



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN
COLORADO



LIVING STEWARDSHIP

Reaping an Abundant Harvest

Opening Hymn: *Thankful Heart* (sung by Scrooge and the Muppets)

With a thankful heart, with an endless joy
With a growing family, every girl and boy
Will be nephew and niece to me
Nephew and niece to me
Will bring love, hope and peace to me
Love hope and peace to me
Yes, everyday will end and everyday will start
With a grateful prayer and a thankful heart

With an open smile and with open doors
I will greet welcome, and what's mine is yours
With a glass raised to toast your health
With a glass raised to toast your health
And a promise to share the wealth
Promise to share the wealth
I will sail a friendly course, file a friendly chart
On a sea of love and a thankful heart

Life is like a journey
Who knows when it ends?
Yes, and if you need to know the measure of a woman or man you simply count their friends
Stop and look around you
The glory that you see
Is born again each day, don't let it slip away
How precious life can be

With a thankful heart that is wide awake
I do make this promise with every breath I take
Will be used now to sing your praise
Used now to sing your praise
And beg you to share my days
With a loving guarantee
That even if we part
I will hold you close in a thankful heart
I will hold you close in a thankful heart
In a thankful heart



Scrooge and Jim Henson as Teachers

- Scrooge
 - Moved by the spirits from greed to generosity: “a covetous sinner to a good a man as the city ever knew” (all in one night!)
 - Discovered the transforming power of the Holy Spirit
- Jim Henson
 - Visionary
 - Out-of-the-box thinker
 - Entrepreneur
 - Storyteller (humor and values)
 - Salesman
 - Integration of new technology and old craftsmanship (reinvented puppet genre—outside the puppet booth)

Series Objectives



Grounding ourselves



Shifting our way of thinking and being
with stewardship



Sharing



Exchanging ideas



Agenda

- Being not doing
- Shared journey
- Key components of any stewardship program
- Best practices
 - Suggested ideas for our Hybrid Church
- Thinking like a nonprofit
- Resources



Q&A INSTRUCTIONS

AT ANY TIME IN THE
PRESENTATION SUBMIT YOUR
QUESTIONS VIA THE Q&A TAB ON
YOUR ZOOM MENU.



Personally Practice Sabbath

- Focus on being more than doing
- Practice self care (<https://www.thehiveapiary.com/>)
- Know your circles of support
- Share the burden: stewardship committees, worship leadership, Office of the Bishop staff)

Holistic Stewardship

“When stewardship is understood as the right use of the resources God has given us, it touches all aspects of our lives.”

~ Nancy David and Susan Elliott in [More than an Annual Campaign](#)

“Shifting from what we are using to what we are offering means practicing incarnational stewardship.”

~ The Rev. Gary Brower, Good Shepherd, Centennial

Begin With the Essentials

Yesterday, Today, and Forever

- Grounding ourselves in prayer
- Teaching and preaching regularly on stewardship
- Engaging parishioners actively
- Asking specifically
- Practicing gratitude

Stewardship Is Relationship

Trust

- Gifts are competently managed (annual report, sharing of how money is used, endowment guidelines).
- You are looking out for them (pastoral support, understanding of financial situation and health/wellbeing).

Communication

- Two-way (*I feel heard, and I feel you are sharing of yourself*)
- Truthful open dialogue (What do parishioners think?)

Gratitude and Affirmation

- My gifts are appreciated.
- *I matter.*
- *I can make a difference.*
- *I'm part of something greater.*
- *We are one body.*

Growth

- People grow spiritually when they give and align the use of their gifts with their beliefs and values.
- We learn from each other.

What is Changing and Evolving in the Context of Today?

- Loss of physical touch
- Essential elements of our Anglican worship
 - Eucharist
 - Offertory: no passing the plate/no opportunity to give in many cases
 - Social time: fewer opportunities for connection/to know what's going on with others
- How we give time and talent to outreach and church ministries (choir, altar guild, ushers)
- Creation of the Hybrid Church: seeking to provide meaningful worship, formation, outreach experiences in a new way
- Worship and outreach moving beyond the building

Make Offertory an Essential Part of Your Worship

- Instead of passing the plate, post a text or giving page.
- Take time to allow people to reflect on the gifts they are using for God's purpose. Invite people to share their thanksgivings.
 - Share in chat.
- Let parishioners know how they can offer themselves to the community: lectors, food outreach, building maintenance, checking in with parishioners.
 - Engaged people are invested people.

An Example

Safe Worship & Pastoral Care



Sunday Worship Livestream

Please know we are committed to a safe worship environment.

Following guidelines from local health and government officials, our Sunday worship crew is practicing social distancing, cleaning worship spaces post-livestream, and staying home when feeling sick! Every member of our worship team will wear masks at all times except when speaking on screen.



We are blessed to have you join us for worship this morning – please take a moment to say hello in the comment threads. We are glad you're here and are grateful to stay connected as a community while we are apart.

Please visit www.sttims.net/pastoral-care for any Pastoral Care concerns. You are in our prayers!

Connecting



Offertory & Outreach

Online Giving

Text 73256 to give now!
ex. TIMSGIVES Pledge \$100
ex. TIMSGIVES NoPledge \$25

NOTE: Dollar amounts can be changed to any amount. First time givers will be asked for set-up information. Standard text message rates apply.

Online Giving

Your generosity at this time enables us to continue in our shared ministry as a parish.

Visit www.sttims.net/giving for how you can give electronically.



Text to give now!

- Pledged Offerings:
 - Text TIMSGIVES Pledge \$amount to 73256 (ex. TIMSGIVES Pledge \$500)
- Non-Pledged Offerings:
 - Text TIMSGIVES NoPledge \$amount to 73256 (ex. TIMSGIVES NoPledge \$50)



Be Intentional: Language for Inviting Gifts

Invite giving using one of these offertory sentences specifically developed for virtual gathering:

- *Let us offer our gifts, so that God will bless and break them like holy bread, and use them to nourish the world.*
- *As Jesus fed thousands on a hillside from a small, shared meal, let our shared gifts multiply and bring God's kingdom near.*
- *Creator God, gather our gifts from the four sacred directions as we give you thanks.*
- *Let us offer our holy gifts as seeds; may we plant and water them with God's help; may God's grace yield a harvest of new life.*
- *With grateful hearts, let us give what we have. With joyful hope, let us give for what can be.*
- *Let us love God and love one another by offering our gifts to the work of love.*

From the Rev. Kay Sylvester, Rector of St. Paul's, Tustin, CA



The Episcopal Network for Stewardship

Be Intentional: Use Familiar Actions for Inviting Gifts

- **Gather:** In this moment, we take time to virtually pass the offering plate representing our gifts, hopes, and prayers to the Creator and our community. When gathered virtually, take the time to observe the solemnity of this moment
 - Ask people gathered remotely to use this time to make their weekly pledge online.
 - Have a moment of silence for people to complete the action of online giving, or to give gratitude for what they have received.
- **Bless:** Making an action of Orans, bless the gifts that have been presented virtually; give thanks.
- **Break:** Just as the gifts of bread and wine are broken and shared, so too our gifts of treasure, time, and talent are shared with a needful world. Take a moment to name the ministries supported by your congregation as a remembrance that our virtual work has very real impact in our world.





Communication as a Two-Way Dialogue: Keep It Open

- Ask parishioners what they think, want, feel, need
 - Survey Monkey
 - Listening sessions (Zoom and on the lawn)
 - What are their pastoral needs?
 - What do they see in the community?
- Share with them what is happening and invite input
 - Building needs
 - Outreach

Connecting and Community

Make Time for Each Other

- Opportunities for going deeper
- Zoom social hours before and after the service
- Giving circles
- Book groups, Bible study, movie nights (“Faith and Film”)
- Asset map of your community
 - Businesses – which are struggling (church order night)
 - Elderly – Home cooked meals
 - Youth – who needs home tutoring (creating a teaching circle)
 - What do parishioners know enough about to teach? (“journey groups”)

Creating a Culture of Stewardship

- Regular preaching on stewardship
- Short videos on ways we care for one another
- Weekly e-newsletter tips on caring for creation
- Practices of gratitude

You can talk about money in church!

- 40% of Jesus parables are about money or possessions.
- Money carries emotional weight:
 - Hopes & Dreams
 - Security
 - Fears
 - Failure
 - Success
 - Perception
 - Joy & Happiness



When we talk about money with our sisters and brothers, rather than being limited conversations about wealth and pledges, we have conversations about family, anxiety, love, health, and the fullness of life.



Stewardship is Everything.

Integrate it into a Way of Being.

- Hold an end-of-life and legacy planning night or series
 - Will writing
 - Living will
 - Legacy giving options
- Financial planning (how to cope with economic uncertainty)
 - Retirement
 - Debt management
 - Theology of giving
 - Personal beliefs around money
- ABCD map of the congregation and neighborhood

Asking for Money: Consistency and Competency

- Four specific asks a year
 - Pledge campaign
 - Outreach
 - Capital or special need
 - Advent/Year End/Colorado Gives
- Create an easy-to-use script for yourself and your stewardship team and vestry.
- Ask during the service.
- Write them, call them, Instagram them, text them.

Making Giving Easy: Fun and Fret-Free Giving

- Good: pledge cards and giving envelopes
- Better: online pledges with recurring payments
- Text giving
- Kick-off events (stock the pantry, 5k run/walk)
- Zoom pledge night with auction (including white elephant gifts, bidding on parishioner gifts (a class on Rumi, Colorado Geology or Plants, the great composers, cooking like my Italian Grandmother taught me)
- Send a complete stewardship kit
- Involve the whole family
- Stocks
- Dip Jars/Kiosks/Touchless Card Giving

Gratitude

Thank

Thank people formally at least four times a year.

Thank

Thank people for their money, their work in the church, their ideas, and the work they are doing in the community (Time, Treasure, Talent/Wealth, Work, Wisdom).

Thank

Show gratitude for the people in your congregation by sending them a thank-you gift or care package.

Preparing for the Year Ahead



Think More Like a Nonprofit

*They are your
partners and
competitors*

- Remind them of the opportunities in the COVID-19 legislation:
 - \$300 deduction.
 - No limit to deductions (up to 100%)
 - IRA Distribution
- Do a DonorSearch of your congregation (get to know what they love and what they give to).
- Make your case (and don't forget God).
- Send them a t-shirt, a prayer card, a Bishop Kym Bobble Head.
- Have a labyrinth or Camino/pilgrimage walk and pledge per hour or mile).
- Make ever gift possible (Annuities, Life Insurance, Stock, Cars, Required IRA donations).
- Ask, ask, ask.
- Update, update, update.
- Thank, thank, thank.

Resources for Your Use


- episcopalcolorado.org/stewardship-resources
 - Sample plans and themes
 - Links to articles
 - Sample Zoom pledge nights (coming soon!)
- OneCause Event/Auction Software
- DonorSearch Software
- TENS.org (User: 1PETER. Pass: FOUR:10)
- giving365.com, tens.org, project-resource.org, and ceepnetwork.org
- Paul Alexander (Paul@EpiscopalColorado.org/720.677.9011)

QUESTIONS?



Workshop: August 19, 2020, Noon

- What has been your experience of giving during the past four months?
- What is working for you in your stewardship practices?
- What is not working?
- What could be better?
- What are your circles of support?
- What is a creative idea you are considering?



THIS COMPLETES
OUR WEBINAR.
THANKS FOR
JOINING!