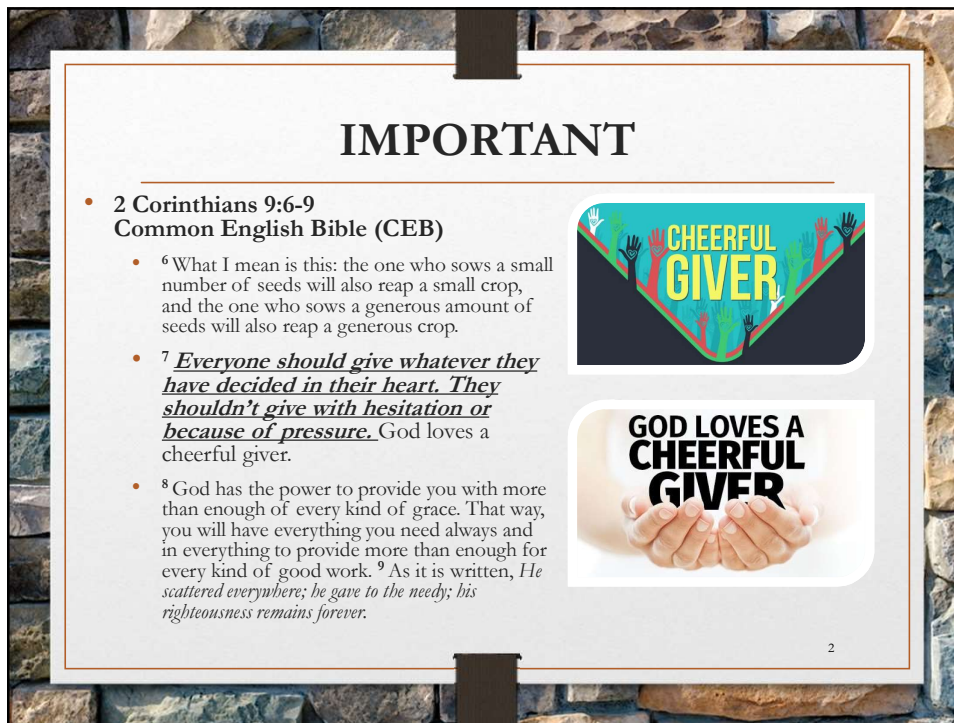




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IMPORTANT


- NRS **2 Corinthians 8:3** For, as I can testify, they ***VOLUNTARILY*** gave according to their means, and even beyond their means,
- NRS **Deuteronomy 15:10** Give liberally and be ***UNGRUDGING*** when you do so, for on this account the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake.
- NRS **Philemon 1:14** but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and ***NOT SOMETHING FORCED.***



3

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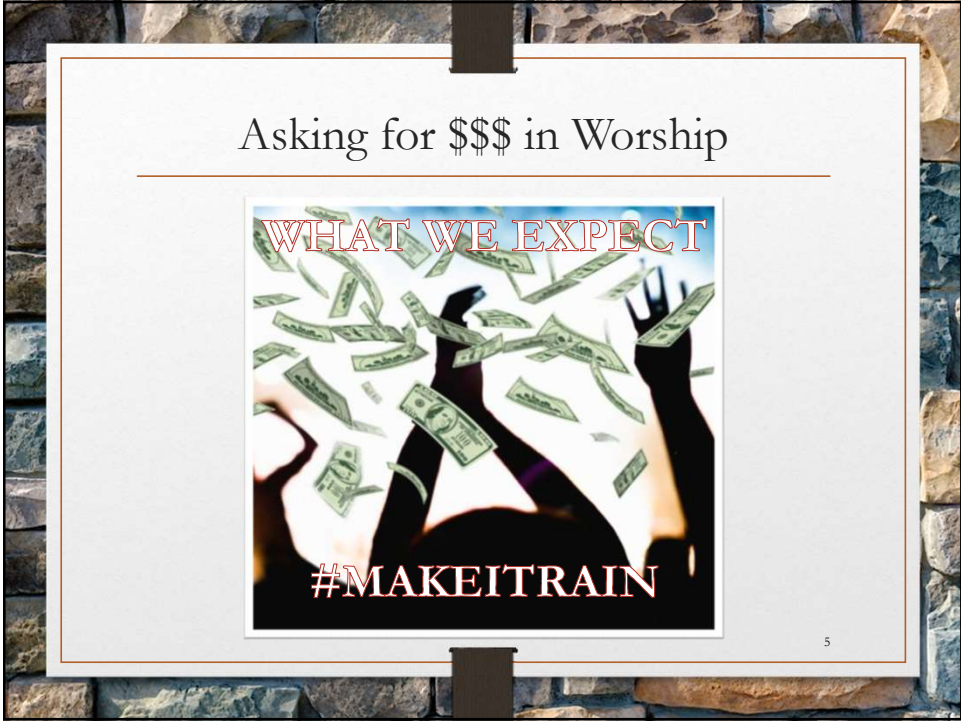
Asking for \$\$\$ in Worship



**HOW WE
SEE OURSELVES**

4

4



5



6



7

!! No More Ecclesiastical Bandits !!

- 2 Corinthians 9:7..a...b..AND..c
Common English Bible (CEB)
 - a. Everyone should give whatever they have decided **in their heart**.
- ***Our job...***
...help them discern



8


8

!! No More Ecclesiastical Bandits !!

- 2 Corinthians 9:7..a...b..**AND**..c
Common English Bible (CEB)

b. They shouldn't give with **hesitation** or **because of pressure**.

- *Our job...*
...teach



9

9


!! No More Ecclesiastical Bandits !!

- 2 Corinthians 9:7..a...b..**AND**..c
Common English Bible (CEB)

c. God loves a **cheerful** giver

- *Our job...*
... express gratitude to **God/Them**

note: ἡλαρὸν *cheerful, gay, merry, joyous*, Lat. hilaris; (we get the word “hilarious”)



10

10

“ *For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?* ”

-Luke 14:28

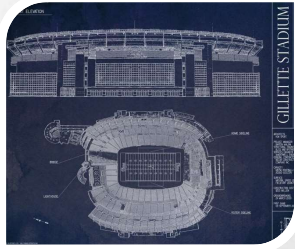
Where Do We to Start?

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11

Statement of Stewardship Theology

- Crafting a Blueprint to build an **Culture of Generosity**
 - Theology
 - Definitions
 - Practices / Policies / Expectations



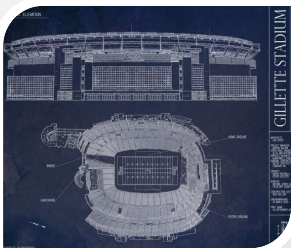
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Statement of Stewardship Theology

- Theology
 - We believe stewardship is a response to God's grace.
 - We believe profound joy springs from a disciple's act of giving, which is learned in worship, study and practice.
 - We believe when this endeavor is pursued with wisdom and love, we are working in tandem with the Holy Spirit in changing lives in our congregation and community.

*Crafting a Blueprint to build a
Culture of Generosity*



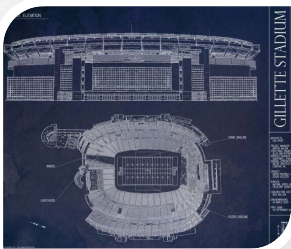
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Statement of Stewardship Theology

- Theology
- Definitions
 - *Tithe*
 - *Proportional Giving*
 - *First Fruits*
 - *Pledging*
 - *Offerings*

*Crafting a Blueprint to build a
Culture of Generosity*



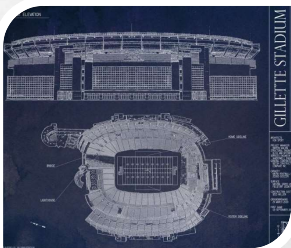
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Statement of Stewardship Theology

- Theology
- Definitions
- Practices / Policies / Expectations
 - **Church:**
Promote Stewardship Education by...
Model Prudent Corporate
Financial Stewardship by...
 - **Members:**
Participate in Pledged Giving Annually by...
Model Prudent Personal
Financial Stewardship by...

*Crafting a Blueprint to build a
Culture of Generosity*

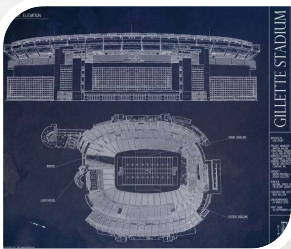


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Statement of Stewardship Theology

- Crafting a Blueprint to
Build a **Culture of Generosity**
 - Theology
 - Definitions
 - Practices / Policies / Expectations
- **Pastors, too**



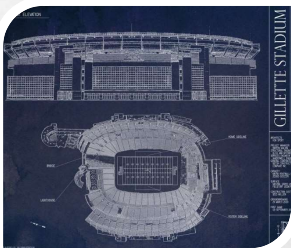
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Stewardship Committee FOCUS is 50/50

*Crafting a Blueprint to build a
Culture of Generosity*

- FOCUSED Vision:
 - 50% - Financial Stewardship Education
 - 50% - Financial Administration



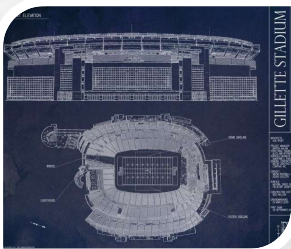
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Stewardship Committee FOCUS is 50/50

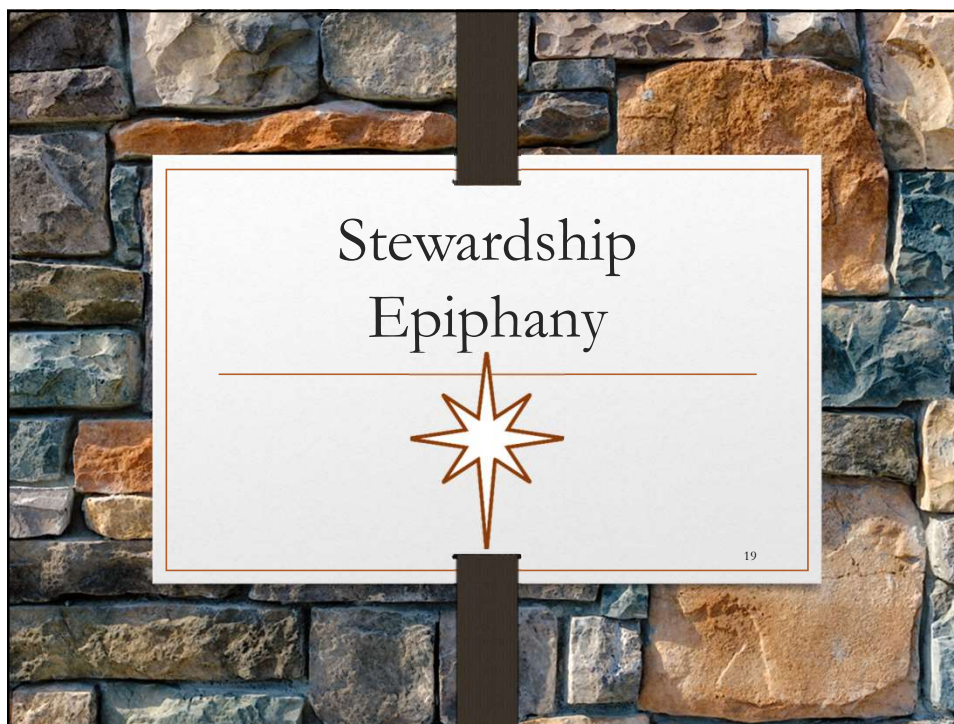
*Crafting a Blueprint to build a
Culture of Generosity*

- FOCUSED Leaders:
 - Teachers
 - Financial Gurus
 - Storytellers
 - Communicators
- Stewardship Training & Retreat



18

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Practically Speaking...the 4th Quarter

- Time and money is in HIGH demand during the final quarter of the year.
 - ↑ Activities
 - ↑ Fundraising...End of Year Gifts
- The local church is in competition with itself for our congregants attention.

Blessing of Animals	Thanksgiving	All Saints Day
Rally Day	Festival of Carols	Blue Christmas
Toy Drive	PC(USA) Joy Offering	Preschool Fundraisers
Fair Trade Market	Fellowship Dinners	Blood Drive
Children at the Lord's Table	World Communion	Stephen Ministry
Reformation Sunday	Children's Sunday	Christmas Eve Services
Christian Education	Youth Activities	Advent
Choir and Music Groups	Mission Outreach	Ecumenical Worship

20

Practically Speaking...the 4th Quarter

- The local church is in competition with various non-church activities (sports, school, travel)
- Where does the church pledge program fit in? Especially when other non-profits are asking your congregants for money during this time?

Blessing of Animals	Thanksgiving	All Saints Day
Rally Day	Festival of Carols	Blue Christmas
Toy Drive	PC(USA) Joy Offering	Preschool Fundraisers
Fair Trade Market	Fellowship Dinners	Blood Drive
Children at the Lord's Table	Wodd Communion	Stephen Ministry
Reformation Sunday	Children's Sunday	Christmas Eve Services
Christian Education	Youth Activities	Advent
Choir and Music Groups	Mission Outreach	Ecumenical Worship

21

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Stewardship is a 13 Month Process

- Growing Generous Disciples NEVER Ends
- There is something to learn, teach, analyze, communicate, inspire EVERY month!
 - Summer
 - Fall
 - Winter
 - Spring
 - Summer

```

    graph TD
      ANALYZE[ANALYZE  
REQUIREMENTS  
BOTTLENECKS  
INEFFICIENCIES  
SKILL SETS] --> DEVELOP[DEVELOP  
BRAINSTORM  
CONSENSUS  
OBJECTIVES  
TEMPLATES]
      DEVELOP --> PLAN[PLAN  
PROCESS  
PARTICIPATION  
PREDICTABILITY  
PEOPLE]
      PLAN --> EXECUTE[EXECUTE  
PROJECT TEAM  
KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER  
APPROVAL  
ROLL-OUT]
      EXECUTE --> ANALYZE
      EXECUTE --> MONITOR[MONITOR  
PROGRESS  
GOALS  
ON TIME  
IMPROVE]
      MONITOR --> ANALYZE
      
```

22

22

The ***Bold*** Ask (Before)

Summer (each committee/group):

- Write a summary of previous year accomplishments
- Create a new asking budget for next fiscal year
- Deadline: End of Summer



Preparing for the Ask

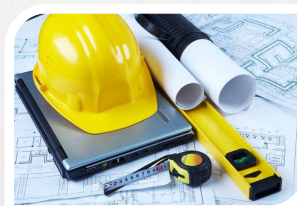
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The ***Bold*** Ask (Before)

Summer (each committee/group):

- Write 3 measurable ministry **goals** based on mission statement, not specifically tied to budget
 - September through August
- Submit one (or more) story of impact specifically related to their ministry objectives.
- Deadline: End of Summer



Preparing for the Ask

24

24

The ***Bold*** Ask (Before)

In the Fall, **CONSIDER:**

- What's reasonable growth (%) from one year over another?
- Has your congregation met the asking budget over the last five years?
- What does Stewardship Education look like for us?
Host a class.



Preparing for the Ask

25

25

The ***Bold*** Ask (Before)

In the Fall, **COMMUNICATE:**

- inform, build momentum and inspire
- letters, articles, skits, testimonies, photos
- Second Sunday in November: Congregational Gathering to present the successes, goals and asking budget



Preparing for the Ask

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The Epiphany Season

Winter (January, specifically):

- December: Pass a continuance budget for Q1 until final approved budget.
- January: Focus on giving all Sundays in worship and correspondence.
 - Minute for mission – Giving
 - Testimonies in worship and on web about the impact of Giving



Constructing the Ask

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The Epiphany Season

Winter (January, specifically):

- **First Sunday** – Epiphany (*most years*)
- **Second Sunday** – Baptism of the Lord
 - Renewal of Baptism
 - Sermon on Giving Time/Talent



Constructing the Ask

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The Epiphany Season

Winter (January, specifically):

- **Third Sunday**
 - Sermon on Giving Money
 - Receive Time/Talent Cards
- **Fourth Sunday – Dedication Sunday**
 - Receive Pledge Cards placed in Manger



Constructing the Ask

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The *Prudent* Budget (After)

The *Prudent* Budget **CONSIDER:**

- Conservative income projections beyond pledges
- What is the amount (%) of unfulfilled pledge income over the last three years?
- Avoid the faith budget



The Grand Opening

30

30

The *Prudent* Budget (After)

The *Prudent* Budget **COMMUNICATE:**

- Make phone calls to members who haven't yet pledged, and ask for intent.
- Hand-written *Thank You* notes to pledging families.



The Grand Opening

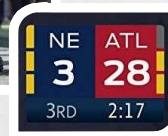
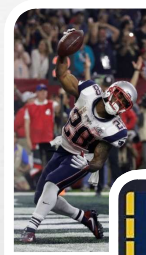
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The *Celebration Dance* (After-After)

The *Celebration Dance* **CONSIDER:**

- What went well during this program?
- What needs to be tweaked?
- Host a Stewardship Committee "After" Party



Never Give Up!


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The *Celebration Dance* (After-After)

The *Celebration Dance* **COMMUNICATE:**

- Host a Congregation Meeting/Dinner to celebrate their combined generosity!
- Time for **CONSTRUCTIVE** Q&A.
- Hand-written *Thank You* notes to pledging families.




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The Pastor as Leader

CONSIDER:

- Letters/Newsletters during Fall
- Worship/Sermon planning during Epiphany
- Leading a book study in Summer
- Pastoral Authority / Influence in process




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The Pastor as Leader

COMMUNICATE:

- Share what you pledge to the congregation AND how your family arrived at this decision.
- Hand-written *Thank You* notes to stewardship program team members.



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Transformative Stewardship: A Joy-Filled Journey

Thoughts, Questions & Answers

Rev. Dr. Joshua S. Robinson

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