



October 2015

The Mission Support and Stewardship Education Committee (MSSEC) is pleased to send you this inaugural issue of "Steward Tips", an electronic stewardship resource. We sincerely hope that you will find the information contained here to be helpful to your congregation and its stewardship ministry.



First, We Give of Ourselves

Pastor Kurt Nordy, author of "First, We Give of Ourselves", led a forum at the 2015 Central/Southern Illinois Synod Assembly in which he introduced this stewardship resource. This resource includes everything that congregations would need to organize and conduct their annual stewardship campaign for three years. The manual includes: a comprehensive schedule with step-by-step instructions; sample bulletin announcements, newsletter articles, Bible studies, Temple Talks, and letters that can be sent out to congregational members. Additional supplemental campaign resources are also available as free electronic downloads.

Thanks to a generous grant from the ELCA Macedonia Project, copies of this \$60 resource were made available to congregations for \$15. There are seven copies still available at the synod office on a "first-come, first-served" basis for \$15 each. To order a copy for your congregation, contact Pastor Bob Dealey at (217) 753-7915 or Bob.Dealey@csis-elca.org. Once the last copy is taken, you may order a copy for \$60 from the James Company at www.jamescompany.com; or call 1 (800) 472-0535.

MSSEC asks for your help!

The Mission Support and Stewardship Education Committee (MSSEC) strives to provide quality stewardship resources to congregations. You can assist us in this process.

Provide feedback.

MSSEC would like to hear from you about our suggested resources. In 2013, Mark Powell's book "Giving to God" and DVD "Biblical Stewards: Our Duty and Delight" were featured. In 2014, J. Clif Richard's book, "Not Your Parents' Offering Plate" was offered; and in 2015, Kurt Nordby's manual, "First, We Give of Ourselves" was highlighted. Please identify the resource you used and answer the following questions:



- What parts were most helpful to you and your congregation?
- What parts were not helpful to you?
- What kind of resources would help you and your congregation with your stewardship ministry?

Recommend helpful resources.

Send the names of resources and authors that you would recommend others might use in their congregation.

Share steward leaders' names and contact information.

MSSEC would like to develop a contact list of congregational stewardship leaders. Free stewardship resources and other information would be sent directly to them for possible use within the congregation.

You may send feedback, resource recommendations, and contact information to: Pastor Bob Dealey at Bob.Dealey@csis-elca.org