



Mission Engagement and Support

*No More Fundraising:  
the "Thank You" Lens  
of Stewardship*

Stewardship Kaleidoscope  
September 25, 2018



How does a church differ from a non-profit?



The Lens of Stewardship: Answering "Why?"

*The earth is  
the Lord's and  
all that is in  
it, the world,  
and those  
who live in it;*  
Psalm 24:1-2 (NRSV)



*For God so  
loved the  
world that  
he gave his  
only Son...*  
John 3:16 (NRSV)



The Lens of Stewardship: Answering "Why?"

*In the  
beginning  
when God  
created the  
heavens and  
the earth...*  
Genesis 1:1 NRSV



*And I heard a loud  
voice from the throne  
saying, "See, the home  
of God is among  
mortals. He will dwell  
with them as their  
God; they will be his  
peoples, and God  
himself will be with  
them..."*  
Rev. 21:3 NRSV



How does a church differ from a non-profit?

The disciplines of stewardship and self-offering are a grateful response to God's love for the world and self-giving in Jesus Christ. As Christians, we are called to lives of simplicity, generosity, hospitality, compassion, and care for creation. Tithing is a primary practice of Christian stewardship and self-offering. We are accountable to God for how we use our material goods, spiritual gifts, and time in God's service. (W-5.0103).

### A Church vs. a Non-Profit

- Meets weekly
- Pastoral and caring
- Building God's Kingdom or Maintaining the Institution?
- Community through our Baptism
- Pledging units listed alphabetically
- A place of respectful conversations, authentic listening & vulnerability
- Meets less frequently
- Single mission w/focus on client or tangible product
- Emphasis on raising funds
- Affinity group
- Donors listed by giving level

### What Does "Thank You" Look Like?

- STOP using the word "investment."
- START with *The Doxology*
- Include a "Song of Thanksgiving" in worship
- Begin with: "Your gift makes a difference" or "Thank you for making a difference"
- Create an Annual Report that says "thank you"
- Thank your members for their thoughtful stewardship (instead of their gift)

### How does a church differ from a non-profit?

*Asking people for money is giving them the opportunity to put their resources at the disposal of [advancing the Reign of God.]"*

--Henri Nouwen

### The Lens of Stewardship: Answering "What?"



### The Lens of Stewardship: Answering "What?"



## Money Follows Mission

*Every time we approach people for money, we must be sure that we are inviting them into this vision of fruitfulness and into a vision that is fruitful.*

--Henri Nouwen

## Mission Stories Inspire Engagement

### Inviting Companions for the Journey

- What is your congregation's "why?"
- Tell your "why" story!

## Conversations That Matter: Begin by Listening!



- Why are you a Christian?
- Why are you a Presbyterian?
- Why are you a member of a church?
- Why do you remain a member?

## How are You a Steward of God's gifts?



- How do you give?
- How do you decide your charitable giving?
- What do you personally value about this congregation?
- Why do you support it?

## Why Presbyterian Mission?



Presbyterians engage in complex issues as partners in mission.

## Who? Mission Engagement Advisors



