

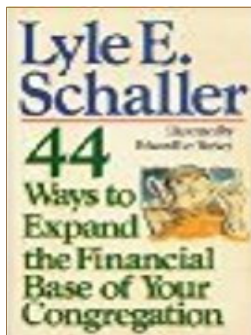


STEWARD TIPS

Part of our stewardship ministry is to assist individuals and congregations with the development of financial strategies that will help them to be good stewards of the resources that God has given them. This issue of “Steward Tips” focuses on “Ways to Expand the Financial Base of Your Congregation” and a listing of stewardship resources for your congregation to consider.

Central/Southern Illinois Synod

April 2017



44 Ways to Expand the Financial Base of Your Congregation

In his book, “44 Ways to Expand the Financial Base of Your Congregation”, Lyle Schaller observes the *“combination of sharply increased incomes, vast increases in accumulated private wealth, and longer life expectancy has created a new generation of relatively affluent mature adults.”* Schaller contends that these changes raise three policy questions on church finances:

- 1) Do you want to encourage people to remember your church in their will?
 - What percentage of your current church membership have remembered the congregation in their will?
 - What new ministries could be started if people remembered the congregation in their will?
- 2) Do you want to encourage substantial memorial gifts?
 - What policies does your congregation have regarding the use and designation of memorial gifts?
 - How does your congregation encourage people to give generously to memorial gifts?
- 3) Do you want to create a separate trust or foundation, with its own officers and reporting system, that will have the full jurisdiction over bequests and memorial gifts?
 - Does your congregation have an endowment or trust fund? If so, how is it administered?
 - How would an endowment or trust fund encourage a more generous response to mission giving by congregational members?

For more information about a trust fund, contact ELCA Foundation gift planner, Tim Urness at (331) 444-3120; or by email at tim.urness@elca.org.

Central/Southern Illinois Synod

524 S Fifth St / Springfield IL 62701 ♦ Toll-free: 1.844.330.2747 ♦ www.csis-elca.org

Congregational Stewardship Resources



Check out stewardship resources at...

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

Resources are organized according to the following categories:

Leadership
Finance

Care for Creation
Spiritual Gifts

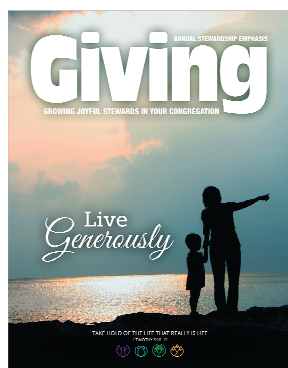
Lifestyle
StewardNet

A Brief Sampling:

- **How to Improve Financial Stewardship** is a free, downloadable 36-page book that will assist stewardship teams “to select leaders for a response program; select a response method; and develop your own detailed program.” Seven different response methods are explained and reproducible resources are also included.
- **20 Practices for Growing Stewards in Our Congregation** offers a survey to help congregational members identify and assess how they might grow in personal and congregational stewardship practices.

	Yes	Maybe	No		
We commit to growing generous givers of time talent and treasure as a faith response to God.	1	2	3	4	5
We encourage first fruits and proportionate giving by members and the congregation.	1	2	3	4	5
We have a mission endowment fund with a specific purpose and we educate people about it.	1	2	3	4	5

- **7 Principles for Growing Stewards** includes a description of seven biblical principles based on II Corinthians 8:1-5. Principles include: Gratitude; Generosity; Abundant Joy; Give Freely; Sacrifice; Share; and Commitment.
- **Glossary of Stewardship** provides definitions of commonly used stewardship terms, for example:
 - First-Mile Giving:** This is financial giving to the ongoing ministry of the congregation including worship, education, evangelism, social ministry, facility operating costs, and administration.
 - Second-Mile Giving:** This is financial giving to support ministries inside and outside the church that are important to the giver, and beyond the ongoing ministry of the congregation.
 - Mission Support:** The portion of offerings that congregations share with their synod and churchwide ministries for God’s work both in and beyond the congregation.
 - Proportionate Giving:** Based on New Testament teaching, this involves returning a portion of one’s gifts to God in accordance with how one has been blessed by God.
- **Giving Magazine:**



A free downloadable stewardship magazine with this year’s theme is: “Live Generously”. The magazine is published annually by the Ecumenical Stewardship Center, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond, IN 47374. Additional resources are available from their website at www.stewardshipresources.org. This year’s issue includes: 8-pages of plans for a congregational stewardship campaign; resource reviews; and articles like:

- * “A Theological Foundation for Generous Giving” by William Enright
- * “How an Annual Stewardship Emphasis Can Strengthen Generosity in Your Congregation” by Keith Mundy
- * “Stewardship in the Small Church” by H. Fred Bernherd
- * “Legacy Generosity: It’s All in the (Church) Family” by Marcia Shetler
- * “Millennial Generosity” by Amanda Garcia
- * “Nurturing Children to Live Generously” by Sharon Ely Pearson