

Stewardship Planning Guide

Role of the Pastor

- Preach stewardship sermons
- Meet regularly with the stewardship ministry team
- Discuss with elders individually and as a group the importance of stewardship
- Take an active role in the stewardship ministry of the congregation
- Pray for the mission and stewardship of the congregation
- Lead Bible study with the session and other church leaders on stewardship
- Talk about money in church
- Teach adults and children about stewardship
- Stress the importance of stewardship with members
- Encourage an attitude of abundance rather than scarcity
- Work with the session to discern and communicate the mission for the congregation
- Make stewardship an every Sunday part of worship
- Tithe or enter the struggle to tithe

Role of the Session

- Discuss stewardship issues at session meetings
- Participate in Bible study on passages dealing with stewardship
- Develop stewardship expectations of church officers and communicate these expectations to the nominating committee
- Set stewardship goals for the congregation
- Pray for the mission and stewardship of the congregation
- Give generously
- Take the lead in making financial commitment first before asking the congregation to do so
- Appoint and guide a stewardship team to deal with member giving
- "Challenge the people of God with the privilege of responsible Christian stewardship"
- Provide opportunities for stewardship education for adults, youth, and children
- Inform the members how their financial gifts are used
- Provide a variety of ways that members can give
- Discuss tithing as a biblical principle
- Order worship with an every Sunday stewardship component
- Provide stewardship instruction to new members

Role of the Stewardship Ministry Team

- Pray for the mission and stewardship of the congregation
- Ensure that quarterly and annual giving statements are distributed to givers
- Plan and carry out annual financial stewardship campaign
- Plan a year-round stewardship program
- Interpret the annual budget as it relates to the mission of the congregation
- Procure members' financial commitments
- Give generously
- Take the lead in making financial commitment first before asking the congregation to do so

- Thank contributors for their financial support of the church's mission

Role of the Congregation

- Pray for the mission and stewardship of the congregation
- Support the mission of the church with time commitment
- Participate in Bible study
- Give generously to the work of God through the congregation
- Make a specific financial commitment to the congregation
- Offer financial gifts to the church as an act of worship
- Adjust lifestyle to make generous giving possible
- Control debt and materialism