

Sunday 9/28

“We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.” — [Winston Churchill](#) (1874-1965), British wartime prime minister and statesman

Stewardship, defined: Stewardship - the management and/or care for resources for which one has no ownership. At St Pauls being good financial stewards means the care and management of the financial resources that have been given so that the mission of the Church can be carried out. Stewardship involves joyous acts of thanksgiving in response to all that God has given us.

Sunday 10/5

“The return we reap from generous actions is not always evident.” — [Francesco Guicciardini](#) (1483-1540), Italian historian and statesman

Stewardship, defined: Donation – your financial contribution to the Church which fulfills your pledge or is a gift for a special purpose or fund. At St Pauls there are many opportunities to donate. Your pledge is one of those opportunities. Other opportunities will be mentioned in the bulletin and in mission moments during worship throughout the year. The UCC has a long history of advocacy and support of causes. The Church encourages giving by providing a variety of opportunities to give. Giving is also seen as a joyful response to God's generosity to us.

Sunday 10/12

“The best investment with the least risk and the greatest dividend is giving.” — [Sir John Templeton](#) (1912-), investor and philanthropist

Stewardship, defined: Pledge - an assurance of a donation. At St Pauls we use pledges to develop our budget for the fiscal year. We do not send a bill collector if someone is unable to fulfill his or her pledge. We recognize that circumstances change. In contemplating your pledge amount please keep in mind that you can modify your pledge at anytime during the year. Modifying your pledge helps us in the planning process. You are welcome to pledge an amount that you know you can contribute and donate extra if circumstances allow. **Tithing** – generally an old testament call to give 1/10th of something (i.e. harvest or money). Some faith organizations call for members to Tithe. Tithing is not practiced at St Pauls.

Sunday 10/19

“No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave.” — [Calvin Coolidge](#) (1872-1933), 30th U.S. president

Stewardship, defined: Commitment – As the United Church of Christ is a blend of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church, our congregation is a blend of many different religious experiences. Some of us grew up with an obligation to support the Church and some of us had no family experience with a congregation in our early years. The United Church of Christ

suggests 3% of your income as a pledge to the Church. Some households commit more and some commit less. It is important to understand that your commitment to the Church, regardless of the amount, allows the Church to fulfill its mission.

Sunday 10/26

“The real measure of your wealth is how much you’d be worth if you lost all your money.” —
Anonymous

Stewardship, defined: Memorial Endowment/Investment Fund/ Reserve Fund - A financial endowment is a sum of money that is invested to generate an annual return. An endowment may be created when a sizable gift is received from an individual or family, often as directed in a will upon the death of a family member, more typically an endowment is the result of many gifts over time from a variety of sources. St Pauls’ Reserve fund is the result of many gifts over time. We have used this fund to cover shortfalls in the annual operating budget, for emergency repairs to the facility and as an operating reserve for future requirements. Our goal is to use the investment fund as reserves and to cover anticipated and emergency facility expenses. Funding of the Reserve will occur either through planned gifts or capital campaigns. The Reserve fund has many sub-funds under it such as the Sam Hill Music Fund, Capital Campaigns, etc., each with a specific purpose.

Sunday 11/2

“Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege.” — John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (1874-1960), American industrialist and philanthropist

Stewardship, defined: Planned Giving - Refers to gifts that require some planning before they are made. Planned gifts can provide valuable tax benefits, income for life or used in estate planning. If you want to remember St Pauls through Planned Giving we can provide assistance in legal and financial council referrals. **Capital Campaign** - Fundraising that is conducted to raise major sums for a building or endowment, and generally keep such funds separate from operating funds. These campaigns encourage donors to give more than they would normally give. St Pauls has had capital campaigns in past.

Sunday 11/9

“He, who gives what he would as readily throw away, gives without generosity; for the essence of generosity is in self-sacrifice.” — Jeremy Taylor (1613-67), English bishop and writer

Stewardship, defined: Budget/Annual Operating Plan – St Pauls develops its annual budget or spending plan based on the expected contributions (as identified by pledges) it will receive. Planning is necessary to ensure that all expenses can be met and the mission of the Church can be fulfilled. Pledges aid in the planning process by identifying the resources that St Pauls will have available during the upcoming year.

Sunday 11/16

“It’s never too early to teach your children about the tool of money. Teach them how to work for it and they learn pride and self-respect. Teach them how to save it and they learn security and self-worth. Teach them how to be generous with it and they learn love.” — [Judith Jamison](#) (1943-), African-American dancer and choreographer

Stewardship, defined: Abundance and the gift of giving – obligation versus gratification – Money continues to be one of the greatest taboos in the church. When we do discuss money, we have a tendency to view it through the lens of scarcity. However, God has blessed us abundantly. An annual financial campaign is one step in the continuum of an effective year-round stewardship program that can help us experience God's abundance and that can challenge us to be generous givers as a response to God's abundant blessings.