

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a small, vibrant green seedling with two leaves and a budding stem, still with some soil on its roots. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting. The text is overlaid in a yellow, serif font.

# For What Purpose? Mission and Ministry in Stewardship

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*

Stewardship  Matters

# Opening Prayer

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

# 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 or the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Episcopal Diocese of Newark



Stewardship Matters

*The Book of Common Prayer,*  
p. 280

# What we'll talk about today

- I. The “Why” of Stewardship
- II. What Stewardship Is (and isn't)
- III. Mission budgeting
- IV. Time Talent and Treasure
- V. Year Round Stewardship

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*

  
**Stewardship Matters**

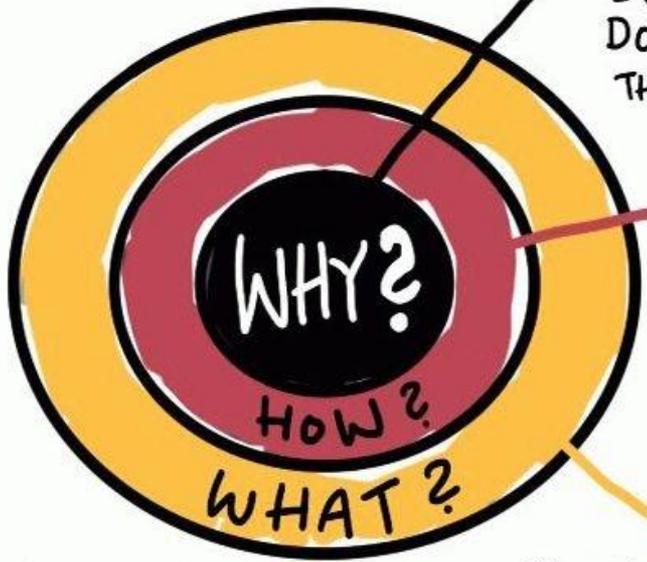
*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*

# Stewardship Matters



## I. The Why of Stewardship

# GOLDEN CIRCLE

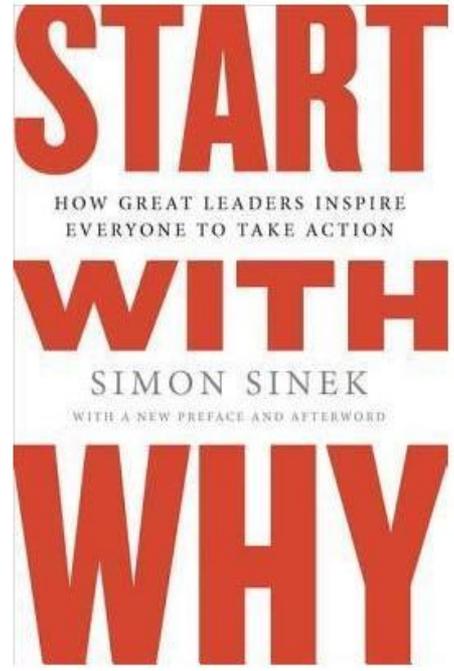


WHY DO YOU DO WHAT YOU DO? WHAT'S THE PURPOSE?

HOW DO YOU DO WHAT YOU DO?

WHAT DO YOU DO?

IDEA: SIMON SINEK



Sinek, Simon, *Start with Why*; Portfolio, 2011

# Stewardship ≠ Pledge Campaign

The Pledge Campaign is the What, not the Why

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*

  
Stewardship Matters

# Stewardship is... Mission

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

My faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I can, whenever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference.”  
*(former President Jimmy Carter)*

Following Christ is not an either-or proposition

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” *(Luke 12:34)*

The Episcopal Diocese of Newark



Stewardship Matters

“The goal of our stewardship ministry is to help God’s people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents and finances that God has entrusted to us.”

*-Ask, Thank, Tell, Charles R. Lane*

The Episcopal Diocese of Newark



Stewardship Matters

# Mission is the only thing

In the church, mission isn't everything, it is the only thing! God's mission (ideally) drives every aspect of church life. God's mission determines when we say "yes" to certain opportunities, and also when we say "no."

A clear vision of God's mission is the heartbeat of a congregation's movement as a community. And as we enter "stewardship season," that vision plays a vital role in communication and helps answer the "why should I give" questions that many folks have.

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

## II. Mission budgeting

# Connect to Mission

One way to help people connect the offering plate to the vision and mission (and ministry) of the parish is a [narrative budget](#). A narrative budget helps ministry leaders connect the dots between God's mission and the financial resources required, and hopefully makes that connection clear to parishioners.

Are we resourcing a vision or merely just funding a budget?

# Narrative Budget

**Never show** the line-item detailed budget (yes, you still need one - but it is not part of your Stewardship messaging).

**Always show** a Narrative Budget that highlights your investment in your ministries

A Narrative Budget

- Links money to mission and ministry
- Step by step exercise
- Useful beyond Stewardship season

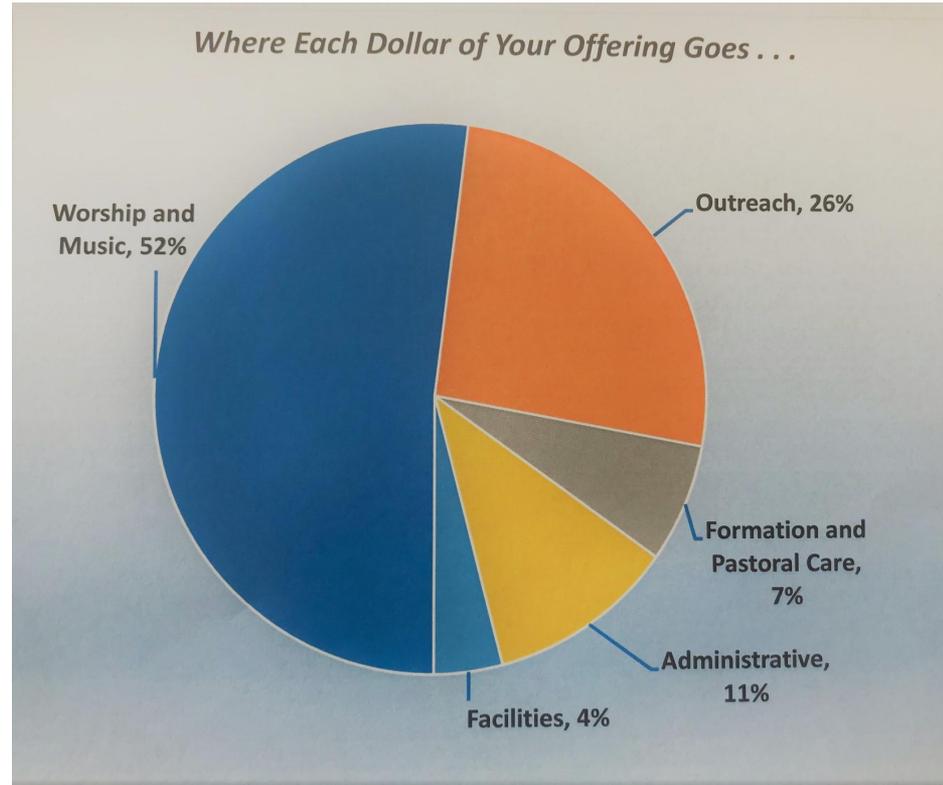


# Steps to a Narrative Budget

- Start with your existing line-item budget
- Identify 4 - 6 ministries
- Allocate expenses to those ministries
- Prepare a chart and an explanation of investment in ministries
- Create a pew card - find other ways to share!



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



The Episcopal Diocese of Newark

Stewardship Matters



**St. Swithin's Episcopal Church**  
**Mission Budget**

Each year parishioners and others contribute to St. Swithin's so that, through it, we can conduct the many ministries that make this congregation an important presence in our community, changing the lives of many people both within our church and outside our doors. Since many costs, including those relating to the rector, affect several different ministries, those costs have been allocated as appropriate. These donations support:

**Worship and Music**

**\$87,000 (52%)**

This category includes services of Holy Eucharist and other liturgical services; our choir, music ministry and concert series; preparation of the altar; and hospitality.

**Outreach**

**\$43,000 (26%)**

Outreach includes our pledge to the Diocese to support its ministries—to St. Swithin's and to others—and a portion of the time that our rector and others spend with our outreach ministries . . . Family Promise, Food Drive, and more.

**Formation and Pastoral Care**

**\$11,000 (7%)**

Our ministries include Christian education for children, youth and adults. Our rector also spends pastoral time with parishioners and others.

**Facilities**

**\$6,000 (4%)**

This category includes repairs and maintenance of the church and rectory buildings, and working with those who use our space.

**Administrative Costs**

**\$18,000 (11%)**

This includes the preparation and distribution of The Messenger, our monthly newsletter, as well as office and other administrative costs.

# Vision?

What would you do with the funds if more money were to be pledged next year?

Would it be a great vision?

Would Jesus be thrilled with your vision?

Would it inspire additional giving/investment in mission?

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

# Wow Card

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

# Table time

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

### III. Time, talent and treasure

“&”

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

# Proportional Giving

Giving proportionally means offering a percentage of your income

A chart can be helpful

Take the amount that you pledged last year and divide it by 52 to get your weekly giving.

Where does that fall on the percentages on the right of your income?

Consider making a step up to the next level of giving.



## IV. Year-round Stewardship

## December - Advent

Write personal thank you notes to all the children's ministry staff and volunteers in the congregation.

Consider an Alternative Gift Market - Episcopal Relief and Development, Heifer

## January - Epiphany

Celebrate Music Ministry. Consider the simple act of praising the choir and musicians during Sunday service. Interview 2 or 3 musicians and tell their stories.

Bring dinner to an evening choir rehearsal!

## February - Epiphany

Stewardship of all creation. Congregation-wide recycling program.

Schedule "Report from the Convention," so parish delegates can report on diocesan ministry as a whole. Encourage others in parish to consider volunteering at diocesan level.

## March - Lent

Lent is a time of reflection and taking inventory.

Parishioners may be dealing with parents' end of life issues, and programming could include an evening discussion on questions related to hospice care, living wills.

## April - Easter

Easter is a wonderful time to honor the Altar Guild. The church could publicly thank Altar Guild members in the Easter Bulletin; or sponsor a special meal for Altar Guild members.

The period leading up to Easter can also be a time to host planned giving discussions.

## May - Easter

Children and Money. The earlier the better when it comes to reaching our children the value of money, the benefits of saving and the joy of giving.

Schedule a festive coffee Hour for Mother's Day in celebration of moms, both living and departed.

## June - Pentecost

Host a Celebration of fathers, perhaps a breakfast, festive coffee hour.

Honor those whose fathers have died or are absent for other reasons.

## July - Pentecost

Celebrate Buildings and Grounds and those in the congregation who look out for buildings and their maintenance.

## August - Ordinary Time

Organize a Ministry Fair as a way for parishioners to meet and gather information about the various ministries, committees, and educational opportunities available.

## September - Ordinary Time

Recognize those in your church who are youth leaders, from those in youth group or who serve in worship.

As children and parents return to school, host a celebration of teachers.

## October - Ordinary Time

October is Clergy Appreciation Month. How can you show appreciation for your clergy?

In honor of St. Francis, perhaps organize a drive to collect supplies to support a local animal shelter; encourage pet adoptions.

## November - Ordinary Time

Being thankful goes hand-in-hand with Thanksgiving Day celebrations. Consider starting traditions focused around giving thanks. One congregation holds a “Thanks-Serving Day,” small groups who do a day of service in the community. Take time to recognize church staff, including volunteers as well as church staff.

Thank you Episcopal Diocese of West Texas!

Ideas courtesy of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas.

Go to <https://www.dwtx.org/departments/stewardship/year-round-stewardship/>  
for these and many more!

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

# Q&A

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*



Stewardship Matters

# 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](http://www.ecfvp.org/vestry-papers)

TENS, The Episcopal Network of Stewardship [www.TENS.org](http://www.TENS.org), User name is Mark and password is 10:21

The Episcopal Diocese of Newark



# Stewardship Matters

# 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](http://www.dioceseofnewark.org/stewardship)
- We will soon be launching a new “Stewardship Matters” Newsletter!
- To reach us: Cynthia McChesney [cmcchesney@dioceseofnewark.org](mailto:cmcchesney@dioceseofnewark.org); Paul Shackford [pshackford@gmail.com](mailto:pshackford@gmail.com); Pat Yankus [patyankus@gmail.com](mailto:patyankus@gmail.com); David Farrand [dcfarrand@aol.com](mailto:dcfarrand@aol.com)

# Closing Prayer

*The Episcopal Diocese of Newark*

  
Stewardship Matters

# 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.*

The Episcopal Diocese of Newark

  
Stewardship Matters

*Project Resource*, 2001,  
Charles LaFond