[\[PDF\]mission endowment fund - ELCA Resource Repository](#)

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/How_to_Create_a_Mission_Endowment_Fund.pdf

How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper

How to Increase Stewardship of Accumulated Resources

Page 35

[\[PDF\] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 5--How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper](#)

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 5: How to Increase Financial Stewardship

[Images for How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper How to Increase Stewardship of Accumulated Resources](#)

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

Leave a Legacy - Insurance Gifts - YouTube

Donating a life insurance policy gift is a wonderful way to make a future impact for your local hospital. Watch the following video to learn more about how you can make a life insurance gift to your local hospital.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qbv8Can098c>

[Images for Leave a Legacy - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnvUBZ6j1LQ> Legacy Optimizer: Get the Most Out of Your Legacy with Life Insurance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5l3tQq2sVcM> Legacy Memorial Insurance Final Expense Insurance - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoGEX0-a1c4> Budovitch Legacy Planning - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6S2G35x3vck> Legacy Insurance Marketing: Ang Regalo - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDontFcZq-I> ISPCA My Legacy - leave a gift in your will - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQdlfpsfT94> Gifts from the Past... Legacy for the Future - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJ_NtSvPLsU Making the Most of Legacy Gifts - Steve Savant's Money, the Name of the Game

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HGW488HimFw> Guard Your Legacy | Providence Insurance Columbia MO - YouTube

Lutheran Planned Giving

Our hope is to serve your loved ones and your professional advisors with helpful information. Since 1971 Lutheran Planned Giving Services has helped over 1,000 families develop plans that benefit both loved ones and ministry.

www.lpgsgift.org/

[Images for Lutheran Planned Giving Services](#)

Money, Ministry and Mistakes by Center for Stewardship Leaders

7. Not developing a **planned-giving** program. According to all the experts, America is about to undergo the largest transfer of wealth in its history, as the Baby-Boomer begin to die and leave their estates behind. Churches simply must start encouraging and make ways for the Boomers (and others) to remember their church in their estate plan.

<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4503>

[Images for planned giving program](#)

Permanent Endowment Fund: Blessing and Temptation | The Parish Paper

The bottom line: A beautiful stained-glass window in a Memphis, Tennessee, church depicts Jesus with a staff in one hand and a lamb in the other. Underneath the window are these words: "Your Works Still Live." The donor's name is in tiny letters below that sentence. The words on that window illustrate the primary point of an endowment fund. Such gifts allow God's stewards to extend the benefit of their convictions and values beyond their lifetime. The ministries that their money supports assure that Jesus's works still live. Where could you find a better investment opportunity?

http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/1c51b0_4e0b24e805634efab521d32a6dbdcdbbe.pdf

<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper> May 2009: Permanent Endowment Fund: Blessing and Temptation

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper
<https://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>
[Images for Permanent Endowment Fund: Blessing and Temptation | The Parish Paper](#)

Planned Giving Home | Luther Seminary

Luther Seminary educates leaders for Christian communities called and sent by the Holy Spirit to witness to salvation through Jesus Christ and to serve in God's world.

The Gift Legacy Program at Luther Seminary exists to help alumni, faculty, staff, volunteers and friends achieve their estate planning goals, create their legacy that reflects their personal lifelong values, minimize taxes, and maintain their financial well-being throughout their lives.

<http://legacy.luthersem.edu/>
[Images for Planned Giving | Luther Seminary](#)
https://www.luthersem.edu/gifts/ways_to_give.aspx

Six Key Words: Thank You, Thank You, Thank You By Alan Mead

3. What advice or cautions do you have for a congregation and its leadership embarking on establishing a **planned giving** program?

The response to this question was that as interim ministers we truly are the glue that connects between settled pastors and enable ministry to continue, and we can plant seeds and be an instigator in the best possible sense of that word. We were asked to use the tremendous power we have to instigate and raise awareness. Use your power to start some of these things.

When it comes to planned giving it is the ultimate long-term ministry of the congregation.

<https://files.constantcontact.com/fbaed027be/1e2094a5-7c20-4dd8-9032-68690b8d6973.pdf>
<https://imnedu.org/> IMN | Interim Ministry Network
[Images for establishing a planned giving program in congregation](#)
<https://imnedu.org/series/2019imnconference/>
<https://sites.google.com/imnedu.org/2019imnannualconference/home>

The Millionaire in the Pew: A Manual on Deferred Gift-Raising for Clergy and Religious Leaders by Russell Wilson

Beginning with the premise that fundraising is a very spiritual practice, *The Millionaire in the Pew* offers a new and unique approach to funding ministry and mission. In our pews sits untapped wealth that could be harvested.

Wilson believes clergy and religious leaders possess many of the qualities of highly successful professional fundraisers; if they can overcome their objection to dealing with money and fundraising, potentially they could raise millions of dollars for the Church. Filled with stories and practical insights, *The Millionaire in the Pew* might change your church finances eternally. Wouldn't that be great?

There you have it. If you just read these books, not only would you possess a greater knowledge about church finances and handling money, but you would know all you need to know about raising resources for more ministry. None of these books have any technical jargon that loses the reader or escapes understanding. Written for practical use, these seven books, if read and implemented, will change your life and the financial life of your congregation.

<http://www.amazon.com/Millionaire-Pew-deferred-fundraising-religious/dp/1449733883>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/24068296-the-millionaire-in-the-pew>
<https://stewardshipuniversity.wordpress.com/2015/09/>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1449733883>
<http://www.realepiscopal.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/2014PlannedGivingMoneyMgmtbibliography.pdf>
<https://stewardshipuniversity.wordpress.com/2015/09/01/seven-books-about-church-and-money-that-every-clergy-person-should-read/>
http://images.acswebnetworks.com/1/2279/STEW_U_ResourceList2017.pdf
[Images for Manual on Deferred Gift-Raising for Clergy and Religious Leaders by Russell Wilson](#)

What is Planned Giving? - YouTube

Planned giving is a people business. Through various avenues and using various assets, your constituents from any income level can help your organization in ways they never thought possible, all while benefiting themselves and their loved ones.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hlou74QdReY>
[Images for Planned Giving - YouTube](#)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73y9JOZY1G4> Is Planned Giving for YOUR Church? - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kofTGOJ-PU> The Role of Planned Giving in Your Church - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zz9GbGCyaO4> Planned Giving in the Local Church - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlsB8vmDwg0> Growing Generosity Planned Giving Video - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wM3n3P45jng> Transforming lives through planned giving - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlsB8vmDwg0> Growing Generosity Planned Giving Video - YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3e5DDi10_M4 Planned Giving: 4 Steps to Secure Planned Gifts | Major Gifts Challenge
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6XkCHJO1iKc> Planned Giving Overview: The Secret to Understanding It All - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R8MVJtQgmis> The Power of Planned Giving - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFQAKKddiqQ> Planned Giving - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGSyKuxijTg> Keys To Establishing a Planned Giving Program - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlsB8vmDwg0> Growing Generosity Planned Giving Video - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PE-hUuKwOK4> Inside the Mind of the Planned Giving Donor with Russell James - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vubt4uAb98Q> Planned Giving - Maxine Carter - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hR56ZcuYEd0> Big Hat-No Cattle: How to Effectively Structure a Planned Giving Team

My will states that the bulk of my estate shall go to Lutheran World Relief, as I consider this agency to be able to do the most with the available financial resources for the greatest good for those most in need.

Lutheran World Relief

Extends the hand of Christian love to people overcoming poverty and injustice in 50 countries.

<https://lwr.org/>
[Images for Lutheran World Relief](#)

14) Raise funds

More and more presidents of academic institutions, for instance, are expected to raise funds for programs and facilities.

Can Fundraising be a Calling? - Faith+Lead - Luther Seminary

We were left asking how faith can inform and motivate the practices of fundraisers. While the practices of fundraising may not necessarily make faith-based fundraisers unique, our study demonstrates that there may be distinct motivations. We are looking forward to expanding this study among other faith-based fundraising associations in the future, and we welcome your thoughts. Whether a pastor, denominational staffer, or development officer, how do you see your role as a faith-based fundraiser? How does your organization cultivate or nurture fundraising as a practice? Let us know. We look forward to exploring these questions with you in the days ahead.

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/can-fundraising-be-a-calling/>
[Images for Can Fundraising be a Calling? - Faith+Lead - Luther Seminary](#)

In one congregation (average worship attendance 300+) I served, the expectation was for the pastor to court and nurture the top 50 donors.

Resources

Articles - The Fundraising Coach

Here are some free fundraising articles that will inspire you to raise money for your nonprofit!

<http://fundraisingcoach.com/free-articles/>
[Images for Fundraising Coach](#)

Ask and You Shall Receive, Includes Leader and Participant's Manual: A Fundraising Training Program for Religious Organizations and Projects Set [Kim Klein]

Fundraising expert Kim Klein has trained thousands of groups and individuals to cultivate assets that make good works possible. The *Ask and You Shall Receive* training package is a do-it-yourself, start-to-finish program on jumpstarting fundraising efforts. A peer-led program designed for use with its companion Participant Manual, the *Ask and You Shall Receive Leader Manual* walks you through the most common fundraising scenarios with dependable information, methods, prompts, and preparation guidelines. Realistic time allowances keep the training within reach of busy volunteers.

<http://www.amazon.com/Shall-Receive-Leader-Participants-Manual/dp/0787955639>
<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0787955639.html>
www.philanthropicservice.com/wp-content/.../AnotBibRevision-saved-4-14-16.pdf
http://www.ncdsv.org/images/Fundraising%20and%20Capacity%20Bldg%20Man_NCCADV.pdf
<https://blog.fundly.com/fundraising-ideas-for-church-and-religious-organizations/>
<http://www.faithandorganizations.umd.edu/pdfs/strategies-fundraising.pdf>
<http://www.kleinandroth.com/kim-klein/>
<http://www.grassrootsfundraising.org/tag/kim-klein/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Kim-Klein/e/B001JSC6OA>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/69490.Kim_Klein
[Images for Kim Klein, author fundraising](#)
[Images for Ask and You Shall Receive, Includes Leader and Participant's Manual: A Fundraising Training Program for Religious Organizations and Projects Set \[Kim Klein\]](#)

Church Fundraising - YouTube

Church Fundraising and other Leadership Videos Here: <http://thinkintl.tv/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bySaPiE9PPc>
[Images for Church Fundraising - YouTube](#)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYyANPXAHHA> Church Fundraising Ideas - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQhrNHUUVys> Church Fundraising - How to Raise 6 Figures in 90 Days - YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqwPG_nVRac Scrip Fundraising for Your Church | ShopWithScrip - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rv9KJRnfnFs> Karatbars Church & Non-Profit Fundraising - YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bndIDQdU_yc Top 5 Fundraising Ideas - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NN4gMkbJaCI> Fundraising Strategies for Churches (William Chaney) - YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtAJqOg_2A Top 3 Fundraising Ideas! - Fundraisers by ABC Fundraising® - YouTube

Effective Church Finances: Fund-Raising and Budgeting for Church Leaders [Kennon L. Callahan]

This step-by-step guide to healthy habits of church finances will help church leaders focus their best creativity, leadership, and energy on advancing their mission. Written for committee members, key leaders, pastors, and staffs, this is a detailed account of budgeting and fund-raising, complete with charts and questionnaires.

The companion volume to "Giving and Stewardship" --a complete guide to budgeting and fundraising that explores: developing the church budget, fundraising for the budget, setting goals, and growing the giving from year to year.

<http://www.amazon.com/Effective-Church-Finances-Fund-Raising-Budgeting/dp/0787938696>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1989803.Effective_Church_Finances

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/callahan-effective-church-finances.html>

http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_UMCGiving/resource-files/CFT_50_Ways_Faithful_Giving.pdf

<https://www.amazon.com/Kennon-L.-Callahan/e/B001HCZUYG>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/156195.Kennon_L_Callahan

[Images for Kennon L. Callahan, author](#)

[Images for Effective Church Finances: Fund-Raising and Budgeting for Church Leaders \[Kennon L. Callahan\]](#)

[PDF] Essentials of Fundraising for Churches

Fundraising shouldn't be this painful, but it often is because few in the church understand it, and few churches have a professional fundraiser in their congregation. So, what's the senior pastor—entrusted with the church's budget—to do? A good starting point is to lift the mystique of fundraising.

https://www.eccu.org/assets/white_paper_pages/4/pdfs.pdf

[Images for Essentials of Fundraising for Churches](#)

Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising - Luther Seminary

The Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising (ECRF), a four-day intensive program with a practical application project, provides the research, tools and customized training to meet the growing needs of leaders in religious communities and fundraisers of faith-based organizations. The focus of the ECRF is on the cultural, organizational and philanthropic practices unique to religious institutions that in turn enable donors motivated by spiritual and religious values to experience the joy of generous giving.

This program is designed for religious leaders in faith-based organizations and institutions who wish to learn more about the spirituality of fundraising and gain a core foundation in fundraising principles. The program is open and specifically tailored to all faith traditions.

<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/events/fundraising.aspx?m=6709>

[Images for Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising - Luther Seminary](#)

<https://philanthropy.iupui.edu/institutes/lake-institute/courses/religious-fundraising.html>

<https://leadership.divinity.duke.edu/what-we-offer/programs/executive-certificate-in-religious-fundraising/>

<https://coned.ptsem.edu/events/executive-certificate-in-religious-fundraising/>

<http://www.mccormick.edu/news/mccormick-hosts-executive-certificate-religious-fundraising>

<http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/continuing-formation/certificate-in-religious-fundraising/>

<http://www.religioninsights.org/news/executive-certificate-religious-fundraising>

Finding Your Fundraising Voice - Alban Institute

The congregation that succeeds in today's fundraising marketplace makes the case that the specific good it does deserve support from all who hear its strong fundraising voice—which then it uses well and often.

Alban at Duke Divinity School » Finding Your Fundraising Voice

<https://alban.org/archive/finding-your-fundraising-voice/>

[Images for Finding Your Fundraising Voice – Alban Institute](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/fundraising-beliefs/>

[Images for fundraising beliefs](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/the-top-10-articles-of-2012/>

<https://alban.org/archive/scarcity-and-gods-abundance/>

<https://alban.org/>

Fundraising and the Next Generation, + Website: Tools for Engaging the Next Generation of Philanthropists [Emily Davis]

Step-by-step guidance to key fundraising methods to attract, engage, and retain donors of all ages

Fundraising and the Next Generation brings readers up to date on cases, research, opportunities, and challenges regarding philanthropy's next generation. Readers will learn practical strategies for cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of Gen X and Y philanthropists using new technologies and traditional tools. *Fundraising and the Next Generation* covers the behaviors, key characteristics, and approaches for working with philanthropists under the age of forty. In addition, other age cohorts will be discussed to provide perspective, comparison, and related strategies.

Includes step-by-step tools for setting up next gen technology in your organization and engaging Gen X and Y as donors
Features a glossary of social media terms, a list of academic resources for development and professional advancement, and an assessment toolkit

Defines the key characteristics of the four current generations, their habits for charitable giving, and how every development office can successfully engage them in philanthropy

Provides a website with additional information beyond the book

Savvy fundraising leaders understand that successful and sustained philanthropy is not just an issue for today. Long-term planning and diversified strategies allow fundraisers to access every prospective contribution possible. Timely and relevant, *Fundraising and the Next Generation* brings readers up to date on cases, research, opportunities, and challenges regarding philanthropy's next generation.

<http://www.amazon.com/Fundraising-Next-Generation-Website-Philanthropists/dp/1118077024>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/12534050-fundraising-and-the-next-generation>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Fundraising_and_the_Next_Generation_+_We.html?id=P0jbN0sGz0wC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Fundraising_and_the_Next_Generation.html?id=vzPu1BKeQXwC
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1118077024>
<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1118077024.html>
<http://leadwncc.org/fundraising-and-the-next-generation/>
http://www.createthefuture.com/publication_of_the_week_2012.htm
<http://www.afpnet.org/resourcecenter/fundraisinglist.cfm>
<https://www.slideshare.net/edaconsulting/fundraising-and-the-next-generation-nov-2011>
<https://www.emilydavisconsulting.com/publication/fundraisingnextgeneration/>
<http://blog.boardsource.org/blog/author/emily-davis>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/emilylariedavis>
<https://www.amazon.com/Emily-Davis/e/B006TOFGGE>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/830670.Emily_Davis
[Images for Emily Davis, author fundraising](#)
[Images for Fundraising and the Next Generation, + Website: Tools for Engaging the Next Generation of Philanthropists \[Emily Davis\]](#)

[DOC] Fundraising Principles for Small Congregations | DOC – Boston Preservation.org

The following principles, dubbed “Dean’s 15,” apply to these small campaigns as well as to large campaigns.
www.bostonpreservation.org/.../fundraising/fundraising-principles-for-small-congregations
[Images for Fundraising Principles for Small Congregations](#)

Fundraising Services | ELCA Mission Investment Fund

MIF development and stewardship consultants provide resources and leadership that enable congregational leaders to implement a plan designed for their particular needs, including:

- Funding building projects
- Debt-reduction initiatives
- Enhancing annual stewardship programs

<http://www.mif.elca.org/fundraising-services>
[Images for Fundraising Services | ELCA Mission Investment Fund](#)

Fundraising via social media | The Lutheran

One growing area of raising money is called “peer-to-peer fundraising.” This approach invites individuals or groups to support a cause by contributing to a giving goal.

For example, you may run a race or participate in a walk and raise money for charity in the process. Friends might donate \$10 to your cause after you complete a 10K. One popular approach invites alternative birthday giving. In place of presents, friends are invited to contribute to a cause.

This approach to fundraising isn’t new, but the ease of giving through online platforms and the ability to spread the word on social networks amplifies their impact. Many websites support this sort of fundraising, including some connected to the [ELCA](#).

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12809
[Images for Fundraising via social media | The Lutheran](#)
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

Fundraising - Wikipedia

Fundraising or fund raising (also known as "development") is the process of gathering voluntary contributions of money or other resources, by requesting donations from individuals, businesses, charitable foundations, or governmental agencies (see also crowd funding).

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fundraising>
[Images for Fundraising](#)

Fundraising with a Vision: A Canvass Guide for Congregations [Edward B. Landreth]

Does your congregation find it difficult to talk about money? Do you succeed at raising funds for special projects (like a building campaign), but then have trouble raising funds for your ongoing operation? Fundraising with a Vision provides answers to these and other important fundraising challenges. Beginning with tips on how to get your congregation comfortable with the topic of money, this book guides you step-by-step through the basics of planning and running a well-organized annual canvass - from creating a committee, recruiting canvassers, and planning a kickoff event, to doing canvass follow-up. Packed with helpful resources like a Simple Canvass Calendar and a Suggested Share Giving Guide, *Fundraising with a Vision* is an invaluable tool for canvass committees, church boards, ministers, and anyone else who cares about securing the resources to fund their church’s vision.

<http://www.amazon.com/Fundraising-With-Vision-Canvass-Congregations/dp/1558963553>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1558963553>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Fundraising_with_a_Vision.html?id=f9HqQuh0NlkC
www.uua.org/documents/stew-dev/apf/stew_generosity.doc
<https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/documents/congservices/midcongs/growthresources.pdf>
<https://www.uua.org/finance/fundraising>
http://www.danhotchkiss.com/articles/FDR9902_how_much_should_we_ask.htm
[Images for Fundraising with a Vision: A Canvass Guide for Congregations \[Edward B. Landreth\]](#)

Growing Givers' Hearts: Treating Fundraising as a Ministry [Thomas H. Jeavons, Rebekah Burch Basinger]

Here for the first time is a truly spiritual way of looking at fundraising as an opportunity to nurture current and prospective donors and facilitate their growth in faith. *Growing Givers' Hearts* explores how development staff, executives, and board members from across the theological spectrum can make faith-building opportunities for donors their first priority; act on their confidence in God's abundance; draw from their theological tradition in their approach to fundraising; involve a vital cross-section of staff in planning; and cultivate spiritually mature leadership.

With this innovative approach, *Growing Givers' Hearts* empowers readers to work in spiritually grounded, deeply creative, and professionally satisfying ways. Fundraisers in any Christian organization will find extraordinary insights in this important guide.

<http://www.amazon.com/Growing-Givers-Hearts-Treating-Fundraising/dp/0787948292>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3643.Growing_Givers_Hearts
<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0787948292.html>
<http://www.centerforfaithandgiving.org/Reviews/GrowingGiversHeartsFundrasingasMinistry/tabid/938/Default.aspx>
<http://www.philanthropy.iupui.edu/ecrf-fundraising-as-ministry>
<https://thefullerfoundation.org/growing-givers-hearts-treating-fundraising-as-a-ministry/>
<http://leadwncc.org/growing-givers-hearts-treating-fundraising-as-ministry/>
<http://fundraisingcoach.com/articles/growinggivershearts.htm>
<http://www.kenmacleod.ca/pdf/In%20Trust%20book%20review.pdf>
http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_UMCGiving/resource-files/POG_Generosity_Kit_eBook_1.pdf
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2502.Thomas_H_Jeavons
[Images for Thomas H. Jeavons, author fundraising](#)
<http://basingerconsulting.com/>
<http://www.intrust.org/Admin/Rebekah-Burch-Basinger>
<http://generousmatters.com/>
<http://eo2.commpartners.com/users/intrust/downloads/UpdatedBiosIntrust.pdf>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rebekah-basinger-ab043024>
[Images for Rebekah Burch Basinger, author](#)
[Images for Growing Givers' Hearts: Treating Fundraising as a Ministry \[Thomas H. Jeavons, Rebekah Burch Basinger\]](#)

[DOC]Guidelines for Congregational Fundraising - ELCA Resource Repository

Commercialism, the selling of goods or services in the name of the church, with the purpose of securing funds for the operation and mission of the church, its auxiliaries, and church-related institutions, vitiates the clear relationship between the giving of the Christian and the mission of the church. It fails to bear testimony to the mission of the church and creates a false image of the church.

download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Guidelines_for_Congregational_Fundraising
[Images for Guidelines for Congregational Fundraising - ELCA Resource Repository](#)
<https://elcic.ca/Public-Policy/documents/300.91989-AnELCICStatementonCommercialism.pdf>

How to Increase Giving in Your Church: A Practical Guide to the Sensitive Task of Raising Money for Your Church or Ministry [George Barna]

One of the most difficult tasks facing any church leader is the issue of **raising funds**. It's not that we don't realize that tithing and giving are biblical issues: God's Word is full of strong statements about the stewardship of money. But how does a pastor convey God's heart for stewardship? Literally, what's the best way to raise the money your church needs to survive?

Obviously, God is the one who builds the church-He is the ultimate provider. But what's the best process of shepherding the funds He has for your church? This step-by-step guide will give you tools you need to raise funds in your church-scripturally and successfully-without compromising biblical integrity. After all, it's God's church and His money-but our responsibility to manage it.

<http://www.amazon.com/How-Increase-Giving-Your-Church/dp/B006QS7JEA>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1395772.How_to_Increase_Giving_In_Your_Church
<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/how-to-increase-giving-in-your-church/359551>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/how-to-increase-giving-in-your-church-george-barna/1111267227?type=eBook>
http://books.google.com/books/about/How_to_Increase_Giving_In_Your_Church.html?id=m_Y6zovtnm8C
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/barna-how-to-increase-giving-in-your-church.html>
<https://www.preachit.org/newsletters/article/92> Article for Ministers: How To Increase Giving In Your Church - Part 2
<https://stewardship.adventist.org/page45> Adventist Stewardship | How to Increase Giving In Your Church
<https://biblicalstewardship.net/statistical-research-on-stewardship/>
<https://www.barna.com/research/ten-lessons-church-expansion/>
https://www.iaumc.org/files/fileslibrary/Finance_Growth_by_Warren_McFate_12th_Edition.pdf Bibliography Page 110

<https://www.barna.com/research/churches-lose-financial-ground-in-2000/>
<https://www.barna.com/research/state-church-2016/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Barna
<https://www.amazon.com/George-Barna/e/B000APJB4G>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/32052.George_Barna
[Images for george barna, author](#)
[Images for How to Increase Giving in Your Church: A Practical Guide to the Sensitive Task of Raising Money for Your Church or Ministry \[George Barna\]](#)

Pastor: Fund Raiser for Mission | Stewardship of Life

Each of us clergy and lay leaders can be trained in our discipling to not only make good stewards of our people, but also to talk the language of fund raising and do so with the conviction that it is an important part of our Christian ministry.

Some possible fundraising techniques that we could implement are:

<http://www.stewardshipoflife.org/2011/01/pastor-fund-raiser-for-mission/>
[Images for Pastor: Fund Raiser for Mission | Stewardship of Life](#)

13 best church fundraising images on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/cvillenana/church-fundraising/>
[Images for church fundraising pinterest](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/fundraiserideas/church-fundraiser/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/church-fundraisers/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/fundraiseideas/church-fundraising-ideas/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/FaithFit4life/church-event-fundraising-ideas/>
[Images for church-event-fundraising-ideas](#)

Walking Together 2019: "Holy Experiments"

No Shame Fundraising by having No Shame (Incentive Based Fundraising)

Brad Peterson

Kissing farm animals. Having water balloons chucked at you by members of all ages. Doing the Hula in a grass skirt. Scooping up horse poop. All of these and more (so much more) have been done in the quest to raise funds at Trinity Lutheran Church in Boyceville. Join Pastor Brad Peterson as he talks about the crazy things they have done to raise money and encourage participation in events and learn some ways you can be creative in your fundraising (and have a little fun too!)

https://s3.amazonaws.com/media.cloversites.com/0a/0a854394-3a19-4d9f-b1ae-f93021508921/documents/website_titles_and_descriptions_final.pdf
<http://www.trinityboyceville.com/about-us/>
<http://www.trinityboyceville.com/pastors-blog/>

15) What should be a congregation's position on fundraisers?

Some pastors and congregations on principle do not favor fundraisers.

Resources

Avoiding the Perils of Fundraising: Five Tips | YouthWorker

These five tips are not the only things that need to be considered as we look at fundraising in youth ministry, but hopefully one or more of them are helpful to you.

<http://www.youthworker.com/church-fundraising/11665824/>
[Images for Avoiding the Perils of Fundraising: Five Tips | YouthWorker](#)
<http://www.youthworker.com/church-fundraising/11648477/> We Don't Do Fundraisers - Youth Worker
[Images for We Don't Do Fundraisers - Youth Worker](#)
<http://www.youthworker.com/church-fundraising/11637644/> Fundraising by Faith, Not by Sight | YouthWorker.com
[Images for Fundraising by Faith, Not by Sight](#)

Beyond Fundraising: The Complete Guide to Congregational Stewardship [Wayne B. Clark]

Clear blueprint for successful fundraising that moves beyond the myth of scarcity toward the reality of abundance.

Written by Wayne B. Clark, Ph.D., Congregational Stewardship Network Director at the Unitarian Universalist Association, *Beyond Fundraising* moves congregations from a myth of scarcity to a culture that welcomes, and even expects, a focus on the reality of abundance. Clark suggests that we diminish our emphasis on money by putting fundraising under the umbrella of spiritual stewardship. *Beyond Fundraising* introduces a new and comprehensive stewardship development program called Forward through the Ages (FORTH) that puts money in perspective by making it one of five components of stewardship development: stewardship education; joyful giving; ministry and good works; annual budget drive; and planned giving.

<http://www.amazon.com/Beyond-Fundraising-Complete-Congregational-Stewardship/dp/1558965238>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2478026.Beyond_Fundraising
<http://www.uua.org/finance/fundraising/consulting/133000.shtml>
<https://www.uua.org/directory/people/wayne-b-clark>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1558965238>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Beyond_Fundraising.html?id=5KNMdcETUYEC

<http://congregationalstewardship.blogs.uua.org/beyond-fundraising/>
www.newenglanduua.org/sites/default/files/documents/LC20081101.ppt
<http://www.abc-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/StewardshipGenerosityResourceICC.pdf>
<https://givingspeaks.com/category/stewardship/>
<http://stewardshipforum.com/stewardship-resources/recommended-reading/>
<http://www.uuabookstore.org/Stewardship-and-Growth-C1345.aspx>
<https://www.amazon.com/Wayne-B.-Clark/e/B001JS3W8Y>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/390620.Unitarian_Universalist_Association
[Images for Wayne B. Clark, author beyond fundraising](#)
[Images for Beyond Fundraising: The Complete Guide to Congregational Stewardship \[Wayne B. Clark\]](#)

Do you need help with money at church? My book Money and Your Ministry is out! – Margaret Marcuson

There is an alternative to non-stop fundraising, convincing people to give more – or simply cutting the budget. It's what you bring to church finances that you already have and not about learning the latest fundraising technique.

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/do-you-need-help-with-money-at-church-my-book-money-and-your-ministry-is-out/>
[Images for Do you need help with money at church? My book Money and Your Ministry is out! – Margaret Marcuson](#)
<http://margaretmarcuson.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Money-and-Your-Ministry.pdf>
[Images for margaret marcuson/Money-and-Your-Ministry](#)

Faith Raising - Not Fund Raising - Resource Detail - Luther Seminary

What would happen in your congregation or synod if the ministry of stewardship was treated entirely as a faith-raising challenge?

https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?stew_redirect=resource&post=4152
[Images for Faith Raising - Not Fund Raising](#)

Finding Your Fundraising Voice » Alban

The congregation that succeeds in today's fundraising marketplace makes the case that the specific good it does deserves support from all who hear its strong fundraising voice—which then it uses well and often.

Alban at Duke Divinity School » Finding Your Fundraising Voice

<https://alban.org/archive/finding-your-fundraising-voice/>
[Images for Finding Your Fundraising Voice » Alban](#)
<https://alban.org/archive/funding-for-today-and-tomorrow/>
<https://alban.org/archive/fundraising-beliefs/>
<http://danhotchkiss.com/publications/>

Fund Raising Policy

[*Minutes of the Fourth General Assembly* (1976), 4-74, Item 5, page 80.]

Whereas, some of our churches have begun to conduct bazaars, rummage sales, suppers, and other benefits for the purpose of raising money for the Lord's work, and,

Whereas, in the light of these events it is best to set these benefit programs in their proper perspective based on principles of Scripture, and

Whereas, Jesus cast the money changers out of the Temple, saying, "Make not my Father's house a house of merchandise" (John 2:16),

Now, therefore, be it resolved: That the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America advise its members and churches as follows:

- The Lord has ordained that giving should be an act of worship and thus a means of grace.
- God has revealed in His Word that His kingdom on earth is to be supported by the cheerful, willing and loving tithes and sacrificial offerings of His children.
- Commercial activities such as suppers, bazaars, rummage sales, etc., held primarily to raise money are improper activities for the Church.
- Commercial activities designed primarily to provide a ministry such as a bookstore, are proper Church activities.
- Neither the Church, nor any organization of the Church should sponsor such benefit promotions which have as a primary purpose raising money for the support of the Lord's work.

General Assembly Actions - Fund Raising Policy (1976)

<http://www.weswhite.net/2011/02/the-pcas-church-fundraising-policy/>
[Images for Fundraising Policy](#)

Rendering unto God with faith-raising, not fundraising

What's the best way to raise money during an economic crisis? Experts say focusing on "faith-raising," not fundraising, is the key.

<https://faithandleadership.com/features/articles/rendering-unto-god>
[Images for Rendering unto God with faith-raising, not fundraising](#)
<https://faithandleadership.com/resources-christian-leadership>
<https://faithandleadership.com/topics/lay-leadership>

Should churches involve themselves in fundraising?

Like many things churches do, fundraising has no biblical basis. We would not say, however, that all fundraising is for lining the pockets of the preacher. We believe that much of it is merely to accommodate the lack of faith among many believers. Our assembly has never done fundraisers, and we have never pleaded for financial gifts. We simply **teach tithes and offerings as a responsibility of all believers**, and we have always been well-funded as an assembly.

<http://www.gloriouschurch.com/Questions-Answers-Details.asp?QuestID=3526>

[Images for Should churches involve themselves in fundraising?](#)

[Images for teach tithes and offerings as a responsibility of all believers](#)

The Passionate Steward: Recovering Christian Stewardship from Secular Fundraising by Michael O'Hurley-Pitts

The Passionate Steward: Recovering Christian Stewardship from Secular Fundraising is a forthright and critical review of the assumptions and practices of secular philanthropy as these have been adopted and applied by the Christian Church. The Church has often been enthralled by the promise of more money, particularly if it is "easy" money, and has thus fallen into the arms of secular fundraisers, without subjecting secular methods and operative principles to the scrutiny of its own theological and biblical agenda. Archbishop Edward W. Scott's foreword uses his experience and wisdom as parish priest, bishop and later Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada to make clear just how important and ground breaking this book is for the Church today.

The Passionate Steward parses the practice of fundraising as it is frequently experienced in Churches, and finds it wanting. The author re-establishes a firm biblical and historical basis for a more theologically grounded approach and argues convincingly for a recovery of the fullness of "passionate stewardship". The book is thoroughly researched, and moves easily and cogently between statistical analysis, theological assessment, practice, and anecdotal integration.

The Passionate Steward (as can be seen from the multi-denominational praise of Roman Catholics, Orthodox, Anglican/Episcopalians to Protestants and Evangelical experts in the field of stewardship) stands alone in its ecumenical reach and appeal. Not only does it treat the uniqueness and similarities within the range of mainline Churches: it also provides a much needed indication of how those issues are played out in both the United States and Canada. Moreover, in these trying times of sin threatening the well-being of the Church (the scandal of sexual abuse in the U.S., and Residential Schools litigation bankrupting the major Christian denominations in Canada), *The Passionate Steward* is both timely and timeless in its relevance.

This book reveals that the practice of fund-raising as it is frequently experienced in churches is often wanting. In these trying times of sexual abuse scandals, as more and more parishes are looking for ways to keep financial stewardship growing instead of waning, *The Passionate Steward* is ideal for priests, pastoral councils, parish business managers, and dioceses.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Passionate-Steward-Stewardship-Fundraising/dp/0973137800>

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Passionate-Steward-Stewardship-Fundraising/product-reviews/0973137800>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/472788.The_Passionate_Steward

<http://reviews.blether.com/blether.php?id=3607>

<http://catholicbooksreview.org/2002/hurley.htm>

http://s3.amazonaws.com/dfc_attachments/public/documents/626/The_Stewardship_Manual.pdf

<http://www.worldcat.org/identities/viaf-106356156/>

[Images for Michael O'Hurley-Pitts, author](#)

[Images for The Passionate Steward: Recovering Christian Stewardship from Secular Fundraising by Michael O'Hurley-Pitts](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Fundraisers? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/fundraisers>

[Images for Bible and Fundraisers](#)

<http://minuteswithmessiah.tripod.com/question/treasury.html>

<http://minuteswithmessiah.tripod.com/question/treasury3.html>

[Images for bible and raising funds](#)

<http://minuteswithmessiah.tripod.com/question/fundraiser.html>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2016/02/24/top-7-bible-verses-about-raising-money-or-fundraising/>

<https://fundraisingcoach.com/free-articles/fundraising-in-the-bible/>

<http://www.biblestudy.org/question/what-does-bible-say-about-fundraising.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/church-fund-raising.html>

Some pastors have made an issue of this point and tried to do away with fundraisers. Contention and conflict followed. I am not going to be the one to go into a setting as an interim pastor and recommend that the congregation do away with the annual church dinner/supper and bake sale. It should not have to be an either/or, but instead can be a both/and as many of these events are often as much group building as they are fund raising. At the same time, I caution congregation leadership not to rely on these fundraising efforts to meet the budget. Having said that, I have serious concerns particularly about some youth fundraising for big events that takes up so much time and energy from the rest of the year and limits participation in the youth group to those going.

Resources

A Spirituality of Fundraising (Henri Nouwen Spirituality) [Henri J.M. Nouwen, John S Mogabgab]

"Fundraising is, first and foremost, a ministry," renowned author and teacher Henri Nouwen writes in the introduction. "It's a way of announcing our vision and inviting other people into our mission." Nouwen approaches fundraising from a position of strength rather than weakness, seeing it as spiritual work. "Fundraising is precisely the opposite of begging," he points out. Unlike most business/leadership books, *A Spirituality of Fundraising*, is brief and can easily be read in one sitting. Sections of

this booklet include: Fundraising as Ministry, Helping the Kingdom Come About, Our Security Base, People Who Are Rich, Asking, A New Communion, Prayer and Gratitude, Your Kingdom Come.
Nouwen's insights will shift your thinking about fundraising. You'll never feel as though you are begging for money but instead view your work as true ministry. A must read for leaders in churches, nonprofits, ministries, and businesses!

http://www.henrinouwen.org/Spirituality_Series/Fundraising/Fundraising.aspx
<http://www.amazon.com/Spirituality-Fundraising-Henri-Nouwen/dp/0835810445>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10256092-a-spirituality-of-fundraising>
https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?stew_redirect=resource&post=3980 Spirituality of Fundraising
<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4307> How should Christians approach funding the church?
<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4442> A Spirituality of Fundraising
<http://henrinouwen.org/resources/books/booksabouthenri/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henri_Nouwen
<https://www.amazon.com/Henri-J.-M.-Nouwen/e/B000AQ4ZZ0>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4837.Henri_J_M_Nouwen
[Images for Henri J.M. Nouwen, author](#)
<http://books.upperroom.org/book-author/john-s-mogabgab/>
<http://weavings.upperroom.org/author/john-mogabgab/>
<https://www.amazon.com/John-S.-Mogabgab/e/B00JFGQ09A>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/695669.John_S_Mogabgab
[Images for John S Mogabgab, author](#)
[Images for A Spirituality of Fundraising \(Henri Nouwen Spirituality\) \[Henri J.M. Nouwen, John S Mogabgab\]](#)

How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper

Fund-Raising and Christian Stewardship Get Different Results!

Page 4

[PDF] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 5--How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 5: How to Increase Financial Stewardship
[Images for How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper Fund-Raising and Christian Stewardship Get Different Results!](#)

Train Your Board (and Everyone Else) to Raise Money: A Cookbook of Easy-to-Use Fundraising Exercises by Andrea Kihlstedt and Andy Robinson

Nonprofit boards seem universally afraid of fundraising – which is ironic since raising money is what organizations need most from their trustees.

With the publication of *Train Your Board (and Everyone Else) to Raise Money: A Cookbook of Easy-to-Use Fundraising Exercises*, much of that fear will now be vanquished.

Drawing on decades of experience and tapping an expert team of fundraising trainers across the United States, Andrea Kihlstedt and Andy Robinson have produced an extraordinary how-to book of easy-to-use fundraising exercises for boards of all sizes.

<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/trainyourboard.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/bitesized.html>
[http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/\\$500-\\$5000.html](http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/$500-$5000.html)
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/easierthanyouthink.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/greatboards.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/bookstore.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/words.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/retention.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/makingacase.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/trainyourboard.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/donornewsletters.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/11questions.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/asking.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/auction.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/irresistible.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/fundraisinghabits.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/fundraisingmistakes.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/fundraisingrealities.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/golf.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/greatboards.html>
[http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/\\$500-\\$5000.html](http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/$500-$5000.html)
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/howtoconnect.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/bitesized.html>
[http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/\\$500-\\$5000.html](http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/$500-$5000.html)
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/raiseplannedgifts.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/writing.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/megagifts.html>

<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/overgoal.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/bequests.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/raisingwithemail.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/donoreyes.html>
<http://www.contributionsmagazine.com/books/winninggrants.html>
[Images for Contributions Magazine](#)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eh5MwHHv3tQ> Andy Robinson - Train Your Board (and Everyone Else) to Raise Money
<https://emersonandchurch.com/bookstore/train-your-board-and-everyone-else-to-raise-money/>
<http://fundraisingcoach.com/2014/12/16/training-your-board-raise-money-book-review/>
<https://emersonandchurch.com/bookstore/train-your-board-and-everyone-else-to-raise-money/>
[Images for Train Your Board \(and Everyone Else\) to Raise Money](#)
<http://andreakihlstedt.com/>
<https://capitalcampaignmasters.com/about/andrea-kihlstedt/>
<https://trust.guidestar.org/author/andrea-kihlstedt>
<https://www.amazon.com/Andrea-Kihlstedt/e/B001IO9VC0>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/329863.Andrea_Kihlstedt
[Images for Andrea Kihlstedt, author fundraising](#)
<https://www.guidestar.org/Articles.aspx?path=/rxa/news/articles/2014/fundraising-training-exercise-where-the-money.aspx>
<http://andyrobinsononline.com/w/train-board-everyone-else-raise-money/>
<http://trainyourboard.com/about/andy-robinson/>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/69429.Andy_Robinson
[Images for Andy Robinson, author fundraising](#)
[Images for Train Your Board \(and Everyone Else\) to Raise Money: A Cookbook of Easy-to-Use Fundraising Exercises by Andrea Kihlstedt and Andy Robinson](#)

Are there any fundraisers that involve more than simply peddling food stuffs or other material goods? The youth leader at one congregation I served came up with some alternatives.

Club 52

Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 1 Timothy 6:18

For years, youth from across the country have gathered together for mission trips, conferences, service projects and many other events that help build a stronger relationship with God. Youth leaders recognize that mission opportunities are a critical part of vibrant youth ministry. And fundraising is a critical part of these mission opportunities.

Club 52 provides donors with an easy, flexible way to support youth ministry. As its name implies, Club 52 members are asked to contribute \$1 per week for one year. Club 52 members can choose the student they wish to sponsor and will receive regular updates from that student. Following the mission trip, Club 52 members will be invited to a special banquet hosted by the students to recognize each member's contribution.

How will my Club 52 donation be used?

Club 52 donations will be used to support:

- Mission trip
- Youth conferences
- Local community service projects
- Monthly youth events

"The youth are the future of this congregation, and we feel called to support their ministry. To watch them grow in their faith and walk with them on this journey is one of the best gifts God has blessed us with." Youth Group Supporters

Club 52 overview

Member responsibilities:

- Donates \$52 throughout the year
- Designates which youth donation will sponsor

Youth responsibilities

- Writes a minimum of three update/thank you letters to sponsors throughout the year.
- Host banquet for all Club 52 members following mission trip, assist in planning, food preparation, serving, clean-up, and report on how the financial donation of members has impacted their lives.

Parent responsibilities

- Assist at banquet.
- Ensure youth keep in contact with sponsors throughout the year.

Investment in Youth Stock Certificate

Issued to (name)

This certifies the commitment you have made to support the young people of this congregation as they seek to grow in their discipleship by attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering. Your commitment of both prayerful and financial support is deeply appreciated.

For your donation of _____, you have been issued _____ share(s) of Investment in Youth Common Stock and/or _____ share(s) of Investment in Youth Preferred Stock.

The chief benefits of these stocks are:

A sound investment in the future of our church by helping future leaders of our church grow in their discipleship.

A commitment of support for our young people who know by this sign that the congregation supports them as they seek to grow in their discipleship.

Other benefits are:

An invitation to a send-off before youth leave for the gathering.

An invitation to a dinner following the gathering during which the youth will share some of their experiences.

Additional benefits to Preferred stock investors are:

A post card from one of the youth during the gathering.

A small memento from the gathering.

A chance at one of several gifts to be given at the post-gathering dinner including a cross-stitch work by the pastor.

Issued (date)

Pastor (name)

Personal Letter

Dear Family and Friends,

This coming summer I have an exciting opportunity to participate in! I have decided to attend a mission trip to Nashville the last week of July! We don't know exactly what we will be helping with until we get there, but some of the possibilities of helping the less fortunate in that community are working with children through Boys and Girls Club or different types of camps, helping the elderly, doing gardening or other beautification projects, and many other things. The mission trip program also includes devotional times, worship, and other programs to expand our faith. We will be working through Group Mission Trips which you can find more information on at groupmissiontrips.com if you would like.

The reason I am contacting you is that I am looking for some financial help in being able to participate in this life changing experience. If you could help me out in any way, I would be so grateful. If you are able to make a donation to my mission trip, please make a check out to (name) Youth and send it to our youth leader (name) (address).

Be sure to include my name on the memo line so that I can get credit for your donation.

Thank you so much for considering a donation to help me out and also for your prayers that I have a rewarding experience on this trip and make a difference to someone else's life!

Sincerely,

(name)

The Official Gathering Handbook Tips and Tricks for Adult Leaders: This Changes Everything – 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering gives numerous fundraising ideas.

[PDF]The Official Gathering Handbook - ELCA Resource Repository

i. Fundraisings

Page 22

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/2018Gathering_Handbook.pdf

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/YG_gNews_Dec16.pdf

[Images for Official Gathering Handbook - ELCA Resource Repository](#)

Particularly humbling for me was serving at one setting in which the one congregation with an AWA of 20 was doing everything possible to raise money including brat fries on Friday afternoons in the summer with the local Lions Club, a large garage sale at the end of the summer, and a harvest dinner in the fall to pay for their share of pastoral compensation as a part of a two-point parish. The Ministry Site Profile for the installed pastor stated:

“We make every effort to follow synod guidelines for compensation.”

The congregation also gave a designated amount for mission support and to their credit stayed out of debt.

16) What about those raffles, door prizes, and other games of chance?

Here, it seems as if the church has been co-opted by secular society and has lost its ability to utter a prophetic voice against gambling.

Resources

Casinos, Lotteries and the Resurrection | Saints Constantine

During this 2nd week of Easter, as we continue to bask in the joy of the myrrh-bearing women who proclaimed the good news of our Lord's Resurrection to his disciples, I want to raise a difficult and maybe uncomfortable question. “Is there a message from our Lord's Resurrection about the lottery, casinos, raffles, and gambling in general?”

<http://www.schwebster.org/about-orthodoxy/casinos-lotteries-and-the-resurrection>

[Images for Casinos, Lotteries and the Resurrection | Saints Constantine](#)

Is a Raffle the Same as Gambling? - Probe Ministries

Many Christians have been writing books in the last few years about gambling, calling for the church to provide help and counseling for gamblers and their families. But I would argue that a church loses its moral authority to help those struggling

with gambling. How can you reach out to gamblers and their families devastated by casino gambling, race track gambling, or lottery gambling when your church sponsors Bingo games and raffles?

<https://www.probe.org/is-a-affle-the-same-as-gambling/>
[Images for Raffle the Same as Gambling](#)

Take no chances: Survey on church gambling | USCatholic.org

It is hypocritical for the church to oppose these “predatory” forms of gambling while fostering in their own parishioners those very same habits that support a more widespread cultural acceptance of gambling.

<http://www.uscatholic.org/gambling>
[Images for survey on church gambling](#)

Having said that, raffles, door prizes, and other games of chance is one battle I have chosen not to take on as an interim pastor. Such a conversation and education require time and understanding.

Resources

Church Raffles

You asked for a description of the **laws governing church raffles**.

SUMMARY

By law, a church may operate and promote raffles subject to the same regulations and restrictions governing other organizations authorized to conduct raffles. It must get a permit from the Division of Special Revenue (DSR) or the local police chief, depending on the type of raffle. The type of permit dictates the number of raffles the permittee may conduct, the maximum aggregate value of prizes it may award, and the deadline for conducting the raffle. Permit fees range from \$5 to \$100; maximum aggregate prize value ranges from \$100 to \$100,000. Cash prizes are prohibited.

Only an organization's qualified members age 18 or older may promote, operate, or conduct raffles, and people under age 16 cannot sell or promote raffle tickets. The organization must submit a detailed report on the raffle to the permit-issuing authority within one month after the event. DSR may revoke or suspend permits for violations. Additional information is available from DSR.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/rpt/2005-R-0495.htm>
[Images for laws governing church raffles](#)

Church raffles still against the law | The State

Churches in South Carolina better think twice before they hold their next raffle or cake walk.

Unbeknownst to many churches and charities, raffles are illegal in the state. The education lottery is South Carolina's only legal form of gambling.

Repeated efforts in the House of Representatives on Thursday to allow churches, schools and charities to hold these fundraisers failed.

<http://www.thestate.com/2010/04/30/1266024/church-raffles-still-against-the.html>
[Images for Church raffles still against the law | The State](#)
<https://newsok.com/article/2349904/raffles-illegal-in-state>
<https://www.churchlawandtax.com/lessons/content/raffle-tickets.html>

Gambling: A Study for Congregations [Dr. Robert W. Tuttle]

A congregational study on the ethics of gambling released in 1998.

<http://www.amazon.com/Gambling-Congregations-Dr-Robert-Tuttle/dp/B0088YKWJ4>
http://resources.elca.org/Social_Issues-Gambling_A_Study_for_Congregations.html
<http://portal.law.gwu.edu/Bibliography/Bibliography.asp?uid=1730> Robert W. Tuttle | GW Law | The George Washington University
<https://www.law.gwu.edu/tuttle-robert-w>
[Images for Gambling: A Study for Congregations \[Dr. Robert W. Tuttle\]](#)

Gambling: Moral or Immoral? Lotteries, Casinos and the Bible

Gambling or “gaming” for stakes is becoming increasingly popular. A person can bet by lottery, casino, poker, slot machines, raffles, office pools, sports wagers, or online betting. But does God view it as moral or immoral? Should a Christian gamble?

What does the Bible say? What about gambling addiction?

<http://www.gospelway.com/morality/gambling.php>
[Images for Gambling: Moral or Immoral? Lotteries, Casinos and the Bible](#)

Gambling - Some notable resources

Adjunct faculty member, Dr. William Buckley, provides perspective on theological issues and policy considerations on gambling and its expansion.

[Issues in Theology - Gettysburgseminary.org](#)
<http://www.gettysburgseminary.org/studies/gambling/>
<http://scs.georgetown.edu/departments/4/bachelor-of-arts-in-liberal-studies/faculty-bio/304194/william-j-buckley>
[Images for theological issues and policy considerations on gambling](#)

Gambling | The United Methodist Church

It is expected that United Methodist churches abstain from the use of raffles, lotteries, bingo, door prizes, other drawing schemes, and games of chance for the purpose of gambling or fundraising.

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/gambling>

[Images for Gambling | The United Methodist Church](#)

Is gambling a sin? My church has bingo, vegas nights, raffle tickets, etc. makes it confusing?

Gambling can be defined as “risking money in an attempt to multiply the money on something that is against the odds.” The Bible does not specifically condemn gambling, betting, or the lottery. The Bible does warn us, however, to stay away from the love of money (1 Timothy 6:10; Hebrews 13:5). Scripture also encourages us to stay away from attempts to “get rich quick” (Proverbs 13:11; 23:5; Ecclesiastes 5:10). Gambling most definitely is focused on the love of money and undeniably tempts people with the promise of quick and easy riches.

<http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20081029085619AAjhcFD>

[Images for is gambling a sin?](#)

https://www.catholicherald.com/News/Is_Gambling_a_Sin/

<https://www.born-again-christian.info/answers/whats-wrong-with-gambling-is-it-sin-to-gamble.htm>

<http://gbcshelton.org/doctrine/gambling-sin/>

https://www.jesus-is-savior.com/Evils%20in%20America/gambling_is_a_sin.htm

<https://www.jw.org/en/bible-teachings/questions/is-gambling-a-sin/>

<https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/is-it-a-sin-for-a-christian-to-gamble/>

<https://erlc.com/resource-library/articles/a-biblical-case-against-gambling>

<http://www.uscatholic.org/blog/201308/what-are-chances-gambling-sin-27655>

<http://wdtprs.com/blog/2011/09/quaeritur-is-gambling-a-sin/>

<https://www.gty.org/library/blog/B110522/is-gambling-ok-dont-bet-on-it>

<http://jimmyakin.com/is-gambling-a-sin>

Is it wrong to have raffles in the church? – GotQuestions.org?

One of the biggest objections to any kind of raffle, in or out of a church, is that the idea of “chance” draws in many people who should be spending their money more wisely. Studies have shown that the people most likely to buy [lottery tickets](#) and raffle chances are those who can least afford them. Money that is needed elsewhere is used to buy handfuls of tickets on the outside chance of winning a prize or a jackpot. Some churches refuse to hold raffles because they don’t want to further the “gambler mentality.”

<https://www.gotquestions.org/raffles-in-church.html>

[Images for Is it wrong to have raffles in the church? - Got Questions?](#)

Tax Exempt Organizations and Gaming

Saturday night bingo in the church hall, one-armed bandits in the social club, video lottery at the veterans’ club, poker night at the fraternal lodge – all of these are examples of gaming* – sometimes called gambling – by organizations exempt from federal income tax. For many years now, exempt organizations have operated these and many other types of games as a part of their activities. Why do organizations “game?” Probably the number one reason is to raise funds – either to help cover the cost of running their organizations or to support worthy causes. For some organizations, gaming also permits its members to socialize with each other and fosters fellowship. Whatever the reason, an organization conducting any type of gaming should understand how the activity can impact its federal tax-exempt status, as well as its tax and information reporting responsibilities. In the following chapters, this publication will provide an exempt organization – whether it is running games already or deciding whether to start – the information it needs to operate in a manner that will not jeopardize its exempt status or generate unexpected tax bills. Note: Many states and localities regulate gaming by exempt organizations. This publication does not address state or local gaming licensing requirements. For licensing requirements, please consult the appropriate agencies in your locale.

[PDF] Publication 3079 (Rev. 6-2010) - Internal Revenue Service

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p3079.pdf>

[Images for Tax Exempt Organizations and Gaming](#)

[PDF] Tax-Exempt Organizations and Raffle Prizes: Reporting Requirements and Federal Income Tax Withholding - Internal Revenue Service

This notice discusses federal tax reporting and income tax withholding requirements that apply to raffles conducted by organizations exempt under section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code. A tax-exempt organization that sponsors raffles may be required to secure information about the winner(s) and file reports on the prizes with the Internal Revenue Service. The organization may also be required to withhold and remit federal income taxes on prizes.

http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/notice_1340.pdf

[Images for Tax-Exempt Organizations and Raffle Prizes](#)

The Christian and Gambling - The Mountain Retreat

As Christians, we cannot countenance gambling in any form. It is a practice which is sinful and violates the commands God has given in the Scriptures. We must, therefore, take a stand against it, and resist all the temptations it sets before us. In seeking to be faithful to God in this respect, we must ask ourselves some searching questions: “Do we care more for material gain than we do for ‘a conscience void of offence toward God and toward men?’”; “Do we lack courage to say ‘No’, when the

easy and popular answer is 'Yes', or even saying nothing at all?" Let us pray for God's grace to withstand this evil and for the opportunity to bear witness against it.

http://www.mountainretreatorg.net/articles/the_christian_and_gambling.shtml
[Images for Christian and Gambling](#)

The Gambling Picture

This study is designed to provoke and guide discussion of gambling. It is divided into six segments, each of which can serve as the basis for a one-hour class. The first part provides introductory information about gambling and its growth in the United States. The second offers a framework for Christian analysis of gambling, drawing on scripture and moral principles. The third segment looks at the problem of compulsive gambling. The fourth focuses on state sponsored gambling, especially lotteries. The fifth examines arguments about gambling's relationship to the economic common good. And the sixth part looks at the special issues raised by gambling on American Indian reservations.

[PDF] [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – The Gambling Picture](#)
<http://stoppredatorygambling.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Evangelical-Lutheran-Church-in-America-The-Gambling-Picture.pdf>
[Images for Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – The Gambling Picture](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Gambling? - Christianity

Surprisingly, the Bible contains no specific command to avoid gambling. However, the Bible does contain timeless principles for living a life pleasing to God and is filled with wisdom to deal with every situation, including gambling.

<http://christianity.about.com/od/whatdoesthebiblesay/f/isgamblingasin.htm>
[Images for bible and gambling](#)
<http://biblereasons.com/gambling/>
<https://www.bibleuniverse.com/articles/popular-bible-questions/id/1564/what-does-the-bible-say-about-gambling-is-gambling-a-sin>
<http://biblereasons.com/gambling/>
<https://www.casino.org/blog/what-does-the-bible-say-about-gambling/>
<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/spiritual-life/what-does-the-bible-say-about-gambling-1201620.html>
<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Is-Gambling-A-Sin/>
<https://www.thoughtco.com/is-gambling-a-sin-701976>

17) Beer and bingo

I've been to a few Roman Catholic church festivals in Central and Northwest Wisconsin where there is beer and bingo together with polka music. The amount of money raised is considerable. These festivals tend to be in churches with a Polish and German background. I haven't been able to bring myself to suggest these fundraisers at congregations of a Scandinavian Lutheran background.

St. Anne Fest 2017 - Saint Anne Parish

Live Music & Dancing!

Delicious Food

Food Stand: Enjoy burgers, brats, fries, cheese curds, popcorn, and so much more in our food stand! Whether for lunch or dinner, there's something for everyone!

Chicken Dinner: Perfect for the whole family, our savory chicken dinner will be held in Fischer Hall from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday. Enjoy chicken with all the trimmings and dessert, too!

Eggrolls: This favorite will be available in the food stand all weekend long! Enjoy fresh pork eggrolls with tasty eggroll sauce.

Beer Tent: New this year will be the addition of craft beers from local Bull Falls Brewery!

And More!

Bingo: Feeling lucky? Our popular bingo game will be held in McKillip Hall on Friday from 6:30-10 p.m., Saturday from 5:30-10 p.m. and Sunday from 1-5 p.m.

Family Fun Tent: Something for all ages! Children's games; face painting; raffle and more!

Outdoor Mass: It's Father Al and Jesus under the big top! This special event takes place on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and features music by Gary's Ridgeland Dutchman.

Softball Tournament: The softball teams will be vying for the championship title in this family-friendly competition.

Petting Zoo: Bring the kids along to meet some furry friends. Saturday and Sunday from noon to 3:00 p.m.

Other Activities: Kids Games, Summer Stroll, Sweet Shop, Crafts and more!

Raffle Tickets: Cash & Prizes. \$2,500 grand prize! 2nd prize is \$1,500. 3rd prize is \$1,000. 4th through 9th are \$500 each. 10th through 17th prizes are \$250 each.

Please help us sell these tickets! Tickets are \$5 each, 3 for \$10 or 10 for \$20.

<http://www.stanneswausau.org/fest/>

[Images for St. Anne Fest - Saint Anne Parish Live Music & Dancing!](#)

18) Competition for the charitable dollar

A representative of a large international relief and development organization headquartered in a southeastern state telephoned the church office to ask if one of their people could speak at a service of worship and take an offering. This organization, as far as I can tell, is not connected to any denomination but makes its appeal directly to congregations and members. This phone call illustrates the competition for the charitable dollar and the extent to which some organizations will go to solicit charitable dollars.

I have taken travel seminars at my own expense to West Africa and Latin America with Lutheran World Relief and to Central America and to the Philippines with the Augsburg Center for Global Education and have written about the seminars in Rural Ministry Resources.

Resources

[PDF] Is Competition Among Charities Bad? - ResearchGate

This paper studies that the effect of increased competition among charities for donations and shows that it results in decreased provision of the public good.

<http://web.utk.edu/~wneilson/Charity-competition.pdf>

[Images for Competition Among Charities](#)

http://econ.washington.edu/sites/econ/files/old-site-uploads/2014/11/Bose_impaper.pdf [PDF] Effects of Nonprofit Competition on Charitable Donations

<https://eprints.usq.edu.au/21834/> Competition between charitable organisations for private donations

[Images for Competition between charitable organisations for private donations](#)

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/beelinang/2014/08/19/too-many-charities-chasing-the-same-pool-of-private-capital/>

[Images for too-many-charities-chasing-the-same-pool-of-private-capital](#)

The New Context for Ministry: Competing for the Charitable Dollar by Lyle E Schaller (Author)

With the attention to appropriate and telling details for which he is famous, Lyle Schaller begins this book by pointing out an overlapping set of changes that have taken place in American society and American churches in recent years. First, to the traditional economic activities of gathering commodities and producing and selling goods and services, the economy has added the production and distribution of knowledge and the creation and sale of experiences. Second has been the rise of consumerism: an increase in the power of consumers at the expense of producers of goods and services. Third is the extraordinary number of individuals in North American society with considerable amounts of discretionary income.

What does this mean to you and your church? Simply this, says Schaller: old patterns of fund-raising and old assumptions about stewardship will no longer work. Charitable giving today is based on a complex set of factors, including the growing opinion that it is the giver--rather than the receiving institution--that should have full and final control of how the gift is appropriated. In this informative guide to fund-raising in the new economy, Schaller helps the reader navigate through the difficulties and opportunities for churches in this new age of charitable giving.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-New-Context-Ministry-Charitable/dp/0687065801>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/schaller-the-new-context-for-ministry.html>

http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_UMCGiving/resource-files/CFT_50_Ways_Faithful_Giving.pdf

<http://danhotchkiss.com/publications/> 2002. "Book Review: *The New Context for Ministry: Competing for the Charitable Dollar* by Lyle E. Schaller." *Congregations*, December, 33 – 34. <http://danhotchkiss.com/contact-dan/>

https://www.centerforcongregations.org/sites/default/files/Economic_Challenges_Facing_Indiana_Congregations.pdf

<https://bethelnet.bethel.edu/academic-affairs/seminary/bssp/bssp-sempm/archive/s/ml205-sm06-ms-cionca.pdf>

http://www.abingdonpress.com/lyle_e_schaller

<https://www.amazon.com/Lyle-E.-Schaller/e/B001IR1J9K>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/179868.Lyle_E_Schaller

[Images for lyle e schaller author](#)

[Images for The New Context for Ministry: Competing for the Charitable Dollar by Lyle E Schaller \(Author\)](#)

I appreciate the work of Lutheran World Relief, the ELCA World Hunger Appeal, and Lutheran Disaster Response, and my will states that the bulk of my estate shall go to Lutheran World Relief. I want to promote the work of the churchwide and the partner agencies rather than open the door to aggressive fundraising by outside organizations.

Charity Navigator Rating - Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief is an International charity rated 4 of 4 stars by Charity Navigator. Located in Baltimore, MD, it is one of 8,257 organizations rated by Charity Navigator.

<http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4031#.VfBxwhFVhBc>

[Images for Charity Navigator Rating - Lutheran World Relief](#)

Home - Lutheran World Relief | Working to end poverty

Lutheran World Relief is a non-profit organization that works with local partners to provide lasting solutions to poverty, injustice and human suffering.

<http://lwr.org/>

[Images for Lutheran World Relief](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/LutheranWorldRelief> Lutheran World Relief - YouTube

19) Mission support

While serving an assignment in Eau Claire, WI, I came in possession of a proposed budget from another congregation in 1955. Admittedly, it is not possible to go back to the '50s, but it is impressive to see that a 1/3+ went to mission support. Today, a congregation that gives 10% to mission support is considered exemplary. As it turns out, this congregation merged with another congregation in 2015 and moved to that congregation's facility.

First Lutheran Church
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

PROPOSED BUDGET--1955

GENERAL FUND

Salaries	\$24,924.00
(3 Pastors, Parish Education Director, 2 Office Secretaries, Organist, Choir Director, 2 Custodians)	
Social Security and Pensions	1,080.00
Car Allowance (Pastors and Parish Ed. Dir.) . .	3,060.00
Rent (Youth Pastor)	900.00
Heat	2,500.00
Public Utilities (Electricity, Gas, Telephone) .	2,100.00
Repair and Maintenance	7,000.00
Parish Education (Subsidy)	1,845.00
Music (Choir Music, Soloists)	660.00
Office Expense	1,512.00
Printing (Including <u>The First Lutheran</u>)	3,000.00
Insurance	1,200.00
Postage	600.00
Part-Time Help (Office, Janitors)	720.00
Guest Preachers	300.00
Publicity	150.00
Miscellaneous	2,000.00
Total, General Fund	\$53,551.00

MISSION FUND

E. L. C. Budget Apportionment	\$22,058.51
(Includes Lutheran World Action, Student Center Building Fund)	
Lutheran Welfare	1,200.00
Missionary Rev. Leroy Johnsrud	2,000.00
Missionary Miss Belva Nerlien	900.00
Radio Fund	2,246.44
Television Fund	1,200.00
Eau Claire Lutheran Home for the Aged	1,060.00
<u>The Missionary</u> (Postage)	130.00
Daily Devotional Booklets	500.00
Miscellaneous	200.00
Total, Mission Fund	<u>\$31,494.95</u>
TOTAL, PROPOSED BUDGET	\$85,045.95

Now, 65+ years after that budget, when many are experiencing economic distressed times, there is a temptation to cut back on mission support to the wider church. A growing social distrust of institutions makes this even more challenging. An important part of interim ministry in partnership with the churchwide, synod, and partner agencies is to encourage support of the wider church so that congregations can do together what individual congregations cannot do alone.

Resources

Dear Co-Workers in the Gospel,

I write to you about money. It is a ministry resource and it is a way that we express our part in something larger than ourselves or our congregations. Please do two things for me:

1. Be sure that you are paid up to date with what you planned to give to Undesignated Mission Support for 2012.
2. Reflect with your congregation council how you can move to and beyond being a tithing congregation, that is giving at least 10% of your offerings to Undesignated Mission Support.

Some of you may know that I am leaving the synod office to become pastor of a congregation in southern Wisconsin. As I prepare to return to the parish, I have been thinking about how honored I have been to walk with you in many and various ways through these past five years. I have also been thinking about how vitally important synod ministry is. In moving toward a mission mindset, in the call process, in ecumenical relationships, in disaster relief, in campus ministry, in raising up leaders, in encouragement, in learning, in sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, without a doubt we are stronger together.

However, the continued shrinking mission plan (budget) of this synod hampers our work.

Over the past ten years, the synod mission plan has shrunk by 13.6% in real dollars. Factor in inflation and the ministry power of our synod has diminished by 32.5%. Out of 199 congregations, fewer than 10% give 10% or more to Undesignated Mission Support. Much of that can be blamed on the economy. Some of it can be blamed on the downsizing of our congregations. But the search for excuses only distracts us from focusing on the only real way forward: basic biblical principles of financial stewardship.

Does your congregation designate a certain percentage of offerings to go to the body of Christ in a no-strings-attached (undesignated) kind of way? Or do you simply carry over what you did before and add a little "if you can"? Does your congregation give from your first fruits? Or do you save that "synod bill" until the end "if we have enough left over"? Does your congregation celebrate giving as an act of worship and your partnership with the whole church as a blessing? Or is the offering a time of shame and guilt and Undesignated Mission Support are your "dues"?

The congregation I am going to lead went through significant conflict several years ago and reduced their undesignated mission support to 5%. Christ has brought healing, but I plan to work with the congregation council to rediscover the joy of generosity and to develop a strategy for getting back to 10% no-strings-attached, pure trust in God, joyful giving to the wider Church.

Will you join me in this important work?

[Here you will find the Statement of Intent for 2013.](#) Please fill this out after you have prayerfully considered what your congregation's commitment to Undesignated Mission Support will be in the coming year. I look forward to our continued partnership in the gospel.

In Christ,

Rev. Todd Iverson, Assistant to the Bishop
Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
944 24 1/4 Street, Suite 2, Chetek, WI 54728
office: [715-859-6810](tel:715-859-6810) fax: [715-859-6812](tel:715-859-6812)
www.nwswi.org

How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper

Building Enthusiasm for Missions/Benevolences Giving

Page 38

[\[PDF\] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 5--How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper](#)

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 5: How to Increase Financial Stewardship

[Images for Missions/Benevolences Giving](#)

<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>

<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/>

<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

How to Increase Local and World Missions Giving – The Parish Paper

How to Use this Resource

Page 2

Study-Discussion Session #1

1955 Is Alive but Not Well

Page 3

Twenty-Two Opinion-Shifts Changed Outside-The-Walls Giving Attitudes

Page 4

Study-Discussion Session #2

Twenty Principles that Strengthen Local & Denominational Missions Giving

Page 8

Study-Discussion Session #3

Twenty Policies that Bake a Bigger Benevolence Pie

Page 14

Study-Discussion Session #4

Twenty Ways to Power Benevolence Generosity & Financial Stewardship

Page 19

[PDF] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 19--How to Increase Local and World Mission Giving - The Parish Paper

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2019.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 19: How to Increase Local and World Missions Giving

[Images for Increase Local and World Missions Giving – The Parish Paper](#)

Mission Interpretation: Where Does Your Money Go?

Al Arndt, mission interpreter, NW Synod of Wisconsin

What does benevolence mean? What does undesignated mission support mean? Come and find out where the dollars that your congregation sends to the synod go and what they are used for. We will also touch on missionary sponsorship, ELCA World Hunger, Good Gifts catalog, etc.

2014 Walking Together – June 7, 2014 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

View program descriptions. - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

http://www.nwswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/workshop_descriptions_4.30.2014.pdf

[Images for Mission Interpretation: Where Does Your Money Go?](#)

Mission Support - YouTube

Your Offering, Changing Lives: Mission Support in the ELCA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSZNo8xj8i4>

[Images for Mission Support - ELCA - YouTube](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-yE_apMR9s Where Does Our Mission Support Go? - YouTube South Carolina Synod, ELCA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzTnNwtXHV4> Where Does Your Offering Go? - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L47p67vzzQo> Bishop Eaton on Elijah, the widow and Mission Support - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMVrRrKF2sq> For Such a Time | ELCA Synod Assembly 2019 – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ELCAVideo> Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - YouTube

[Images for Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - YouTube](#)

Seven Mission Support Principles

Use the following suggestions to open conversation about how your congregation might identify unrestricted operating funds to sustain our important work with congregations and communities in the territory of New Jersey. We understand that resources within our congregations are not extravagant, but right now we have the opportunity to provide for the work of the New Jersey Synod when help is needed most. Take a look at these ideas for special Mission Support gifts:

Stewardship - NJ Synod

<http://www.njsynod.org/#!stewardship/cso4> Seven Mission Support Principles

http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/6a8946_7fedbb9c012d40d9ae0d5cc5d1d35aad.pdf

http://media.wix.com/ugd/6a8946_7fedbb9c012d40d9ae0d5cc5d1d35aad.pdf

[Images for Church Mission Support Principles](#)

Stewardship: A Vision for Mission Support in our Congregations

Through our Stewardship Vision & Plan, the Metropolitan Chicago Synod of the ELCA is passionately and joyfully sharing God's gifts with its congregations, communities, and members. Learn more about our Vision & Plan for stewardship, and find resources, and programs for, and training for mission support with your congregation.

What We Do » Stewardship - Metropolitan Chicago Synod

<http://www.mcselca.org/what/stewardship/>

[Images for Stewardship: A Vision for Mission Support in our Congregations](#)

www.swpasynod.org/committees/stewardship

www.mcselca.org/what/stewardship/

<http://njsynod.org/stewardship/>

<http://www.eandsynod.org/stewardship/stewardship-resources/?view=mobile>

http://www.lss-elca.org/Committees/Council/Stewardship_Ed_Mission_Support.pdf

www.mnys.org/ministries2/stewardship_and_mission_support_table/

www.wisynod.org/stewardship.html

<http://css-elca.nextmeta.com/stewardship>

www.demdsynod.org/stewardship.html

www.ewasynod.org/stewardship/stewardshipresources.html

<http://css-elca.nextmeta.com/stewardship>

[PDF] The Courage to Explore: Lessons from the Lewis and Clark Expedition

They found that together they were much stronger than the sum of their parts.

<https://www.getcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/The-Courage-to-Explore-Lessons-from-Lewis-and-Clark-Expedition.pdf>

[Images for The Courage to Explore: Lessons from the Lewis and Clark Expedition They found that together they were much stronger than the sum of their parts.](#)

<https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/lewis-clark/activities.html>

<https://wpt.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/world-ex-lewis-clark/lesson-plan/#.WsvmYIjwaUk>

<https://www.pinterest.com/lindagondosch/lewis-and-clark-expedition/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/tinashomeschool/lewis-clark/>
<https://libraries.wichita.edu/ablah/images/exhibits/lewisandclark/resources.html>

[PDF] Why Give ELCA Mission Support

Many congregations ask, "Why give mission support?" For congregations that remember their early days and the role of the larger church in providing guidance and financial support, the answer to this question may be very clear. However, for older congregations the reasons may not be as clear. Actually, the reasons go beyond the age of a congregation.

Building the case begins with who we are.

Our Competency as Stewards

In bringing forth and supporting faithful, wise and courageous leaders, we engage and shape well-formed stewards. This recognizes the holistic nature of a competent steward – physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually, financially. These stewards embrace financial health as an expression of faith in this interdependent church. Understanding the perspectives of abundance, grace, gratitude and generosity, faithful stewards express their response through regular offerings, special gifts and planned gifts. These gifts support local ministries and through mission support fund God's work through the ELCA.

https://www.rmselca.org/sites/rmselca.org/files/resources/why_give_elca_mission_support_building_the_cas.pdf
[Images for Why Give ELCA Mission Support](#)

[PDF] Your offering at work - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

When you give to your congregation, a percentage of that money is shared with your synod and with the ELCA churchwide organization. The portion of your offering that is shared with the wider church is called Mission Support.

<http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA-13316-SOFIAPoster-BW.pdf>
[Images for Your offering at work - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#)

20) Discovering and Sharing of Gifts

Stewardship of time and talents can be made to be more open ended. People are invited to discover ways in which they might share the gifts God has given them. The congregation also offers specific ways in which people may take part as well as opportunities to explore new possibilities.

Spiritual Gifts

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

[oremus Bible Browser: 1 Corinthians 12:4-7](#)

<http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=109691521>

[Images for spiritual gifts](#)

DISCOVERING OUR GIFTS

Resources

Created and Called: Discovering Our Gifts for Abundant Living [Jean Morris Trumbauer]

Celebrate the great diversity of gifts among members of your congregation with *Created and Called: Discovering Our Gifts for Abundant Living*, a new, comprehensive approach to gifts-based ministry. Explore the reality of the interrelationship between God's creation in us. Discover the mission and ministry we do both as individuals and as a community of faith.

<http://www.amazon.com/Created-Called-Discovering-Abundant-Living/dp/0806638990>

<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/6157/Created-Called-Discovering-Our-Gifts-for-Abundant-Living>

<https://www.amazon.com/Jean-Morris-Trumbauer/e/B001K7LELG>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/742704.Jean_Morris_Trumbauer

[Images for Jean Morris Trumbauer, author discovering our gifts](#)

[Images for Created and Called: Discovering Our Gifts for Abundant Living \[Jean Morris Trumbauer\]](#)

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts - YouTube

How many of you would like to discover your God-given gifts and use them?

In my e-book, "Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts", I discuss: Exploring Your God-given gifts The 4 Personality Styles

- D -- Dominant

- I -- Inspiring

- S -- Submissive

- C -- Competent What are Spiritual Gifts Different Types of Spiritual Gifts Key Elements to Exploring Spiritual Giftedness Different Spiritual Gifts Heart of the Servant

This e-book also includes a Spiritual Gifts Test that you can score and discover your God-given Spiritual Gifts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-Wkj-oB-Gw>

[Images for Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJ7QgYGeYlo> How To Discover Your Spiritual Gift - Parts One & Two - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NH43hJ4wk6M> How To Discover Your Spiritual Gift - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PME8Ufak3xc> How To Discover Your Spiritual Gift - Step 2 - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SU_eoXyaggo How To Discover Your Spiritual Gift - Step 3 - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQAYTsQu_xQ How to Discover Your Spiritual Gift - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRuBqY9iHvg> Sermon: Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts - August 17th, 2014 - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-Wkj-oB-Gw> Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMKJeDnabBc> How to Discover Your Primary Spiritual Gift - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6QgkYhEafM> 643. How Do I Discover My Spiritual Gifts? - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vr6oTvA2ui0> How Do You Discover Your Spiritual Gifts? SeanMcDowell.org - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMmUoed9Kv0> TIM KELLER||Discovering your Spiritual Gifts ||NEW SERMON 2017 - YouTube

DISCOVERY AND PRACTICE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Rev. Michelle Nickodemus, Faith Lutheran, Durand, and Rock Creek Lutheran, Mondovi, and Rev. Michael Wollman, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Eau Claire

Join us for a quick, but Biblical and confessional, conversation about what your Spiritual Gifts might be, and how you might know it and practice it. Participants will be led through an actual inventory of 10-12 gifts, in the hopes of discovering one. The key to finding your Spiritual Gift? First, believe you have one, because you do! Next, be assured that God will not give you a gift you hate to use! And finally, the use of your gift is for the good of the whole Church. How will you know? By the taste of the fruits (Galatians 5:22-23a)!

View the web page for Walking Together details. - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

http://www.nwswi.org/news_and_events/Walking_Together.phtml

Images for DISCOVERY AND PRACTICE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

<http://www.leadertelegram.com/Features/Religion/2015/10/10/Two-pastors-reflect-on-faith-and-action-through-JONAH.html> The

Rev. Michael Wollman is pastor at The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Eau Claire.

Finding Your Spiritual Gifts - YouTube

On this edition of Spirit Church, David Diga Hernandez teaches on the spiritual gifts and how to discover what gifts God has given to you. David gives a quick look at the list of spiritual gifts, the purpose of the gifts and foundational truths that relate to the gifts. Then, he concludes this teaching by giving you 3 keys to finding your spiritual gifts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HRHvJPX4vN8> Finding Your Spiritual Gifts - YouTube

Images for Finding Your Spiritual Gifts - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fb5c1yTvySo> Finding Your Spiritual Gifts - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cGbyETzC3o> How to find your spiritual gift - YouTube

Fine Tuning the Organizational and Communication Engine – Parish Paper

VI. Spiritual Gifts Education

Page 24

[PDF] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 23—Fine Tuning the Organizational and Communication Engine - The Parish Paper

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2023.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 23: Fine Tuning the Organizational and Communication Engine

Images for Fine Tuning the Organizational and Communication Engine – Parish Paper VI. Spiritual Gifts Education

<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>

<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/>

<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

Heights spiritual gifts survey (Mobilizing spiritual gifts series) [Paul Richard Ford]

Your gifts not only define the ministry roles in which you could serve, but also reveal HOW you will serve or teach or lead. Discover your gifts!

<http://www.amazon.com/Heights-spiritual-gifts-survey-Mobilizing/dp/B0006RSBXK>

<https://www.drpaulford.com/articles.htm>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries?currentPage=9>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resources/category/involvement>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Modified_Heights_Spiritual_Gifts_Survey.html?id=r_pHGwAACAAJ

Images for Heights spiritual gifts survey (Mobilizing spiritual gifts series) [Paul Richard Ford]

Identifying and Mobilizing Parishioners' Spiritual Gifts – Parish Paper

I. Introduction

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II. A Spiritual-Gifts Month that Keeps on Ticking Year-Around

Page 3

III. The First Year: Why Use a Spiritual Gifts Inventory?

Page 8

IV. Group Use of "How to Identify Your Spiritual Giftabilities"

Page 9

IV. One Hundred Questions that Reveal My Spiritual Giftabilities

Page 11

V. My Spiritual Giftability Profile

Page 14

VI. Definitions of Thirty Spiritual Gifts Described in the Bible

Page 15

VII. Making the Mental Leap from Insights to Ministry-Application

Page 17

IX. Annual Reinforcement of Initial Education

Page 20

X. Continuously Involving Newcomers in Ministry Roles

Page 21

[PDF] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 24—Identifying and Mobilizing Parishioners' Spiritual Gifts - The Parish Paper

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2024.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 24: Identifying and Mobilizing Parishioners' Spiritual Gifts
[Images for Identifying and Mobilizing Parishioners Spiritual Gifts – Parish Paper](#)

Recommendations of a consultant

A congregation retained the Church Doctor as a consultant to make recommendations on the various areas of life and mission of the congregation before I came. These recommendations informed my interim ministry in that congregation. Following are recommendations for spiritual gifts.

I recommend a ministry team be developed for spiritual gifts.

I recommend this team be focused on the discovery, development, and use of spiritual gifts.

I recommend this team be focused on deploying those in the congregation who are connected to a ministry.

I recommend this become a lifestyle of the church.

Spiritual Gifts — Discover Your Sweet Spot | Church Doctor Ministries

The concept, paradigm or worldview of spiritual gifts establishes a culture, a reality: each person has different gifts, and therefore different roles. The key, as Jim Collins says, in his classic book, *Good to Great*, is to help people get on the right bus – direction, goal, and the right seats on the bus. This is the discovery of your “sweet spot.”

<http://churchdoctorministries.com/spiritual-gifts-discover-your-sweet-spot/>
[Images for Spiritual Gifts — Discover Your Sweet Spot](#)

[PDF] Spiritual Gifts Analysis - Hope Lutheran Church

The Spiritual Gifts Analysis is a tool to assist you in the discovery of how God has gifted you.

<http://www.fargohope.org/assets/files/Adult%20Ministries/Spiritual%20Gifts%20Analysis.pdf>
[Images for Spiritual Gifts Analysis](#)

<http://www.fbca.org/spiritualgifts> **Spiritual Gifts Analysis** - First Baptist Church Arlington
<http://old.moodychurch.org/in-focus/programs/> **Spiritual Gifts Analysis** | In Focus | The Moody Church | Chicago, Illinois

Spiritual Gifts Assessment Tool - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Spiritual Gifts Assessment tool is a quick survey you can take to identify your spiritual gifts.

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/Spiritual-Renewal/Assessment-Tools>
<http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/spiritgifts.pdf>
[Images for Spiritual Gifts Assessment Tool - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#)
<http://www.coindy.org/wp-content/uploads/Spiritual-Gifts-Test.pdf>
<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/spiritual-gifts-online-assessment>
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/new-church-starts/spiritual-gifts> Spiritual Gifts Assessment - Discipleship Ministries
<https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/women-leadership-spiritual-gifts-growth-service> **Spiritual Assessment** Tools | Discover and Using Gifts - LifeWay
<http://www.efccl.org/gifts/> Spiritual Gifts Assessment — EFCCL
<https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/> Spiritual Gifts | FREE **Spiritual Gifts** Survey | **Assessment**, Analysis, Test
<https://groupleaders.org/spiritualgift/> **Spiritual Gift Assessment** — Group Leaders
<https://epic.church/mygifts/> Spiritual Gifts Assessment - Epic Church
<https://www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/volunteer-management/spiritual-gifts-discovery.do> **Spiritual Gifts Assessment** - Volunteer Management - Ministry Resources
<https://cedarcreek.tv/wp-content/uploads/documents/SPIRITUAL%20GIFTS%20ASSESSMENT.pdf>
<https://www.celebraterecoverygabc.com/Spiritual-Gifts-Assessment.html>
<https://youth.adventist.org/Resources/Spiritual-Gifts-Assessment>
<http://www.lifepointchurch.me/resources/spiritual-gifts-assessment/>
<https://www.friendshipwest.org/spiritual-gift-assessment.html>
<https://newhopecc.net/spiritual-gifts-assessment/>
<http://antiochchurchbrighton.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/spiritual-gifts-assessment-1.pdf>
<https://www.thegatewaychurch.com/blog/2016/10/6/spiritual-gifts-assessment>
<http://lcrchurch.org/serve/spiritual-gifts-assessment>
https://www.flchurch.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=229786&type=d&pREC_ID=523299 **TAKE THE GIFTS ASSESSMENT**

Spiritual Gifts | FREE Spiritual Gifts Survey | Assessment, Analysis, Test

The Team Ministry Spiritual Gifts Survey is a discovery tool that provides you with a personalized analysis.

<https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/>
[Images for Spiritual Gifts | FREE Spiritual Gifts Survey | Assessment, Analysis, Test](#)
<https://wordpress.org/plugins/spiritual-gifts-survey/>
<http://www.granitebaysda.org/wp-content/uploads/spiritual-gifts-survey.pdf>
<https://www.gotquestions.org/spiritual-gifts-survey.html>
<http://haymountumc.com/spiritual-gifts-survey/>
<http://www.mycatalystchurch.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/>
<http://alleganbiblechurch.com/spiritual-gift-survey>
<http://www.racinechristian.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/>

<http://firstofallon.com/spiritual-gifts> **Spiritual Gifts Survey** | First Baptist Church O'Fallon
<https://www.amazon.com/Your-Gifts-Spiritual-Discover-Self-Guided/dp/1570522863> Your Gifts: **Spiritual Gifts Survey**: Discover Your Gifts With This Easy to Use Self-Guided **Spiritual Gifts Survey** Used by Over 5 Million People
<https://woostergrace.org/questionnaire/> **Spiritual Gifts Survey** | Grace Church
<https://nashvillefirst.org/spiritualgifts/> **Spiritual Gifts Survey** - | Nashville First
<http://www.holmanumc.com/spiritualgifts/> **Spiritual Gifts Survey** - Holman United Methodist Church
https://www.fbc.cc/spiritual_gifts_survey
<http://ebenezerumc.org/SPIRITUALGIFTSSURVEY2018.pdf>
<http://www.cascadefellowship.org/communications/forms/spiritual-gifts-survey>
<https://www.fbccolumbus.com/spiritual-gifts/survey>
<http://www.nowspouting.com/firstbaptistchurch110/welcomeaddress/spiritual-gifts-survey/?view=mobile>
<http://www.fcc-cookeville.org/education/spiritualgiftsurvey>
http://www.semconline.com/spiritual_gifts_survey

[PDF]Spiritual Gifts Inventory - Youth Ministry Partners

God has blessed all of us with many gifts and talents. Maybe you are skilled as an actor or a piano player or a speaker or an athlete. God calls us to use all of these talents in service of God and others. But the Holy Spirit has also blessed us with spiritual gifts. Each of us in a part of the body of Christ and has an important role to play in keeping the body healthy (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). Complete this survey to get a sense of the spiritual gifts the Spirit has given you.

<https://www.youthministrypartners.com/files/uploads/SpiritualGiftsInventory.pdf>
Images for Spiritual Gifts Inventory - Youth Ministry Partners
http://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/resources/Augustana_spiritual_gifts_inventory_2007.pdf
<http://images.acswebnetworks.com/1/1284/SpiritualGiftsInventory2015.pdf>
<http://www.shelbycog.com/SPIRITUAL-GIFTS-INVENTORY.html>
https://www.allen-temple.org/images/documents/general/spiritual_gifts_inventory.pdf
<http://fumcindy.com/spiritual-gifts-inventory/>
<http://stmartinec.org/images/uploads/discernmentpaper.survey.pdf> [PDF]Discernment of Gifts: St. Martin's **Spiritual Gifts Inventory**
<http://www.oslc-appleton.org/SpiritualGifts.do?1541459890676> **Spiritual Gifts Inventory** - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
<https://mintools.com/spiritual-gifts-test.htm> **Spiritual Gifts Test Inventory**, Online Assessment to Identify Gifting
<http://buildingchurch.net/g2s-i.htm> Gifted2Serve - Online **Spiritual Gifts Inventory** - Questionnaire
<https://www.amazon.com/Discovering-Your-Spiritual-Gifts-Inventory/dp/031075061X>
http://qbod-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/legacy/kintera-files/lay-servant-ministries/SPIRITUAL_GIFTS_INVENTORY.pdf

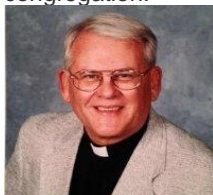
Spiritual Gifts Test - Discover your spiritual gifts!

As a follower of Jesus, exploring and exercising your spiritual gifting is a vital and exciting part of your spiritual journey. This site is designed as a tool to help you discern the spiritual gifts God has given you.

<http://giftstest.com/>
Images for Spiritual Gifts Test - Discover your spiritual gifts! images
<https://spiritualgiftstest.com/>
<https://lonerwolf.com/spiritual-gifts-test/>
<https://www.sdrock.com/giftstest/>
http://tlumc.org/images/documents/adult_spiritual_gifts_test.pdf
<https://www.triumphch.org/632682.ihtml> spiritual gifts test - Triumph Church
https://www.assessme.org/spiritual-gifts/?qclid=Cj0KCQiA8f_eBRDcARIsAEKwRGcUv-xwC4kTk4OQNriGWtmzYHkD2vRbxk6h_PPIyAFSS_7IM4AQ4GMAAs5BEALw_wcB Spiritual Gift Test for Church | Manage Your Church Volunteers
<https://strivingtogether.com/church-leadership/discipleship/spiritual-gifts-test/>

Spiritual Gifts: The Power That Drives the Congregation [Neal R. Boese]

You have within you a God given gift that is to be used for service. Within the pages of this book, there is a listing of the spiritual gifts; scriptural definitions of each gift; stories of individuals who possess the gifts and an inventory that can help you determine your own gift. There is also a chapter that includes methods of how you implement the study of gifts within a congregation.



<http://www.amazon.com/Spiritual-Gifts-Power-Drives-Congregation/dp/0788006150>
http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=2284
<https://www.abebooks.com/book-search/author/neal-r-boese/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/neal-boese-a3644736>
Images for Spiritual Gifts: The Power That Drives the Congregation [Neal R. Boese]

The Great Permission: An Asset-Based Field Guide for Congregations [Bob Sitze, Laurel Hensel, Kristina Meyer]

What is an asset-based approach! *An asset way of thinking and behaving helps God's people move past problems and toward opportunities. *Needs don't disappear in asset-based planning. They're just not the place to start, nor the place to get stuck. *This approach helps people name their assets, Then they can begin to know and value themselves better.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Great-Permission-Asset-Based-Congregations/dp/B000R2WLBW>

http://resources.elca.org/Stewardship-Great_Permission_Asset-based_Field_Guide.html

<http://www.genevalutheran.org/manage/theVoice/2012%20Issues/Issue%20179-Jan12.pdf>

Page 2

<http://www.congregationalvitalitysurvey.com/resources.html>

www.ecfvp.org/files/uploads/final_resources_final_120111.xls

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/author/bob-sitze/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Bob-Sitze/e/B001JS0ZYI>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/65728.Bob_Sitze

[Images for Bob Sitze, author](#)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bobsitze>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/author/laurel-hensel/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/laurel-hensel-58b9bb7>

<https://www.facebook.com/laurel.hensel>

[Images for Laurel Hensel, author asset-based field guide](#)

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/8204356.Kristina_Meyer

[Images for Kristina Meyer, author asset-based field guide](#)

[Images for The Great Permission: An Asset-Based Field Guide for Congregations \[Bob Sitze, Laurel Hensel, Kristina Meyer\]](#)

The Power of Asset Mapping: How Your Congregation Can Act on Its Gifts [Luther K. Snow]

Asset mapping isn't a new system or theory. It's a way of thinking, a doorway into an "open-sum" perspective rooted in the Bible and common experience. *The Power of Asset Mapping* The, by long-time community developer Luther K. Snow, shows congregational leaders how to help a group recognize its assets and the abundance of God's gifts and to act on them in ministry and mission.

Congregations will find the book easy to read and immediately useful. Leaders can begin with the tested Quick and Simple Asset Mapping Experience to strengthen and inspire any group in the congregation in as little as an hour. Further tips, techniques, stories, and lessons drawn from the experience of diverse congregations will help readers discover how asset mapping works. Finally, Snow provides lessons about why asset mapping strengthens faith and community.



<http://www.amazon.com/Power-Asset-Mapping-Congregation-Gifts/dp/156699294X>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/725060.The_Power_of_Asset_Mapping

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566996709/The-Power-of-Asset-Mapping-How-Your-Congregation-Can-Act-on-Its-Gifts>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996708>

<http://luthersnow.com/publications.html>

<http://www.luthersnow.com/asset-mapping-title-page.html>

https://alban.org/uploadedFiles/Alban/Bookstore/pdf/resources/Asset_Mapping/resource2.pdf

<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=3940>

<http://www.abcdinstitute.org/faculty/lsnow/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Luther-K.-Snow/e/B001K8H4WI>

[Images for luther k. snow, author the power of asset mapping](#)

[Images for The Power of Asset Mapping: How Your Congregation Can Act on Its Gifts \[Luther K. Snow\]](#)

The 3 Colors of Ministry: A Trinitarian Approach to Identifying and Developing Your Spiritual Gifts [Christian A. Schwarz]

Would you like to use your spiritual gifts to their full potential? The 3 Colors of Ministry presents a holistic approach to identifying and developing your spiritual gifts. It is based on the three dimensions of God's nature, for which the author has chosen the colors of green, red and blue. In addition to emphasizing the critical importance of using your gifts in an authentically trinitarian way, this book shows you where you most need to focus your energies in order to bring this kind of balance to your Christian service. The natural result will be increased effectiveness. A gift test is included with this resource.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Colors-Ministry-Trinitarian-Identifying/dp/1889638161>

<http://3colorworld.org/en/books/ministry>

<http://merewetheranglican.org.au/download/get/preview-of-the-3-colors-of-min/110.html>

<https://www.amazon.com/Christian-A.-Schwarz/e/B001K83BVQ>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/280999.Christian_A_Schwarz

[Images for christian a. schwarz, author](#)

<http://www.ncd-international.org/public/christian-a-schwarz.html>

http://www.ucobserver.org/interviews/theologians/2010/02/christian_schwarz/

Your Leadership Grip: Assessment Process [Paul R. Ford, Robert Rummel, Julie Becker]

Leadership is a series of functions carried out by a group of people, not just a job filled by one person. Through three assessments you'll discover how God has shaped you.

Leaders are commonly strong in two or three of these five areas: values keepers, team builders, listeners, vision sharers and equippers. The dynamic part of your leadership style grows from your **spiritual gifting**. There are many things that you do well, but only two or three that you do powerfully on a consistent basis. Finally, you will look at how your gifts function in a team setting.

<http://www.amazon.com/Your-Leadership-Grip-Assessment-Process/dp/1889638234>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22059102-your-leadership-grip>

<http://www.drpaulford.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/a.pdf>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/8193867.Paul_R_Ford

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2122856.Robert_Rummel

[Images for Your Leadership Grip: Assessment Process \[Paul R. Ford, Robert Rummel, Julie Becker\]](#)

Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow [C. Peter Wagner]

This is an easy-to-use, self-guided questionnaire that helps you identify and understand your unique God-given spiritual gifts. Discover your own gifts as well as how they can be used. You'll also understand the difference between your natural and spiritual gifts. For easy use and self-scoring, a spiritual inventory is included in the back of the book.

Help your congregation discover their spiritual gifts and talents and provide them with practical guidelines on how to use their gifts to build God's kingdom. Includes a copy of the best-selling book and a reproducible study guide.

<http://www.amazon.com/Your-Spiritual-Gifts-Help-Church/dp/0830762299>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2713892-your-spiritual-gifts-can-help-your-church-grow>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/your-spiritual-gifts-can-help-your-church-grow-c-peter-wagner/1100725353>

<https://www.logos.com/product/49941/your-spiritual-gifts-can-help-your-church-grow>

<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/your-spiritual-gifts-can-help-your-church-grow-repackaged-edition/363711>

https://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/easy_find?Ntk=author&Ntt=C.%20Peter%20Wagner

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/c-peter-wagner/198677/>

<https://www.amazon.com/C.-Peter-Wagner/e/B000AP9EY8>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/53097.C_Peter_Wagner

[Images for C. Peter Wagner, author](#)

[Images for Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow \[C. Peter Wagner\]](#)

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Resources

Eight Quality Characteristics

2. **Gift** Based Ministry

The gift-based approach reflects the conviction that God sovereignly enables each believer in the fruitful involvement in respective ministries. When Christians serve in their area of giftedness, they generally function less in their own strength and more in the power of the Holy Spirit. In this way, ordinary people can accomplish the extraordinary.

<http://baptist.ca/churches/church-health/eight-quality-characteristics/>

[Images for Gift Based Ministry](#)

How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper

II. Ingredients in Effective Annual Stewardship Education

- These churches talk about **time and talent** stewardship during a different month than they schedule the annual financial campaign.

[\[PDF\]Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 5--How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper](#)

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf> Page 21

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 5: How to Increase Financial Stewardship

[Images for churches talk about time and talent stewardship](#)

LifeKeys Discovery Workbook: Discover Who You Are by Jane A. G. Kise (Author), David Stark (Author), Sandra Krebs Hirsh (Author)

This updated comprehensive guide helps people discover how God has uniquely created them. Engaging stories, inventories, self-tests, and other easy-to-use exercises make Discover Who You Are a one-of-a-kind tool. It will help those longing to find or deepen meaning in life, considering volunteer opportunities, contemplating career changes, or desiring to become more useful to God. The book, workbook, and leader's material provide all that's needed for a LifeKeys workshop.

<http://www.amazon.com/LifeKeys-Discovery-Workbook-Discover-Who/dp/0764200763>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/653110.Lifekeys>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/lifekeys-discovery-workbook-jane-a-g-kise/1114836696>

<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/lifekeys-discovery-workbook-revised-edition/267560>

<https://www.christianbook.com/lifekeys-discover-you-are-revised-edition/jane-kise/9780764200755/pd/200755>

<https://books.google.com/books/about/LifeKeys.html?id=kGVzBQAAQBAJ>

LifeKeys: Discover Who You Are - Jane A. G. Kise, David Stark, Sandra Krebs Hirsch

<https://poplargo.org/2018/01/02/lifekeys-discover-workshop/>

Images for Jane A. G. Kise (Author), David Stark (Author), Sandra Krebs Hirsch (Author)

Images for LifeKeys Discovery Workbook: Discover Who You Are by Jane A. G. Kise (Author), David Stark (Author), Sandra Krebs Hirsch

Living Your Strengths: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community [Albert L. Winseman, Donald O. Clifton, Curt Liesveld]

Personal stories and actionable advice for the spiritually committed, all rooted in a decade of research.

Even in a country as religious as the U.S., many people feel disengaged from their faith communities. More than half report that they really don't get the opportunity in their congregation to do what they do best. People just feel disconnected.

Maybe it's because those faith communities make unwitting missteps: Pastors ask shy people to be Greeters, or recruit innately disorganized people to coordinate church events.

The problem is simply this: Too many people's talents are going unappreciated. But it doesn't have to be this way. Living Your Strengths shows readers how to use their innate gifts to enrich their faith communities. The book - written by onetime pastors Albert Winseman and Curt Liesveld, and Donald O. Clifton, co-author of the national bestseller Now, Discover Your Strengths - shows people how to identify and affirm their talents, and how to use them for growth and service. Most importantly, Living Your Strengths helps people discover their true calling.

The book includes an ID code that gives readers access to StrengthsFinder.com, a personality assessment that reveals user's top 5 talent themes. Spiritual enrichment begins with turning talents into strengths. Living Your Strengths is an indispensable guide to help readers to just that.

<http://www.amazon.com/Living-Your-Strengths-God-Given-Community/dp/1595620028>

<http://www.booksamillion.com/p/Living-Your-Strengths/Albert-L-Winseman/9781595620026>

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/living-your-strengths-albert-l-winseman/1102228786>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Living_Your_Strengths.html?id=f9pDCwAAQBAJ

<http://www.gallup.com/press/176561/living-strengths.aspx>

<http://www.gallup.com/strategicconsulting/157658/living-strengths.aspx>

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-1-59562-002-6>

<http://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Living-Your-Strengths/Donald-O-Clifton/9781595620026>

<https://www.amazon.com/Albert-L.-Winseman/e/B001JP21ZC>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/191093.Albert_L_Winseman

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/323759-living-your-strengths-discover-your-god-given-talents-and-inspire-your>

Images for Albert L. Winseman, author

<http://www.simonandschuster.com/authors/Albert-L-Winseman/576171039>

<https://speakerpedia.com/speakers/albert-l-winseman-d-min>

<http://www.simonandschuster.com/authors/Donald-O-Clifton/576096273>

http://www.azquotes.com/author/39889-Donald_O_Clifton

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald_O._Clifton

<https://www.amazon.com/Donald-O.-Clifton/e/B001H6GOMY>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27691.Donald_O_Clifton

Images for Donald O. Clifton, author

<http://www.simonandschuster.com/authors/Curt-Liesveld/576096372>

https://www.amazon.com/s?ie=UTF8&page=1&rh=n%3A283155%2Cp_27%3ACurt%20Liesveld

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/191092.Curt_Liesveld

Images for Curt Liesveld, author

Images for Living Your Strengths: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community [Albert L. Winseman, Donald O. Clifton, Curt Liesveld]

Time & Talents | St. Timothy Lutheran Church, ELCA

Would you like to get involved in one of our many programs or ministries here at St. Timothy? **Start Here!** Filling out a Time and Talent's Form is the place to start.

<http://www.sttimothy Lutheran.com/get-involved/time-and-talents/>

Images for Time & Talents | St. Timothy Lutheran Church, ELCA

<http://www.sttimothy Lutheran.com/get-involved/>

www.sttimothy Lutheran.com/get-involved/serve-each-other/youth-programs/

www.sttimothy Lutheran.com/get-involved/serve-each-other/

www.sttimothy Lutheran.com/get-involved/serve-the-world/

Time and Talent Survey | St. Timothys UMC

Need help discerning your passions?

What are your Spiritual Gifts? Every person is gifted by God. These spiritual gifts are innate – inborn orientations that transcend skills or abilities. [Find out yours now.](#)

<http://www.sttims-umc.org/time-and-talent-survey/>

Images for What are your Spiritual Gifts? Every person is gifted by God. These spiritual gifts are innate – inborn orientations that transcend skills or abilities. [Find out yours now.](#)

Tell us how you can contribute!

<http://www.tmlchurch.com/time-talent-form.html>

[Images for Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church | Time & Talent Form Tell us how you can contribute!](#)

What Are Spiritual Gifts?: Rethinking the Conventional View by Kenneth Berding (Editor)

In this groundbreaking work, New Testament scholar Kenneth Berding suggests that we have misunderstood the spiritual gifts themselves and how they function, and thus have embarked on a misplaced search to find individualized spiritual gifts.

<https://www.amazon.com/What-Are-Spiritual-Gifts-Conventional/dp/0825421241>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/411388.What_Are_Spiritual_Gifts

<https://www.pinterest.com/christineparks4/spiritual-gifts/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/nscottsdaleumc/spiritual-gifts/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/jeichhorst/spiritual-gifts/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/priscillacamach/spiritual-giftsgod-given-purpose-talents-ephesians/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Kenneth-Berding/e/B001JS5LSS>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/232936.Kenneth_Berding

[Images for kenneth berding author spiritual gifts](#)

[Images for What Are Spiritual Gifts?: Rethinking the Conventional View by Kenneth Berding \(Editor\)](#)

21) Estimate of giving

When people plan for their giving, they tend to give more than otherwise. An annual response Commitment Sunday with an opportunity to make an estimate of giving provides a concrete opportunity for people to be intentional in giving.

Commitment Sunday Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel during this interim period of the life of the church!

We are in the midst of a transition. Following the retirement of a long-term pastor, this church seeks pastoral leadership to help this church move in a new direction by establishing a partnership between home and church to live out our mission:

This congregation is a *vibrant faith* church in that we seek to grow in our faith and to share that faith with others.

Congregational leadership, in general, and the Call Committee, in particular, is seeking an installed pastor who will partner with our people to help this faith community build a *vibrant faith* church. I hope you are looking forward to this new year and the calling of a new pastor.

With that in mind, I am writing to tell you about our Vibrant Faith Commitment Sunday on November 13. The worship services on that Sunday will provide an opportunity to offer an estimate of giving for the upcoming year. Enclosed you will find such a card and envelope that can be brought Sunday, November 13, and placed in the offering plate. I invite your prayerful discernment in making out this estimate of giving.

Our special speaker for the day will be Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Amy Odgren, who is the Director for Evangelical Mission in our Northwest Synod of Wisconsin and shared staff with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She will share with us how walking together makes for a more vibrant faith church.

Your generous support of the life and ministry of this congregation is much appreciated!

God bless you!

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Lowell Bolstad

The fall stewardship appeal leading up to an estimate of giving at one congregation I served was called Hooked on Mission.

Hooked on Mission to be focus in October

Purpose – *Because God first loved us, we reach out to make Christ known to as many people as possible.*

Under the theme, Hooked on Mission, our fall stewardship appeal will help us to focus on our mission as the generous people of God. During the month of October, we will play with the metaphor of fishing and explore:

Favorite Fishing Hole – Sharing the good news of Jesus both near and far

Catch and Release – Knowing the blessings of God when generosity is practiced

Fishing Poles – Giving to the Lord in proportion to our ability

How Many Fish Did You Catch? – Living for and serving others in the name of Jesus

Knowing that what we do in the name of Jesus in and through the mission of our congregation makes a significant difference to the many to whom we witness and serve.

You are invited to begin praying about what your financial commitment will be to the work of the Lord's church. The weekend of November 8-9 will be the opportunity to offer up commitment cards to reflect one's intent to be Hooked on Mission in the name of Jesus. Pray about what it means to be Hooked on Mission.

Resources

Estimate of Giving: First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown

Welcome to the online Estimate of Giving Card for the mission of FPCY. The questions that follow are the same as those on the paper card and will be recorded in the same manner. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 914-245-2186 or by e-mail: office@fpcyorktown.org. Thank you!

<https://fpcyorktown.org/giving/estimate-of-giving/>

[Images for Estimate of Giving: First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown](#)

[\[PDF\] 50 Ways to Improve Your Annual Stewardship Campaign - Lewis Center for Church Leadership](#)

<http://www.churchleadership.com/pdfs/50%20Ways%20to%20Improve%20Your%20Annual%20Stewardship%20Campaign.pdf>

[Images for Improve Your Annual Stewardship Campaign](#)

<https://www.churchleadership.com/category/50-ways/>

Five Effective Stewardship Programs: Which One Should We Use? | The Parish Paper

The Bottom Line.

Jack Phillips expressed frustration during a stewardship committee meeting: "We keep singing the same old song, with very little success." A committee member responded, "Jack, this is the only song we know." Which of these five stewardship programs can help our congregations learn a new song?

http://vbmb.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Parish-Paper_2007-05.pdf

<https://bgav.org/the-parish-paper/> May – Five Effective Stewardship Programs

[Images for Five Effective Stewardship Programs: Which One Should We Use? | The Parish Paper](#)

How to Increase Financial Stewardship | Parish Paper

Ten Types of Annual Stewardship Campaign

Page 21

[\[PDF\] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 5--How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper](#)

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 5: How to Increase Financial Stewardship

[Images for How to Increase Financial Stewardship | Parish Paper Ten Types of Annual Stewardship Campaign](#)

[Giving Magazine – Ecumenical Stewardship Center](#)

Now in its sixteenth year, *Giving: Growing Joyful Stewards in Your Congregation* has become a premier stewardship resource for churches and denominations throughout North America. Each magazine is packed with resources to support stewardship in the local church. Articles explore the intersection of faith and giving, offer practical information on Christian stewardship for all generations, and critique the newest resources on stewardship. Each issue of *Giving* also includes a center section that outlines a simple response method for an annual congregational stewardship emphasis which can be used "as is" or supplemented with additional theme materials and companion resources.

<https://stewardshipresources.org/resources/giving-magazine>

[Images for Giving Magazine – Ecumenical Stewardship Center](#)

<https://stewardshipresources.org/resources/item/343>

<https://stewardshipresources.org/resources/theme-materials>

[\[PDF\] How to Improve Financial Stewardship - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#)

This is a 32-page booklet outlining the 6 most popular financial response methods.

[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/How to Improve Financial Stewardship A Guide f.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/How%20to%20Improve%20Financial%20Stewardship%20A%20Guide%20f.pdf)

[Images for How to Improve Financial Stewardship - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#)

<http://www.stewardshipoflife.org/2015/04/how-to-improve-financial-stewardship/>

<https://www.churchleadership.com/50-ways/50-ways-to-improve-your-annual-stewardship-campaign/>

<https://accidentallygreen.com/improving-my-financial-stewardship/>

<http://blog.neiasynod.org/2014/04/how-to-improve-financial-stewardship/>

<http://synodresourcecenter.org/stew/program/>

<http://nwmnsynod.org/resources/make-it-simple/> Make It Simple: A Resource for Stewardship Education and Annual Response –

Northwestern Minnesota Synod

<http://www.mnys.org/giving/stewardship/>

[New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program with Guest Leader Guide & CD-ROM: Revised Edition \[Herb Miller\]](#)

New Consecration Sunday approaches financing the ministries of your congregation by teaching stewardship from a spiritual perspective rather than a fundraising perspective. It focuses on the question, "What is God calling me to do?" rather than, "What does the church need in order to pay its bills?"

<http://www.amazon.com/Consecration-Sunday-Stewardship-Program-Leader/dp/0687644372>

<http://wumf.org/assets/DescriptionForChurchesSeekingScholarship.pdf>

<https://www.amazon.com/Herb-Miller/e/B000APTUMO>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/116561.Herb_Miller

[Images for \[Herb Miller\] Consecration Sunday](#)

[Images for New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program with Guest Leader Guide & CD-ROM: Revised Edition \[Herb Miller\]](#)

[Seek Ye First - Stewardship 2015 - Week 2 \(FPC Conway\) - YouTube](#)

For week 2 of the 2015 stewardship season, we discuss just a few ways our building is used in outreach to the community and our members during the week.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJjk92rnfl>

[Images for Seek Ye First - Stewardship - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6hn14hRCUU> Seek Ye First - Stewardship 2015 - Week 3 (FPC Conway) - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_b7UtrZ1J4 Seek Ye First - Stewardship 2015 - Week 4 (FPC Conway) - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKi15IJXAbc> "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" – FPC Chancel Choir

7 things to remember while planning for your church's fall stewardship program – Margaret Marcuson

Some churches have their stewardship campaign all set for this fall. Others haven't even started planning. Whatever your situation, big church or small, early planning or last-minute effort, here are seven things to remember.

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/7-things-remember-planning-churchs-fall-stewardship-program/>

[Images for church's fall stewardship program – Margaret Marcuson](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Margaret-J.-Marcuson/e/B002G1PKAG>

<https://www.churchleadership.com/50-ways/50-ways-to-encourage-faithful-giving/>

Stewardship in the Small Membership Congregation Digital Resource

Stewardship in the Small Membership Congregation is especially created with small congregations in mind. Written by Clark Hargus, Disciples of Christ pastor, *Stewardship in the Small Membership Congregation* has been used successfully by faith communities throughout North America for more than two decades. Originally titled *Stewardship in the Small Membership Rural Congregation*, the title and text have been edited in this digital release to recognize that small congregations exist in a variety of geographic contexts and to reflect today's communications options.

With more than 30 pages of materials, *Stewardship in the Small Membership Congregation* is packed with resources: an overview of the importance of congregational stewardship and the involvement of leadership, a six-session Bible study, and a complete congregational stewardship emphasis plan that includes Sunday school or small group study lessons and worship service materials. Purchase of this resource includes permission to copy and distribute materials as needed for your congregation.

<https://stewardshipresources.org/resources/item/283>

[Images for Stewardship in the Small Membership Congregation](#)

Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share

As God's people, we have compelling stories to tell about what God has done for us, with us, and through us, and we have many incredible gifts to share with each other and the world. *Stories To Tell & Gifts To Share* is a collection of resources designed to guide the members of your congregation toward a deeper understanding of God's story as they tell their own faith stories, and respond to God's blessings by sharing God's gifts with the world. On these pages, you will learn about how to use *Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share* with your congregation.

[Augsburg Fortress | Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share](#)

<http://www.augsburgfortress.org/community/storiestotell/>

[Images for Augsburg Fortress | Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share](#)

http://www.augsburgfortress.org/community/storiestotell/additional_resources.jsp

<http://www.messiahnh.org/2007/10/stories-to-tell-gifts-to-share/>

https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=Images+for+Stories+to+Tell+%26+Gifts+to+Share

<https://vimeo.com/8424230> Stories to Tell and Gifts to Share

The Celebrate Generosity Stewardship Program

Celebrate Generosity is a four-week program (though the committee meets with the guest leader about four weeks prior to the beginning week to plan) designed to help members discover the joys of giving through growth in giving. The primary reason for an annual financial response program is spiritual growth. Congregations conduct stewardship programs for a variety of reasons. For many, the bottom line in a stewardship program is more money. For others, the primary reason is to share the vision for mission of the congregational leadership. While these are usually outcomes of conducting a program, they are secondary. The best reason for a financial stewardship program is spiritual growth. People find that as they discover the joy of giving, they also grow spiritually.

[Publications - Celebrate Generosity](#)

<http://eugenegrimm.com/styled-5/index.html>

[Images for Celebrate Generosity Stewardship Program](#)

The Pastoral Stewardship Letter – Faith+Lead - Luther Seminary

This is an example of a stewardship letter sent by two pastors to congregation members. The letter includes prayer, biblical reflection, thanksgiving, personal testimony, a bold ask, and information about how to make a commitment.

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/the-pastoral-stewardship-letter/>

[Images for Pastoral Stewardship Letter – Luther Seminary](#)

Weaving Our Lives Together by Janice Johnson Fcba (Author), Ruben Swint (Author)

Weaving Our Lives Together is a unique, creative program that will develop more generous and faithful stewards in your congregation. Successful use of *Weaving Our Lives Together* will create new givers, increase funding for ministries and programs, increase involvement of members, build a new depth of relationships within your congregation, and develop a greater understanding of your church's mission, vision, and values.

<http://www.thefellowship.info/Resources/Churches/Stewardship/Studies/Weaving>

<https://www.amazon.com/Weaving-Lives-Together-Janice-Johnson/dp/0970543360>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4623588.Janice_Johnson

[Images for Weaving Our Lives Together by Janice Johnson Fcba \(Author\), Ruben Swint \(Author\)](#)

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN? For Increasing Financial Stewardship in Your Church

The following questions will aid you in getting organized for successful stewardship in your congregation. By fully considering these questions, you should arrive at the answers you need to move confidently ahead. You will have a plan.

<https://healthychurch.org/2017/07/whats-plan-increasing-financial-stewardship-church/>

[Images for WHAT'S YOUR PLAN? For Increasing Financial Stewardship in your Church](https://www.stewardshipcentral.org/posts/6-ways-one-church-increased-giving-by-23-percent)

<https://www.stewardshipcentral.org/posts/6-ways-one-church-increased-giving-by-23-percent>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>

<https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Stewardship-Manual-FINAL.pdf> 3 SECTION I Challenging Members to **Increase Their Giving**

<http://www.css-elca.org/stewardship> #5

<https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1102&context=doctoral> Increasing Financial Stewardship in the Church of Christ

[Images for Increasing Financial Stewardship in the Church of Christ](https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/58820449.pdf)

<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/58820449.pdf>

22) Pull the wagon or sit in the wagon?

I was asked by the family to visit the wife and mother in hospice. I visited 4X in 10 days. The husband admitted to me that they had not attended services of worship or contributed in several years. He added, "It would be too bad if we didn't have a church." I was told to expect 100-125 at the memorial service and lunch. The lunch group ended up serving 176. I thought I might see the widower come to services of worship afterwards but never did.

Tom McLaughlin: Wagon-Pullers Getting Tired

Got an over-the-table job? Paying taxes? Paying for your own health insurance? Well, you're pulling the wagon. If you've been pulling it very long, you've noticed that it's getting heavier. That's because there are more people riding and fewer pulling. How long can this go on? Not forever, that's for sure and the load is about to get even heavier – much heavier. How long before the wagon runs into the ditch and everybody falls off?

<http://tommclaughlin.blogspot.com/2009/01/wagon-pullers-getting-tired.html>

[Images for Wagon-Pullers Getting Tired](http://tommclaughlin.blogspot.com/2009/01/wagon-pullers-getting-tired.html)

23) Money, money, money...

In consulting with the installed pastor prior to beginning a new assignment, I observed that the mileage reimbursement seemed to be low considering the miles to be driven. She responded, "It's all about the money." I discovered she was right as many in congregation leadership considered it their primary obligation to keep expenses to a minimum and likewise support to the wider church to a minimum.

Money Talk - Spiritual Adventure by Alan Mead

I have been amazed at how frequently money is an issue during transition. Whether it is concern over normal budget issues or something else, like finding the funds for a search and relocation process, money and how we use it is always present for us as individuals and for congregations. Whatever the reasons, and there may be many, money is an issue that commonly arises during an interim.

<https://files.constantcontact.com/fbaed027be/7b5a75e4-b2a9-47f0-a53e-35c9faea7840.pdf>

Interim Ministry Network February 22, 2019 E-Letter

[Images for Alan Mead of the Interim Ministry Network](https://files.constantcontact.com/fbaed027be/7b5a75e4-b2a9-47f0-a53e-35c9faea7840.pdf)

24) Should a pastor know how much people give?

As an interim pastor, I have not made it my business to know, but I understand the argument that a pastor should know.

Resources

A Pastor's Thoughts on Knowing What People Give – Church Law and Tax

One subject that's always good for a little controversy is a discussion of whether or not a pastor should have access to congregational giving records. Years ago, I was a proud, card-carrying member of the "*I-don't-know-who-gives-what*" tribe. But I changed my mind after being challenged and realizing that:

<http://www.churchlawandtax.com/blog/2011/may/pastors-thoughts-on-knowing-what-people-give.html>

[Images for A Pastor's Thoughts on Knowing What People Give – Church Law and Tax](http://www.churchlawandtax.com/blog/2011/may/pastors-thoughts-on-knowing-what-people-give.html)

Should a Pastor Know What Church Members Give?

A good pastor pays attention to all the signs of spiritual development. And someone's giving is one important fruit of spiritual maturity. Growth in giving can signal a deepening faith commitment. And an unexpected drop in giving can be a symptom of other pastoral concerns, such as illness or unemployment.

http://www.churchleadership.com/leadingideas/leaddocs/2015/150218_article.html

[Images for Should a Pastor Know What Church Members Give?](http://www.churchleadership.com/leadingideas/leaddocs/2015/150218_article.html)

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/should-pastors-have-access-to-records-of-personal-giving>

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/faqs-giving>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2013/may/should-pastors-know-how-much-church-members-give.html>

<https://www.faithandleadership.com/louis-weeks-should-pastors-know-what-members-give>

<http://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/should-pastors-know-what-people-or-church-members-give/>

[http://www.thegeneroussteward.com/uploads/Stewardship2006- Should the Pastor Know.pdf](http://www.thegeneroussteward.com/uploads/Stewardship2006-Should%20the%20Pastor%20Know.pdf)

<http://www.kluth.org/WhatShouldPastorsKnowAboutGiving.htm>
<http://www.christiancentury.org/article/2015-11/who-pledges-how-much>
http://www.realclearreligion.org/2015/11/24/who_pledges_how_much_270264.html
<http://margaretmarcuson.com/giving-to-the-church-who-should-know/>
[Images for margaret marcuson/giving-to-the-church-who-should-know](http://www.baptiststandard.com/opinion/editorial/18561-editorial-should-your-pastor-know-what-you-give)
<https://www.baptiststandard.com/opinion/editorial/18561-editorial-should-your-pastor-know-what-you-give>
[Images for should-your-pastor-know-what-you-give](#)

At one congregation, the money counter read off the amounts of each contributor from the previous morning to be recorded by the church secretary next door in the church office so that I could plainly hear. He did not read any names, so I could not put names and amounts together. I was so impressed with the amounts I increased my weekly giving \$10.

25) Should member's giving amounts be published?

In the past, the question of whether a pastor should know how much each member contributed was not an issue because the contribution figures for members of some congregations were published in the annual report. I ran across one such report from 1958 which published an individual contribution report. A few of the people listed in the report still attended the services of worship at the congregation. Interestingly, in this same small congregation, members took turns counting the offering after the services of worship, so I am thinking that many people know what each other are giving anyway. I am not aware of any congregations that publish such figures today. Some congregations publish other forms of offering contribution analysis.

Resources

[PDF] Annual Report - Trinity Lutheran Church

Offering Contribution Analysis

http://www.trinity-ec.org/annual_report_2013.pdf

Page 42

http://www.trinity-ec.org/annual_report_2015.pdf

Page 35

[Images for Church Offering Contribution Analysis](#)

Who Should Be Able to See Individual Church Giving Records? – ThomRainer.com

Let's look at six perspectives.

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/04/who-should-be-able-to-see-individual-church-giving-records/>

[Images for Who Should Be Able to See Individual Church Giving Records? – ThomRainer.com Let's look at six perspectives.](#)

[Images for thom rainer on Individual Church Giving Records](#)

<http://toddrhoades.com/what-should-pastors-know-about-the-offering/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/01/seven-traits-of-churches-with-increasing-per-member-giving/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/04/10-ideas-improve-giving-church/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/03/six-reasons-why-your-churchs-offerings-may-be-struggling/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2017/01/adjust-church-giving-decreases-rainer-leadership-293/>

<http://www.lifeway.com/Article/HomeLife-I-Am-a-Church-Member-Thom-S-Rainer>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thom_S._Rainer

<http://www.lifeway.com/Article/Thom-S-Rainer>

[Images for thom rainer \(author\)](#)

26) Stewardship education at synod Walking Together event

The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin focused on stewardship at the 2015 Walking Together Event and Synod Assembly.

'Generosity Project' theme for 2015 Synod Assembly

This year's synod assembly will be held May 30-31 on the UW-Eau Claire campus. In addition to taking care of synod business matters, voting members and guests will hear Nathan Dungan, founder and president of Share, Save, Spend. For over 20 years, Nathan has been an industry thought-leader on helping individuals and families align their values with their money decisions. Once again, we have combined two great events--Walking Together and synod assembly--into one big weekend. Walking Together will be a one-day event that is open to everyone. Congregations are encouraged to bring a group for this day of learning and sharing ideas. The cost is \$15 per person and includes lunch. If you are a voting member for synod assembly, the cost of Walking Together is included in your assembly registration.

After a full day of resource sharing, we will begin the work of synod assembly at 7 p.m. Saturday. Voting members, observers and visitors must register in advance. Assembly business will continue all day Sunday, ending by 3:00 p.m.

http://www.nswi.org/news_and_events/assembly2015.phtml

Growing Grateful Generous Givers

Pastors, bring a team of 3-5 people to this workshop and be equipped to do year-round stewardship. You will go home with the tools you need to open up the conversation about stewardship in your congregation in a new way. Choose the workshops that are most convenient for you. They will be led by pastors from this synod. There is no cost for these workshops. Call or email the synod office to register your team: 715.859.6810 or lbartsch@nswi.org.

Workshop Descriptions for Walking Together Saturday, May 30, 2015 sponsored by the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin held at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

BUILDING A CASE: WHY GIVE TO THE CHURCH?

Rev. Sandy Johnson, Hope Lutheran, River Falls; Rev. Sue Eidahl, Zion Lutheran, Stratford; and Rev. Mike Briggs, Trinity Lutheran, Hammond

What is God doing in your life and in the life of your congregation? How do you experience God's generosity? Where do you see God at work? Have your God "sightings" changed the way you participate in God's work using your hands? What motivates people to participate in and financially support the ministries of your congregation? These are some of the questions we'll consider in this workshop. Our responses to these questions are shaped by our experiences. Come and tell the story of your experience in receiving generosity or extending generosity. And hear the stories of others when we gather with others from around the synod for this important and instructive conversation.

COMPETING FOR THE OFFERING PLATE: GROWING GENEROSITY IN AND THROUGH OUR CONGREGATIONS

Rev. Nancy Amacher, retired; Rev. Deborah Nissen, English Lutheran, Chippewa Falls; and Rev. Tim Vettrus, First Lutheran, Prairie Farm

There are so many good causes out there. We can teach our congregations to filter them through God's eyes. Beginning with our Creator, we learn to prioritize our giving for God's work among God's creatures using the 10-10-80 perspective and Try-a-Tithe Sunday, with a goal of starting our stewardship with God at the center.

GENEROSITY PROJECT

Keith Mundy, ELCA

Come explore what it means to be faithful stewards in your congregation, home and the world. We will focus on how we accompany one another where we are with the understanding that our participation in God's mission happens at every age and stage of life.

IF I HAD A MILLION DOLLARS!

Rev. Martin Halom, St. John's Lutheran, Bloomer, and Rev. Mara Ahles Iverson, Our Savior's and Northfield Lutheran, Hixton
The band Barenaked Ladies knows how they would spend a million dollars, but would our youth? Come find out some tools and resources to help our youth understand the power of money and being a steward.

KIOSK GIVING

Pam Voigt, Council President, Living Water Lutheran, Cameron

Passing the pate in church is about as old as worship itself; for generations, the way we've collected offerings from the faithful to fund the mission of the church. For years it was filled with coins and cash, then later on checks. Church responded to the world of auto pay by introducing "Simply Giving," a system which works well for many; but what about that segment of our worshipping community that no longer carries cash and isn't yet ready to sign up for automatic withdrawal? Learn how one congregation is filling this gap with a new "Giving Kiosk," enabling folks to pay with debit and credit cards or by their smart phones.

MOVE FROM SUCCESS TO SIGNIFICANCE

Larry Westfield, Regional Financial Planner, ELCA

What brings you Joy? Asking the question has led to the discovery that the old adage that says, "Money can't make you happy" is simply not true. Money can make you happy, but only when you give it away. This workshop will explore the growing desire in the hearts of young and old to find ways to be productive not just profitable. While the drive to be successful may propel people in the early years of life, at some point we all begin seeking significance. Augustine said that asking yourself the question of your own legacy – What do I wish to be remembered for? – is the beginning of adulthood. What brings you joy? Together we will consider how thoughtful legacy planning may add joy to the members of your congregation and provide added financial resources for future ministry.

STEWARDSHIP ROADMAP

Nathan Dungan, the founder and president of Share, Save, Spend, and featured speaker at our 2015 Synod Assembly
Too often, a congregation's primary stewardship efforts are focused on one or two months every autumn. While this may serve the congregation's needs as they plan and prepare for the next budget cycle, it often falls short in helping individuals and families attend to financial issues and challenges that are present throughout the year. In this breakout, Nathan will offer insights and suggestions to assist your congregation in developing a year-round stewardship roadmap - a critical element to develop a more intentional and meaningful stewardship experience.

[View the web page for Walking Together details. - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin](http://www.nswwi.org/news_and_events/Walking_Together.phtml)

http://www.nswwi.org/news_and_events/Walking_Together.phtml

http://www.nswwi.org/webfiles/fnitoools/documents/program_descriptions_time.pdf

[Images for 'Generosity Project' theme for 2015 Synod Assembly](#)

27) Recommendations of a consultant

A congregation retained the Church Doctor as a consultant to make recommendations on the various areas of life and mission of the congregation before I came. These recommendations informed my interim ministry in that congregation. Following are recommendations for stewardship:

I recommend you teach **stewardship** principles, particularly proportionate giving. Only 13% of the members of the congregation think in terms of proportionate giving, choosing a percentage rather than a dollar amount as to how they decide what to give for the work of the Lord through this church.

I recommend you develop a plan to raise this percentage by 5% per year for the next five years.

I recommend you focus on the biblical injunction to give proportionately, "Give as the Lord has given to you." Likewise, the amount of giving, as a proportion of what God has blessed people is significantly low in this congregation. Only 16% of the congregation tithe (give 10%) or more. This has led to a lack of resources that undermines the ministries of the congregation.

I recommend you no longer charge for materials in Sunday school and Vacation Bible School.

I recommend you focus on the real issues at hand, the poor giving by many within the congregation, rather than be tempted to focus on inappropriate issues, like the salaries of the pastors, which are not above the synod guidelines.

I recommend as a pledge process each year that you use the *Consecration Sunday Program*. This is an excellent process each year of helping people to expand their percentage of giving.

On the positive side, I recommend you thank God for the tremendous resource potential of this congregation.

I recommend each member of this congregation, right now, today, review what percentage of their income they give to the congregation.

I recommend you be challenged to raise this, right now, by 2%. While this is a very small amount of money, once translated to dollars, for most members of the congregation, the multiplication of each member's improved giving throughout the congregation, multiplied by 52 Sundays, would have an enormous impact on this congregation and the work of this church would no longer be undermined by the low giving habits of many.

28) Capital appeals for mission support

Mission support is changing in that, when I came into the ordained ministry in 1980, the American Lutheran Church and its districts and agencies assessed dues to member congregations. When the ELCA came into being in 1987, challenge goals replaced dues. Now, synods are adopting adaptive measures for mission support.

The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin at the 2015 Synod Assembly approved an enabling resolution for a capital appeal. Bishop Richard N. Hoyme explained the need for the appeal in that it is no longer possible to raise the necessary funds through challenge goals, so a capital appeal is needed to fund the synod's mission.

Resolution 1: Enabling Resolution for the NW Synod of WI

Whereas: The Synod Council has retained the services of Kairos and Associates to conduct a series of listening sessions to assess the mission and work of the NW Synod of Wisconsin, and to help the congregations and leaders of the synod re-imagine what it means to be synod together,

and Whereas: Kairos and Associates has begun this assessment through individual and group listening sessions,

and Whereas: The Synod Council is committed to continuing this process of assessment and re-imagining with the understanding that the process may lead to the conducting of a **capital appeal to fund the synod's mission**,

and Whereas: in order to enable this assessment and its follow-up to continue,

Be it resolved that: the NW Synod of Wisconsin approve the ongoing work of this assessment process, empower the Bishop to convene Bishop's Gatherings around the synod for the purpose of listening to ideas for formulating mission anew within the synod, allow for the development of a case statement for a synod-wide fundraising appeal to support this shared mission, and test the case for a fundraising appeal within the synod,

And, be it further resolved that: following the assessment and Bishop's Gatherings, if a fundraising appeal for the synod is deemed important, the Synod Council and Bishop be authorized to prepare, plan and fund the work of this appeal prior to the 2016 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Synod Assembly.

Sponsored and forwarded by the Synod Council with recommendation for approval.

[PDF] **Resolution 1 - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin**

http://www.nwswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/resolution_1_print.pdf

http://www.nwswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/rev2016_case_statement.pdf

[Images for capital appeal to fund the synod's mission](#)

The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin at the 2016 Synod Assembly approved Bold Generosity: Intentional · Inspired · Impactful

[PDF] **Assembly Summary! - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin**

#6 Bold Generosity: Intentional · Inspired · Impactful

Resolved, that the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin approve Bold Generosity: Intentional · Inspired · Impactful, a synod wide, three-year fundraising appeal to raise \$1.2 million for the following purposes:

CONNECT: Technology Grants to Congregations

EQUIP: Walking Together Ministry

LEARN: Leadership Development for Rostered and Lay Leaders

SUPPORT: Financial Health of Seminary Graduates

PARTNER: Malawi

SHARE: 10% with the Campaign for the ELCA;

and that Bold Generosity: Intentional · Inspired · Impactful commence June 1, 2016 and celebrate a successful conclusion at the synod assembly in 2019;

and that the people and congregations of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin give high priority and generous support to Bold Generosity: Intentional · Inspired · Impactful, combining our collective will and financial resources in support of the goals of this appeal. Approved.

http://www.nwswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/2016_synod_assembly_summary.pdf

Page 2

<http://files.ctctcdn.com/0deff306001/c4c48bd0-0b0f-4027-8cd0-88dc4dc41321.pdf>

<http://nwswi.org/generosity/capital-campaign>

[Images for Bold Generosity: Intentional · Inspired · Impactful](#)



The bishop sent a letter to presidents of Congregation Councils and pastors 2 months before his last synod assembly for a final appeal.

April 6, 2018

Dear Church Council President,

Greetings to you this Easter Season; may the promise of the resurrection be life-giving and filled with hope.

My time as your bishop is soon over. I am now entering my final chapter as bishop, leading up to our Synod Assembly June 2-3.

You have provided me with a privileged position to both observe the ministries you do and to participate with you. Thank you for this opportunity.

Among my highest priorities during my years as bishop is Bold Generosity, our synod-wide fundraising appeal. Our work together is demonstrated in a variety of ways. Bold Generosity has been focusing on the ministries you have identified as the most important ones when done together. We have received some wonderful gifts from both individuals and congregations, nearly \$400,000. Soon, we will begin distributing the money to fund the ministries we share – technology across the synod, leadership education, Walking Together, financial assistance for new pastors, Malawi and the ELCA's Churchwide appeal. We rejoice in sharing this generosity. Our goal, when we began three years ago, was to raise \$1.2 million. It was an ambitious goal, one that would take involvement from all of us to achieve. I don't know if we can reach that goal during my remaining months as bishop. Yet, with this letter I want to encourage one last push.

Most of the gifts to this campaign have come from individuals. A number of congregations have made commitments and given gifts, but the vast majority of congregations have yet to step forward for the sake of these ministries. And, so I challenge you as a congregation, one last time as your bishop, to share your generosity for the sake of our ministry together.

In fact, I'm going to ask very specifically, would you and your congregation make a commitment to Bold Generosity for a three-year commitment of (\$1,000; \$2,000 or \$5,000) a year for a three-year total gift of (\$3,000; \$6000; or \$15,000)? With your commitment, it is possible we, as a synod together, can come close to fully funding the initiatives of Bold Generosity.

As we elect a new bishop at our synod assembly in June and begin a new chapter in the life of this synod, we can also celebrate the generosity of you and so many others through the ministries of the Bold Generosity campaign. What a great exclamation point that will be to my time as bishop and our partnership in ministry. Enclosed you will find a commitment card and envelope for your response. Please fill this out and return it to the synod office by May 25 so we can include your commitment in the total we celebrate at the synod assembly. I hope this letter will encourage your conversation and consideration.

Blessings to you in your journey,

Bishop Rick Hoyme

Enc. Commitment form and return envelope

Bold Generosity brochure

The ELCA at the 2013 churchwide assembly approved The Campaign for the ELCA.

Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA

Approved by the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Pittsburgh, this five-year, nearly \$200 million campaign will:

- Increase this church's capacity to support congregational renewal and the planting of new congregations
- Form and support new lay, ordained and global leaders for mission
- Encourage and form lay youth and young adult leaders
- Support this church's disability ministry
- Bolster our commitment to walk with global companion churches in shared witness

- Expand our efforts to address poverty and hunger

While the campaign was approved in the 25th anniversary year of the forming of the ELCA, this also is our moment to look toward the next 25 years and boldly respond to the needs of God's creation with a living, daring confidence in God's grace. *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* — the first of its size and scope in the history of this church — gives each of us the opportunity to make a transformational impact on the ministries of our church. Together, as 4 million members of the ELCA in nearly 10,000 congregations and 65 synods, we are one church with a call to do God's work throughout the world.

Through this campaign, we can expand our mission capacity and achieve things on a scale and scope that we could never do alone. Through this campaign, we can do more. Together, we are *called* to do more, and in responding to this call, we will continue to live out God's promise of always being made new, and to use our hands — and all that we have been given — to do God's work.



<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Campaign-for-the-ELCA>

[Images for Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA](#)

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Campaign_For_The_ELCA_Bulletin_Insert.pdf

http://www.ewaldsynod.org/images/Assembly_Offering_and_25th_info.pdf

<http://www.nemnsynod.org/renewing-the-promise.html>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2017/02/the-campaign-for-the-elca/>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TsqWWCnyDpY> Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA - YouTube

29) At least ask

Normally, I don't drink coffee, but when I attended "Coffee with the Bishop – Capital Campaign: Specifically designed for rostered ministers to hear from Bishop Rick about the Bold Generosity capital campaign" at Central Lutheran in Mondovi on 5/9/2017, I diluted a cup with cream and drank the coffee. I also ate open-faced sandwiches with Cheese Whiz and other ingredients prepared by the women of the church. The bishop explained "Bold Generosity – intentional, inspired, impactful" and encouraged rostered ministers to ask the people and to use whatever means considered most helpful for the setting. He added, "If you don't ask, we will not be able to raise the money." I must have been so preoccupied with what he had to say that I inadvertently walked out of the church with a fork and a napkin in my pocket only to discover the mistake an hour later and many miles away. I ran into the pastor of the congregation at a conference meeting on 9/21/2017 and returned the fork.

Resources

How much should we ask people to give? - Dan Hotchkiss

I make three assumptions, subject to exceptions in each congregation, but true often enough to be useful, that will guide us in defining the "ask":

http://www.danhotchkiss.com/articles/FDR9902_how_much_should_we_ask.htm

[Images for How much should we ask people to give? - Dan Hotchkiss](#)

How to Ask for Donations to Your Charity - YouTube

Fundraising is an art. Hone this valuable craft, make soliciting simpler, and increase donations to your favorite charitable organization with these pointers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKZivwgggsk>

[Images for How to Ask for Donations to Your Charity - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPac2YPpvAc> Fundraising Tip- How To Ask For Donations - YouTube

[Images for Fundraising Tip- How To Ask For Donations - YouTube](#)

How to Ask People to Give More Money to Church – Margaret Marcuson

If you are the pastor, there's no escaping the key leadership role you have in asking others to give, from the pulpit and in personal relationships.

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/how-to-ask-people-to-give-more-money-to-church/>

[Images for Ask People to Give More Money to Church](#)

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/generosity-in-your-church/>

<https://columbiaconnections.org/2015/09/03/three-reasons-to-love-asking-people-to-give/>

pastor - you have to ask - Luther Seminary

"If we fail to ask, we fail to give people an opportunity to give and experience the joy of giving."

http://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/resource_detail.aspx?resource_id=114
[Images for pastor - you have to ask - Luther Seminary](#)

Stewardship In Action – Interim Ministry Network

Here are 5 tips for conquering your fear of the ask

<https://files.constantcontact.com/fbaed027be/4b1d4f10-6dcb-49b6-8086-94d804573e63.pdf>
<https://www.amazon.com/Bounty-Ways-Increase-Giving-Church/dp/1426765975>
<https://www.amazon.com/CLIMB-Higher-Reaching-Heights-Discipleship/dp/1426714831>
[Images for Stewardship In Action – Interim Ministry Network](#)

The Art of Asking: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Let People Help [Amanda Palmer, Brené Brown]

Rock star, crowdfunding pioneer, and TED speaker Amanda Palmer knows all about asking. Performing as a living statue in a wedding dress, she wordlessly asked thousands of passersby for their dollars. When she became a singer, songwriter, and musician, she was not afraid to ask her audience to support her as she surfed the crowd (and slept on their couches while touring). And when she left her record label to strike out on her own, she asked her fans to support her in making an album, leading to the world's most successful music Kickstarter.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Art-Asking-Learned-Worrying/dp/1455581089>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/20980987-the-art-of-asking-or-how-i-learned-to-stop-worrying-and-let-people-hel>
<http://www.audiobooks.com/audiobook/art-of-asking-how-i-learned-to-stop-worrying-and-let-people-help/221298>
<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-art-of-asking-amanda-palmer/1119887637>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1455581070>
https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Art_of_Asking.html?id=xq-MAwAAQBAJ
https://www.ted.com/talks/amanda_palmer_the_art_of_asking?language=en
<http://blog.ted.com/amanda-palmer-on-expanding-her-ted-talk-into-a-book/>
<http://www.hachettebookgroup.com/titles/amanda-palmer/the-art-of-asking/9781455581078/>
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2016/01/08/church-as-street-performer/>
<http://www.npr.org/2014/11/20/363835448/theres-more-to-asking-than-just-art>
<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/amandapalmer/amanda-palmer-the-new-record-art-book-and-tour>
<https://www.bostonglobe.com/arts/books/2014/11/13/book-review-the-art-asking-how-learned-stop-worrying-and-let-people-help-amanda-palmer/0qAN1wA5yIRW7eY10M4tKL/story.html>
<http://www.kyliedunn.com/2015/06/the-art-of-asking-a-book-review.html>
<http://www.emergingwomen.com/podcast/amanda-palmer-the-art-and-power-of-asking/>
<http://www.inspirationery.co/blog/2016/5/20/5-inspiring-strong-women-we-love-to-love>
<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4537>
<http://pomomusings.com/2013/03/21/amanda-palmer-the-art-of-asking-and-stewardship/>
<http://www.hypebot.com/hypebot/2015/03/amanda-palmer-embraces-patreon-direct-to-fan-patronage-platform-.html>
<http://www.hypebot.com/hypebot/2009/06/amanda-palmer.html>
<http://www.hypebot.com/hypebot/2012/05/amanda-palmer-passes-1-million-on-kickstarter.html>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u6vH-KPQFQA> The Art of Asking: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Let People Help

Audiobook Excerpt - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMj_P_6H69g The art of asking | Amanda Palmer – YouTube

[Images for art of asking | Amanda Palmer – YouTube](#)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Art_of_Asking

<http://amandapalmer.net/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Amanda-Palmer/e/B00LZF605I>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1010543.Amanda_Palmer

[Images for Amanda Palmer, author art of asking](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/brenebrown/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/dixonlori/brene-brown/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Brené-Brown/e/B001JP45BA>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/162578.Bren_Brown

[Images for Brené Brown, author art of asking](#)

[Images for The Art of Asking \[Amanda Palmer, Brené Brown\]](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Asking For Money?

https://www.openbible.info/topics/asking_for_money

[Images for bible and asking for money](#)

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Asking-For-Money>

<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Asking-For-Money/>

30) Alternate Gifts at Christmas

Whereas people are bombarded with the messages of Gray Thursday, Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday, why not introduce Giving Tuesday and other alternative gifts at Christmas?

Give gifts with a purpose this Christmas

Shop ELCA Good Gifts for 50 different gifts that grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is a church that is freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. With our hands, we do God's work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ's name throughout the world. ELCA Good Gifts go beyond your regular congregational offering to support the ministries of the ELCA that mean the most to you and your loved ones. Together, we do more than we could ever do alone: grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives.

Browse the catalog and select from more than 50 gift-giving options. Choose the gifts that mean the most to you or choose gifts in honor of friends or loved ones. Tell others about the ELCA Good Gifts you have given in their honor by printing a card or sending an eCard. With each online donation, you may request a printed card to be mailed to your home. Please allow two weeks for delivery.

Publicity received from ELCA Good Gifts by electronic mail

Resources

ELCA Good Gifts - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

ELCA Good Gifts provides more than 50 different gift-giving options that grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives. These gifts, starting at just \$10, provide direct support for the churchwide ministries of the ELCA.

The resources below – from catalogs to coin banks, bulletin inserts to planning guides – make it easy (and fun!) for your family, your congregation and your community say “goodbye” to traditional gift-giving and “hello” to meaningful gifts that really make a difference in the world.

Ready to shop now? Visit the [ELCA Good Gifts](http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/ELCA-Good-Gifts) store and print or order cards to tell loved ones about gifts given in their honor.

The 24-page ELCA Good Gifts catalog offers many different ways to honor friends and loved ones with gifts that make a difference. Order cards and stickers to announce your gifts to others.



<http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/ELCA-Good-Gifts>

[Images for ELCA Good Gifts - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](https://community.elca.org/elcagoodgifts)

<https://community.elca.org/good-gifts-2017/How-it-Works>

<https://community.elca.org/good-gifts-2017/How-it-Works>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL86D4914EF787269F> ELCA World Hunger - YouTube

Giving Tuesday! Put your money where your heart is!

Give in ways that promote dignity, create opportunities and end poverty.

Here's how you can celebrate Giving Tuesday with Lutheran World Relief:

LWR Christmas Matching Gift Challenge

Double the impact of your gift to LWR. Thanks to some generous friends, your gifts will be doubled until December 31 – up to a total of \$161,760!

Your gift helps LWR lift families out of poverty, and respond quickly and efficiently to emergencies like Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

Shop LWR Gifts and make your Christmas shopping meaningful with gifts like LWR Goats, Emergency Water, Cocoa Seedlings and more. These are more than gifts. They are *opportunities*.

Publicity received from Lutheran World Relief by electronic mail

31) Stewardship Committee

In my ► Review by synod of constitutions for congregations of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, I come across various descriptions of duties for committees and teams. The following is one such Continuing Resolution for a Stewardship Committee:

a. The duties of the **Stewardship Committee** include the following:

- 1) To initiate programs for the development of good stewardship attitudes in the members of this congregation regarding time, talents, and treasures, to provide for the training and utilization of members of this congregation for the work of Christ's Kingdom, and to ensure the financial stability of this congregation and its work through a developed program of dedicated, proportionate, first-fruits giving.
- 2) To maintain a program to discover and enlist for service the talents God has given members, old and new, young people and adults.

- 3) To be responsible for maintenance of congregational talent file and provide for the immediate recording of the talents and abilities of incoming members.
- 4) To provide opportunities for the development of talents in the form of training courses, workshops, and the like.
- 5) To promote educational events in stewardship such as those provided by the synod.
- 6) To inform this congregation of the stewardship challenges of the synod and the churchwide.
- 7) To develop an on-going, year-round program of Stewardship Emphasis.
- 8) To send a letter to all members twice a year stating financial position and include giving record.
- 9) To report regularly to the Congregation Council via ministry minutes and to this congregation at the annual meeting.

32) Can't take it with

Early in my pastoral ministry, a funeral director related to me an instance of an automobile procession to the cemetery. Back in the day, patrol could be enlisted to direct traffic. On this occasion, the funeral director could not help but notice the officer was laughing while directing traffic. The funeral director ran into the officer the next day in the small-town cafe. He asked, "What was so funny?" The officer replied, "Didn't you notice?" "Notice what?" the funeral director asked. The officer explained, "If you had looked in your rear-view mirror, you would have noticed that a Brinks armored truck pulled in behind the hearse."

Resources

I've Never Seen An Armored Car Followin A Hearse - YouTube

George Hamilton IV

Christian and Country Love Songs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QH1xzdA-AY>

[Images for I've Never Seen An Armored Car Following A Hearse - YouTube](#)

On discipleship

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

oremus Bible Browser: Mark 8:34-37

<http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=326707290>

[Images for On discipleship](#)

Randy Travis - Brink's Truck - YouTube

This is Randy singing his song "Brinks Truck" off the B side of the 45 "Out of my Bones".

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bk8bGWAeK_8

[Images for Randy Travis - Brink's Truck - YouTube](#)

You Can't Take It with You (film) - Wikipedia

A man from a family of rich snobs becomes engaged to a woman from a good-natured but decidedly eccentric family.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/You_Can%27t_Take_It_with_You_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/You_Can%27t_Take_It_with_You_(film))

[Images for You Can't Take It with You](#)

33) Chicken and a pig

Word got around the neighborhood that the country congregation was struggling to pay its bills, so the chicken proposed to the pig they offer a ham and egg dinner to which the pig replied, "For you that would be a contribution, but for me that would be a real sacrifice."

Jokes - Stewardship of Life

<http://www.stewardshipoflife.org/jokes/>

[Images for Jokes - Stewardship of Life](#)

[Images for church stewardship humor](#)

<http://www.leaderworks.org/giving-4/> FUNNY YOU SAID THAT: STEWARDSHIP AND HUMOR

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/202/10-suggestions-for-effective-stewardship-preaching> 9. Use Humor

[Images for 10-suggestions-for-effective-stewardship-preaching 9. Use Humor](#)

<http://www.lincolntrails.org/clientimages/39293/stewkalimagesanddocs/badstewardshipjokes-travis.pdf>

<http://www.makeitclearnow.org/re/humor.html>