

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a small, vibrant green seedling with two leaves and a small bud, growing out of a small amount of dark soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

A Holistic Approach: Stewardship as Good Governance

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Stewardship  Matters

Opening Prayer

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Book of Common Prayer Collect

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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Stewardship Matters

The Book of Common Prayer,
p. 280

What we'll talk about today

- I. Nonprofit and Vestry Governance
- II. Theology of Stewardship
- III. Importance of Stewardship
- IV. Planned Giving
- V. Stewardship in Transition

I. Nonprofit and Vestry Governance

He asks, “So, what do you mean you’re on a vestry? What is a vestry anyway?”

She answers, “Well, it’s kind of like sitting on a nonprofit board, only it’s for my church”

Nonprofit and Vestry Governance: Key Fundraising roles of a Board of Directors

#1. Visionary



Board: Charting a path forward. Are we growing, shrinking, static? Where do the resources come from? What's the plan? Are we on target?

Vestry: How are we as God's church moving forward? Are ministries growing, shrinking, static? Do we have sufficient resources? What's the plan? Are we on target?

Nonprofit and Vestry Governance: Key Fundraising roles of a Board of Directors



#2. Donor

Board: Board members are DONORS to an organization. Every nonprofit's goal is 100% board giving.

Vestry: Vestry members support the church through a generous annual pledge and support throughout the year. Every vestry should have 100% pledging support.

Nonprofit and Vestry Governance: Key Fundraising roles of a Board of Directors

#3. Ambassador

Board: Help make connections with people the organization doesn't already know. Expand the donor network, and help develop long lasting relationships.

Vestry: Same role and responsibility - Introduce new people to your parish, from regular services to special events. Build relationships.



Nonprofit and Vestry Governance:
Key Fundraising roles of a Board of Directors

#4. Hands-on Support

Board: Help staff. Go to fundraising meetings, send thank you notes, make thank you calls, attend events. Every single member can and should be playing a vital role in fundraising efforts.

Vestry: Raise up the importance of Stewardship throughout the congregation. All Vestry share responsibility for Stewardship's importance.



And while we're at it...

#1. You are engaged in holy and important work

#2. You represent the entire faith community

#3. Don't leave your brain at the door!

#4. Use this experience to enhance your own spirituality

#5. Remember, you are not alone!

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II. Theology of Stewardship

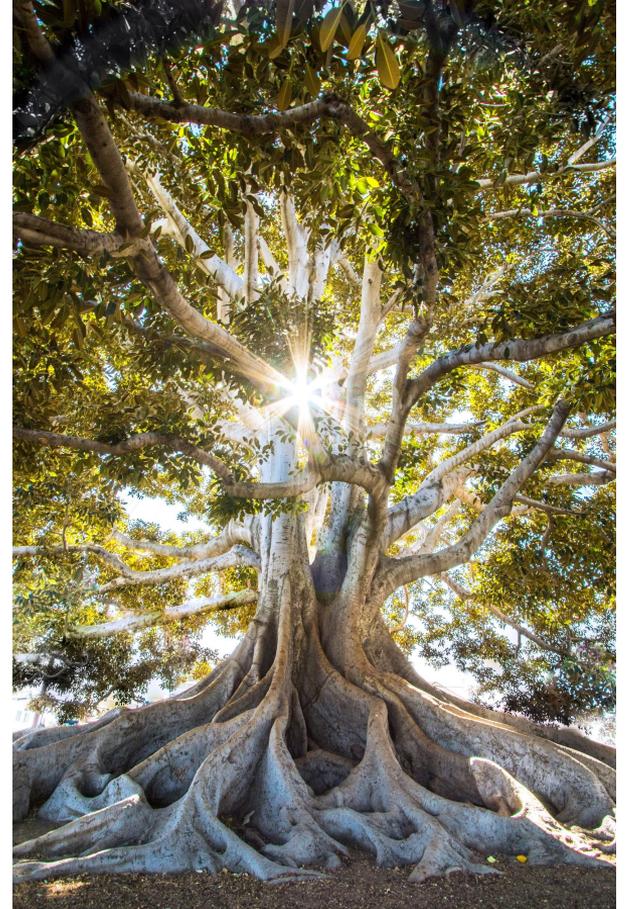
Theology of Stewardship

What is Stewardship?

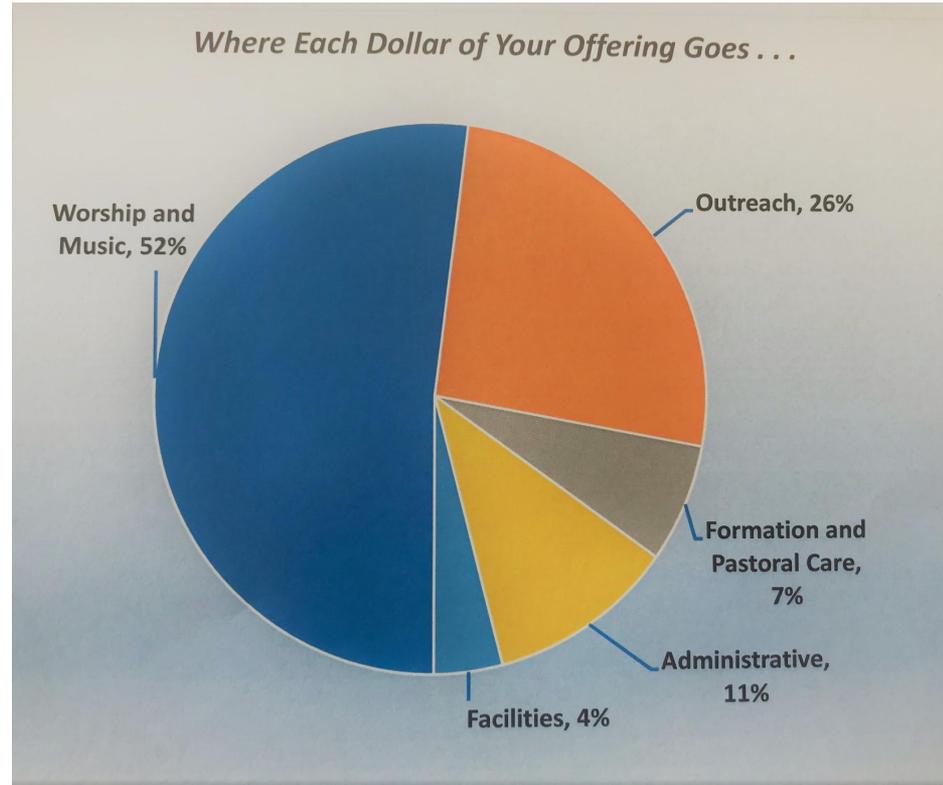
Q. What is Stewardship?

A. All that we do, with all that we have, all of the time

This definition informs our approach to stewardship, indeed our approach to BEING THE CHURCH; inspiring individual disciples and congregations in their response to GOD'S LOVE.



A Narrative Budget
shows where each
dollar of your
offering goes...



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Membership	Discipleship
Give money to support others who do ministry	Doing ministry
Maintain the institution	Giving's part of a growing relationship with Jesus
Live an upright life and be a good citizen	Live life IN the community

Membership	Discipleship
The mission field is elsewhere	Mission field starts at church front door
The goal is to get and keep members	The goal is to make disciples
Low expectations of membership	High expectations of disciples

Table Time

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III. Importance of Stewardship

Importance of Stewardship

A place at the table: Vestry Meetings

- Stewardship enables mission and ministry.
- Mission should be a part of each Vestry meeting.
- Stewardship efforts and progress should be reported on at every vestry meeting.



Importance of Stewardship

Stewardship is year-round!

Stewardship is **not** a 6-weeks-in-the-fall exercise; should be a **year-long** discipline.

How can you integrate the Theology of Stewardship into your faith community's life throughout the year? For example...

- Seasons in the church calendar
- Children's programming
- Youth



Year-Round Stewardship

Working Groups	Suggested Spiritual Gifts	Focus
ASK	Comfortable talking about money. Generous givers	Planning and implementation of the way you ask for time, talent, and financial resources entrusted to you by God
THANK	Spirit of thanksgiving and can cultivate that in others	Cultivate an atmosphere of thanksgiving in our congregation
TELL	Good written and oral communication skills	Tell stories about the wonderful things happening in the congregation and around the world because of their generosity

IV. Planned Giving

Planned Giving

The “Planned Giving Rubric”

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses.

Thanksgiving for a Child

p. 445, The Book of Common Prayer

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Planned Giving

Key Considerations

At the Leadership Level:

Structure and Resolutions

- Answer two important questions:
 - Is my money safe?
 - How would my gift affect ministry here?

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Planned Giving

Key Considerations

At the Individual Level:

- Don't leave a mess
- Importance of Having a Plan
- Gift Vehicles

Resources:

- Diocese
- Episcopal Church Foundation

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V. Stewardship in Transition

Stewardship in Transition

Challenges and Opportunities

- A time to realize you own the ministry
- It's a matter of governance
- Transition can be a time of strengthening and growth
- Clarity of vision and mission is critical
- Should not be rooted in a single individual's personality
- Be prepared!

Q&A

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Recommended resources

Lane, Charles R. *Ask, Thank, Tell, Improving Stewardship Ministry in Your Congregation*, Augsburg Books, 2006.

LaFond, Charles *Fearless Church Fundraising*, Morehouse Publishing, 2012

Clif, Christopher, J. *Not Your Parents Offering Plate, A New Vision for Financial Stewardship*, Abingdon Press, 2015; and *Rich Church, Poor Church: Keys to Effective Ministry*

Cloughen, Jr., Rev. Charles, *One Minute Stewardship Sermons*

Nouwen, Henri, J. M. *A Spirituality of Fundraising*, Upper Room Books, 2011.

Websites: Vestry Papers, Episcopal Church Foundation Vital Practices ehttp://www.ecfvp.org/vestry-papers

TENS, The Episcopal Network of Stewardship www.TENS.org, User name is Mark and password is 10:21

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Keep the conversation going!

- Join our “CLOSED GROUP” on Facebook. Just search “Stewardship Matters” on Facebook or use this link:
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/397040670803304/>
- We are re-structuring our Stewardship Resources on the diocesan website. Go to www.dioceseofnewark.org/stewardship
- We will soon be launching a new “Stewardship Matters” Newsletter!
- To reach us: Cynthia McChesney cmcchesney@dioceseofnewark.org; Paul Shackford pshackford@gmail.com; Pat Yankus patyankus@gmail.com; David Farrand dcfarrand@aol.com.

Closing Prayer

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Stewardship Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, with the great dynamos of your power, you have pulled life from death, freedom from imprisonment, wakefulness from sleep, inaction to action. Help us do the hard word of leadership in stewardship and financial development.

Help us to pull a sleepy people weighed down by distraction and greed into a generous wakefulness of gratitude and mission-investment by helping them give their money away. Help us to set free a church too often confined in the coffins of scarcity so that all Saints may work to unfurl the Kingdom of God. *Amen.*

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Project Resource, 2001,
Charles LaFond