

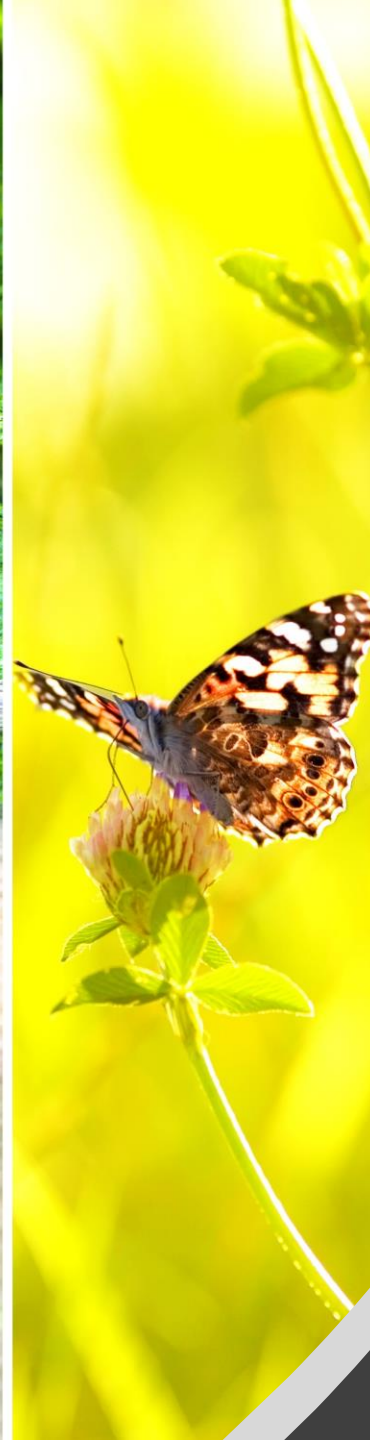
Seasons of Stewardship

Stewardship Kaleidoscope 2021
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A New Perspective

What might it look like if we experienced
“Seasons of Stewardship”
instead of a
“Stewardship Season?”



A Season of Discernment

A Season of Discernment

- Recruit and train a team of leaders
- Spend time in prayer and study
- Develop Stewardship goals
- Review giving patterns of congregation



Recruit and Train

Invite 3-7 people (varies by size of congregation) who are passionate for the ministries of the church to join you on this mission! Include the pastor.



Prayer and Study

Spend 2-3 months in prayer and study to broaden your understanding of what Stewardship means. Invite the session to participate in the study.



Stewardship Goals

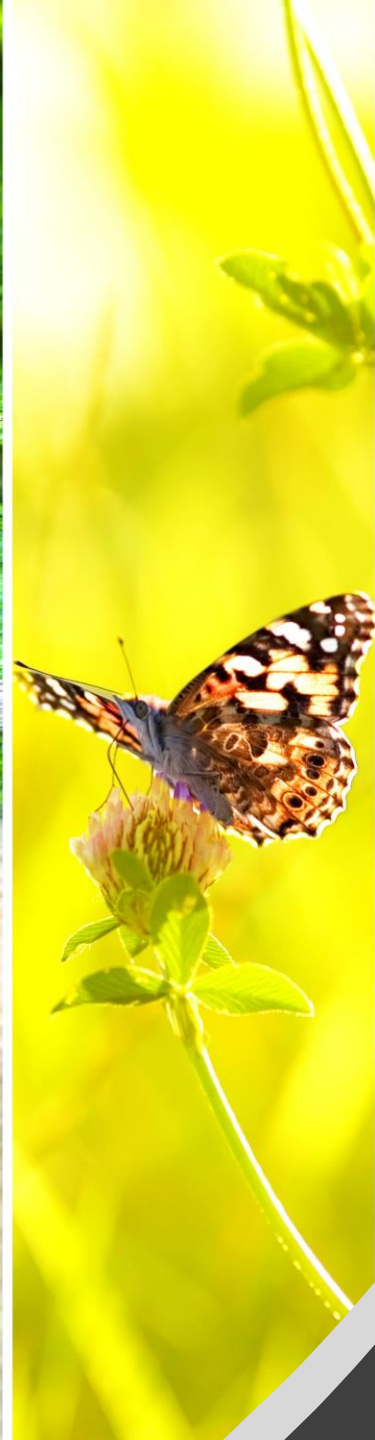
- Stewardship curriculum for Sunday school and small groups
- Stewardship sermons throughout the year
- Ongoing “Minute for Stewardship”
- Consider all areas of Stewardship



Giving Patterns

- What percentage has increased?
- What percentage gives regularly?
- How many people are not giving?
- Are children and youth giving through their participation?





A Season of Direction



A Season of Direction

- Lead a congregational Bible study
- Preach and teach about Stewardship
- Evaluate current ministries
- Provide financial workshops
- Introduce planned giving
- Plan an annual program/emphasis



Congregational Bible Study

Explore the scriptures that talk about generosity and gratitude and what it means to be good stewards.



Preach and Teach Stewardship

- Use the lectionary to see how you can preach about Stewardship any Sunday
- Redefine Stewardship as everything you do after you say you believe
- Broaden the congregation's understanding of Stewardship



Evaluate Current Ministries

- How are your human and financial resources being utilized?
- What is God calling you to continue?
- Where might God be leading you in the future?



Financial Workshops

Possible Areas of Concern:

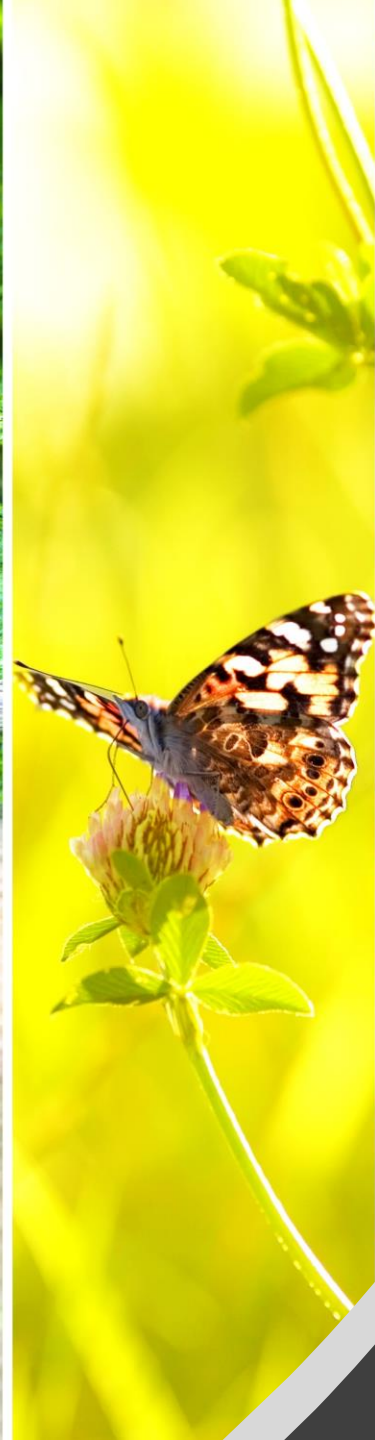
- Debt reduction
- Budget preparation
- Planned giving



Annual Program/Emphasis

Change the Narrative from an Annual Stewardship Campaign to an annual program or emphasis.

Do something new and different!



A Season of Development



A Season of Development

- Offer alternative methods of giving
- Design an outdoor Stewardship program
- Start a summer book club
- Explore narrative budget
- Develop a Stewardship theme




Alternative Methods of Giving

- Online giving
- Self-addressed envelopes for mailing
- Process for delayed deposits
- Square readers
- Giving by text



Outdoor Stewardship

- Recycling
- Property enhancement
- Clean-up days
- Children's mission project
- Youth mission trip
- Community garden



Summer Book Club

Summer is a time for reading...

Why not invite the congregation or a small group to engage in reading a book a month (3 books for the summer). Choose books that get people to think about Stewardship in new ways.



Narrative Budget

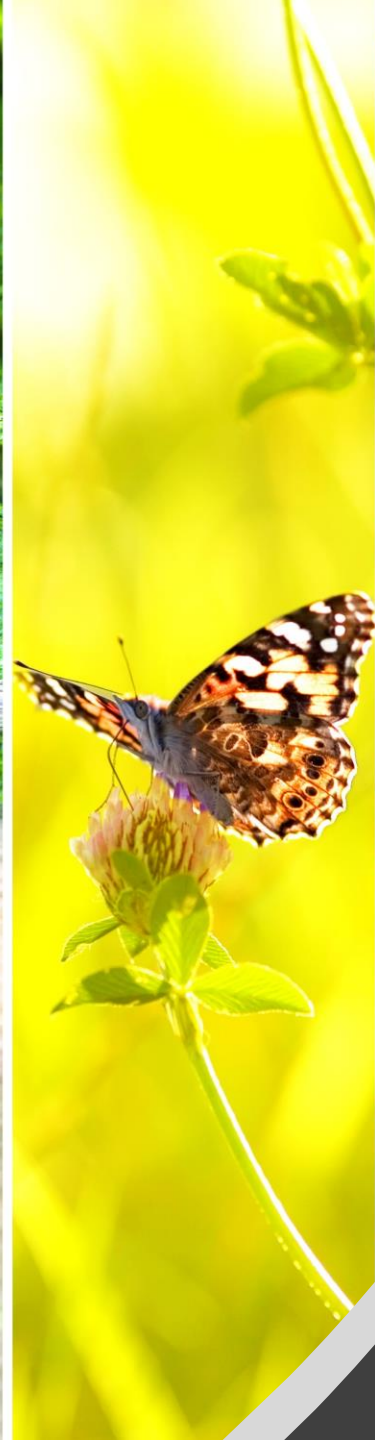
Budgets are theological documents that connect mission and ministry to money.

Narrative budgets are visioning tools that provide a description of the ministries of the church and help people to see the impact of their giving and participation.



Stewardship Themes

- Scriptural foundation
- Relevant to the congregation
- Utilize for more than the fall program
- Consider an annual theme that engages all areas of ministry
- Consider a congregational theme



A Season of Dedication



A Season of Dedication

- Conduct a Stewardship emphasis or fall Stewardship program
- Focus on discipleship and commitment
- Involve everyone in some way
- Provide opportunities for the congregation to dedicate their lives



Stewardship Emphasis

Conduct a Stewardship Emphasis on Annual Stewardship Program. Fall is the typical time of year, but it is not limited to the fall especially as we embrace year-round Stewardship and “Seasons of Stewardship.”



Stewardship Emphasis

- Conduct a program that speaks to the hearts of the congregation
- Tell stories!
- Invite people to make a commitment
- Give thanks
- Celebrate the generosity of the congregation



Seasons of Stewardship

Stewardship is more than a program to help us put together a working budget.

Stewardship is a *spiritual discipline* and a way of living to help us care for all that God has entrusted to us.




Stewardship

- Time
- Gifts
- Resources
- Relationships
- Ministry
- People
- Knowledge and mysteries of God

Seasons of Stewardship

Discernment
Direction
Development
Dedication





“For everything there is a season,
and a time for every purpose
under heaven.”
(Ecclesiastes 3:1)