

# From 1<sup>st</sup> Steps to LAUNCH! Giving Campaigns for Beginners

- Ground asking and giving in core values of faith and action
- Translate core values in unique context for mission purposes
- Build a Stewardship Team and Annual Operating Campaign
- Build campaign practice that cultivates stewardship and giving competence over the years

# Launch With Prayer...Always.

#### O God,

- Light of the minds that know you,
  - life of the souls that love you:
    - Help us so to know you,
    - that we may truly love you,
      - so to love you
  - that we may fully serve you,
- whose service is perfect freedom;
- through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Book of Common Worship, WJKP, 1993



Stewardship is reverence for God translated into responsive generosity.





# Stewardship is...

- To honor what has been given to us
- To use power with a sense of grace
- To pursue purposes that transcend short-term self-interest
  - Peter Block, Stewardship: Choosing Service Over Self-Interest

# All good gifts come from God. James 1:17

After God made humans of dust and Breath, "The Lord God took Adam and put him in the garden to *till and keep* it...." Genesis 2:15

The ground of our being is God's generosity.

STEWARDSHIP IS TO WORK THE GROUND OF OUR BEING





#### The Conflicted Condition

- "Sin" is an archery term and is measured by the distance from the pierce of the archer's arrow and the target mark.
- "Mine! Mine! Mine!" outshouts gratitude and it's partner generosity.

God gives God's self and the world beyond Eden to God's Beloved.



Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped.

Philippians 2:5-6

STEWARDSHIP PRACTICE PARTICIPATES IN GOD'S REMEDY Christ in us reverses the trend of self-centered "taking and making."

God uses both the idea and the practice of servanthood to heal us, the Church and the world.

Stewardship practice participates in God's remedy, reverses the trend of self-centered taking and making.

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"Take nothing for your journey..."
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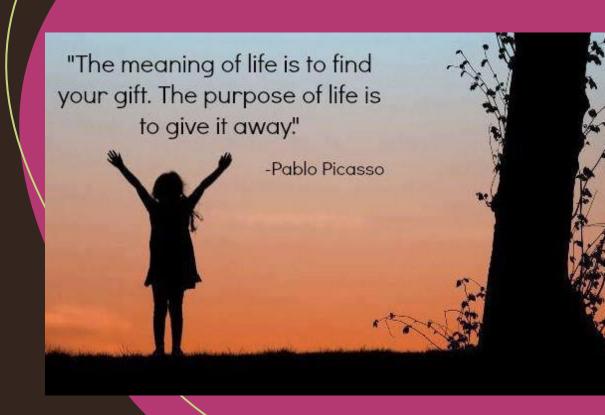
· Luke 9:3

"Go...sell everything...follow me..."

· Mt. 19:21

 "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also..."
 Mt. 6:21

"Seek first the kingdom..." Mt. 6:33



Where does Generosity come from?

All good gifts come from God...

James 1:17



# God invites us to be co-creators of Good

The concept of stewardship has evolved from merely being significant in the financial contribution that people make...to an allencompassing decision that (shapes) people's lives. It is not a feeling of urgency that some is born with, but rather a decision and commitment made on a daily basis (to be at service to God's love.)"

Adapted from Caroline Botha, Teaching as an Act of Stewardship

# Stewardship Campaigns are a way...

To structurally and systemically participate in God's remedy of Love

To convert all God's gifts into God's purposes

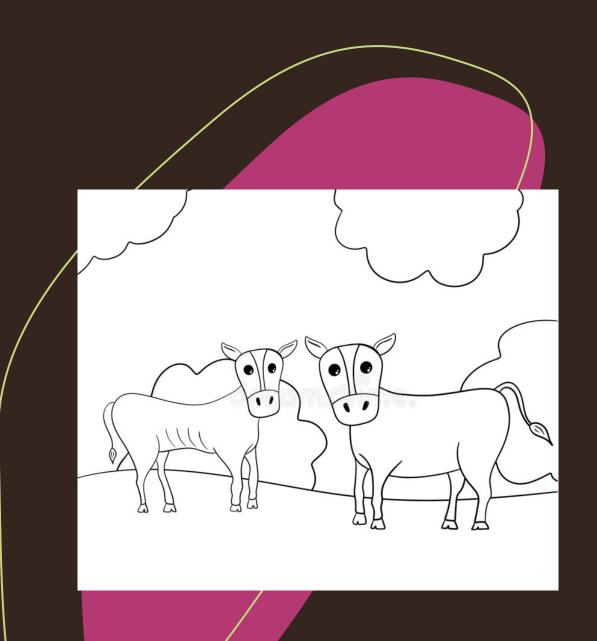
To train up God's people to love as we've been loved

To be co-creators of Good



What is an Annual Operating Campaign?

An effort of stewardship that is focused on gathering the resources of the congregation that are required to fulfill the plan (budget) for the church's mission and ministry in the year ahead.



# Fat & Lean—A Dream and a Commitment

"Though the fig tree does not bud and no fruit is on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though the sheep are cut off from the fold and no cattle are in the stalls, yet I will exult in the Lord; I will rejoice in the God of my salvation!" Hab. 3:17-18

# Annual Operating Budget "Streams"

- Pledges promises of sustained giving
- Offerings Free will, gifts in kind, skill contributions
- Investment Income- Foundation contributions, CD purchases
- Special Offerings- Denominational, locally designed
- Special Gifts Above and beyond pledge, unbudgeted
- Legacy giving Dividend funds accounted for in budget or reserve
- Revenue creation partnerships and products

# Revenue Creation Examples?

- Trappist monastery beer
- "In-house" preschools, schools, theatres, restaurants, parking area, cell towers...
- Columbaria, rummage, concerts, weddings



# Resource Provision "Streams" Reclamation

• When we remove obstacles from different forms of giving, we transform a meandering stream into a powerful river that can "cut the canyon."



# Steps to Launch

Vision Clarity

- Ground in core values
- Strategize unique moment
- Build case for giving

Leadership Development

- Prayerfully build team
- Create plan and parts

Campaign Development

- Mission Interpretation
- Scope and sequence

## Steps to Launch

Benchmark Calendars

- Team Calendar
- Congregational Engagement

Engage Congregation

- Messaging strategy and targets
- Events and gatherings

Follow Through

- Celebrate gratitude
- Mark faithfulness goals met

Vision
Clarification and
Case Building
Every Year

#### Why does the Church exist?

• What is your church's unique purpose?

What is the achievable future?

• Where do we want to land?

For what are we willing to sacrifice?

• What are we doing and how much will it cost?

How does God's kingdom rise if we do this?

• What good are we up to?

#### Building a Stewardship Team & Leaders

#### Who are tenured givers?

• From all generations

#### Who wants to give?

• Watch for passion, gratitude and worship

#### "Mine" all skill sets

 Communicators, teachers, financially savvy, joyful, organized

#### Staff and leaders

Consider "switching it up"

#### BUILDING A STEWARDSHIP TEAM

- Complexion of Leaders
  - Tenured Givers
  - Struggling Givers
  - Someone who wishes they could give
  - Always adding to the team

- No One Wants to be on the Stewardship Team
  - People won't like them
  - They'll have to ask for money
  - They'll feel challenged to give more

### Campaign Development



Team Roles and Responsibilities

Everybody has a piece of the wisdom

Everybody has a piece

of the call



Mission Interpretation Giving maturity stages
Gather stories behind
the numbers



Theme Development

Team Study to theme
Theme name to study

#### Create a committee Study

- 3 Starter Themes
  - Every good and perfect gift comes from above...James 1:17
  - Learn to do good, correct oppression, bring justice...

    Isaiah 1:17
  - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works...
     Ephesians 2:10

Create a teaching campaign

• **Gratitude** for Good

Generosity: Grace Empowered

• **Hope**: Forward on Purpose

### Congregational Engagement

What is the message?

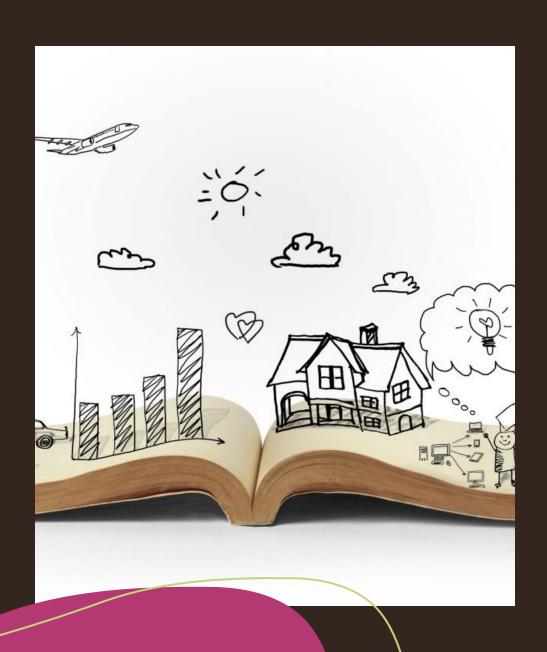
- Values/Stories & numbers
- Our hope and Hope

Who will receive it?

- Broad inclusivity of targets
- Appeal for different maturities in giving

How will it be delivered?

- In print/digital messaging
- Worship and other live events



### Tell the Church's Story: Narrative Budgets

Help account lines of the church budget come "alive" by telling their lively story!

Narrative budgets portray the priorities of the Church in a descriptive and informative report, reformatting the budget expense captions into functional activities. They translate numbers into actions.

# Different Mediums for Communication

- PRINT
- DIGITAL
- SOCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- PERSONAL
- EXPERIENTIAL
- WORSHIPFUL



### **Growing Givers**

- Givers Mature in Giving: 3 Essential Steps
  - IMITATION
    - Learners follow modeled action---make sure giving is visible, invitational, valued
      - Offering plates, gathered goods, example
  - CONVICTION
    - Moved and empowered. Sense of honor and duty. Focus on goals for giving.
      - Special calls, storytelling, vision casting, casemaking, experience offering
  - IDENTITY
    - Generosity is part of character, give because one is a giver.
      - Storytellers, inspired and inspiring generosity, planned giving, visionary, joyful



#### BENCHMARK CALENDARS

Team activities and responsibilities by development date

Congregational engagement dates for messaging and events.





### Celebrate Gratitude



Individual expressions of thanks for every gift received



Identify people with unique stories/perspectives and let them speak



Bless and dedicate achievement to goals



Mark Faithfulness Goals met and gather to enjoy



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# Beginner Resources

- Beginners Bibliography for Help with Annual Giving Campaign
- The Big Book of Presbyterian Stewardship, Elaine W. Barnett, Laura S. Gordon, Margaret A. Hendrix, Geneva Press, 2001.
- The Life of Faith and the Faithful Use of Possessions, Luke Timothy Johnson, The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, 2006.
- <a href="http://davidsbell.org/annual-campaign">http://davidsbell.org/annual-campaign</a>, David S. Bell, ---helpful resources of reflection on every aspect of an annual campaign. (UMC)
- Good Example of Year-Round Stewardship Calendar
- https://www.elcic.ca/Stewardship/People/MNO-Calendar.cfm (ELCIC)
- Good resource for evaluating annual campaign methodology
- https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Stewardship-Manual-FINAL.pdf (PCUSA)
- Good resource on creating a narrative budget
- http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Giving Thought to a Narrative Budget.pdf (ECLA)
- Good Blog (secular) on generational differences:
- https://www.kasasa.com/articles/generations/gen-x-gen-y-gen-z