



Moving ministries forward, *together.*

2025 Stewardship Steps:

Every month: Spend time in prayer/study on stewardship (individually, board, congregation)

January: Reflect, Review, Learn

- Review the year:
How did the church make a difference in people's lives and the community?
If the church has a mission or vision statement, how was it fulfilled?
How were the church's resources utilized?
Where and how was God at work throughout the year?
- Identify and evaluate the church's stewardship efforts over the last 3-5 years:
What were the goals and the results?
What worked? What didn't work?
How can you build on/expand what worked?
Is there anything you used to do that should be brought back?
Is there something new you'd like or need to try?
- Review giving patterns:
What percentage increased?
What percentage gives regularly?
How many people are not giving?

Recommended congregational communication: 2024 gratitude report: Utilizing information gained from reviewing the year, thank people for how their gifts of time, talent, etc. enabled the church to make a difference.

February: Set Goals and Draft the Plan

- What long term change(s) does the church hope to see in stewardship?
- What short term goals will help the church get there? (see MMFA's "[Four Stewardship Essentials](#)" resource for ideas)
- Is there one scripture passage that the church can use to guide its stewardship actions for the rest of the year (emphasis on the verse each quarter)? OR
- Are there stewardship "basics" on which to build over the year? Ex. What does it mean to be God's stewards? What do we steward? What difference does our stewardship make in the world?
- Build off the work you've done to identify actions the church will take.



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Recommended congregational communication: 2025 stewardship focus: scripture verse or questions to be explored together. If your church hasn't talked about stewardship throughout the year before, you will want to share why you are doing so in 2025.

March: Finish the Plan

- What will we do in 2025 to grow people in their service, stewardship, and faith?
- What will we do each quarter to celebrate the generosity of our congregation?
- What will we do in 2025 to help people understand the impact of their stewardship?
- How will we measure our actions and know they were successful?

Recommended congregational communication: Upcoming opportunities for stewardship development (see April-September section for ideas)

April-September: Steward Formation

- Congregational or small group Bible study
- Expand understanding of "stewardship"
- Preach stewardship
- Develop a narrative budget for Q1
- Earth stewardship
- Financial workshops: planned giving, debt reduction, budgeting
- The possibilities are endless!

October-November: Steward Dedication

- Invite people to make a commitment to God and God's work through the church: time, skills, relationships, money
- Emphasize stewardship as discipleship

Recommended congregational communication: Why commitments matter, both for spiritual growth and for how the church will make a difference in people's lives.

December: Advent Stewardship of Our Spiritual Lives

- Utilize the four Sundays of Advent to speak to how faithful stewards live and grow as we prepare for the birth of Jesus.