







DEAR 2PC FAMILY,

As we move into this year's stewardship season, we pause to reflect on how we, individually and corporately, are furthering the mission of the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ in Memphis and abroad.

In one sense, our mission is identical to all other evangelical churches: we engage in worship, fellowship, discipleship, evangelism, and mercy. Although our mission never changes, God calls each congregation to serve a unique people in a specific place and time.

In August, George suggested how members of Second can carry out our unique mission as Christ's church by:

Retelling the Gospel constantly,

Reimagining the Church and City presently, and

Repairing What is Broken from the past.

Our desire for this season is that we think deeply about how we have been specifically called to participate in the mission of the Church. Indeed, praise God that He allows all of us to claim the title of "missionary" and serve as "stewards" of this very sacred mission!

Let us join in prayer as a church family over the next several weeks by asking God how we are to be "Stewards on Mission" and, specifically, how God desires that we use our time, talents, resources, and money to advance the mission of His Church through *Retelling, Reimagining*, and *Repairing*.

Our stewardship season this year will cover three weeks — beginning Sunday, October 28 and concluding on Commitment Sunday, November 11. On Sunday, November 4, there will be a joint Congregational Community meeting in the Sanctuary where George will share his thoughts on what it means to be "Stewards on Mission." During this time, there will also be Q&A when you can ask George any question you might have about stewardship, tithing, or anything else. You can email your questions in advance to giving@2pc.org.

His servant,

Drew Yonchak

Drew Yorder

IMPORTANT DATES

October 28

 We'll hear from our Stewardship Chairman, Drew Yonchak, during Sunday morning worship services.

November 4: Stewardship Sunday

 During the CC hour, all CCs (6th grade to adult) will meet in the Sanctuary to hear from George Robertson and participate in a Q&A session.

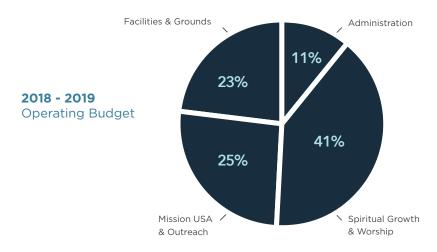
November 11: Commitment Sunday

Bring your completed intent cards to place in the offering plate
during worship. Stewardship cards have been enclosed in this packet. Additional
cards are available at the main reception desk and in the pew racks. A pdf of the
card is also available at 2pc.org/giving as well as details about pledging online.

If you have any questions about the stewardship process at Second, please call the church office at (901) 454-0034 or email giving@2pc.org.

ABOUT OUR BUDGET

Two-thirds of our operating budget goes directly to support ministry. Approximately one-third of the budget is used to cover administrative and facility costs. World Missions is funded separately by pledges and commitments made during the World Missions Conference in February.



TOOLS TO HELP WITH YOUR STEWARDSHIP

Here are a few tools to help you reach your stewardship goals:

Intent Cards

Fill out an intent for stewardship card to let the church know that you are committed to faithfully and prayerfully giving during the coming year.

Sunday Worship

During Sunday worship, you may drop your tithe in the offering plate as it is passed.

Online Tools for Statements and Giving

You can pledge online, view giving history, download statements, and set up recurring tithes and offerings online at 2pc.org/giving.

Offering Envelopes

If you would like, Second will provide personalized offering envelopes for weekly giving sent at the beginning of each calendar year. Check the appropriate box on the annual intent card or call the church accounting office at 454-0034 to request offering envelopes.

Giving Statements

Second will send statements throughout the year to assist you in keeping up with your stewardship plan. If you have pledged using a pledge card or online, progress toward that amount will be included on your quarterly giving statements.

A RECOMMENDED GIVING MODEL

A tithe (10%) is set aside as an offering to God. Below is a recommended model of healthy giving for Second Presbyterian members.

The tithe is divided among:

- Operating Budget
- World Missions

Gifts beyond the tithe:

- Capital Campaign
- Para-Church Ministries
- Non-Christian Charitable Causes
- Personal Gifts to Those in Need

GIVING PLAN WORKSHEET 2018

Second Presbyterian Offerings World Missions • Deeply Rooted Capital Campaign • Special Occasion / Seasonal Requests Memorials Strategic / Planned Giving Second Presbyterian Foundation **Para-church Organizations Other Charitable Organizations Surprises Total Giving**

As I think back to my early years of being a parent, it seems like so much of my time was spent telling my children to "Stop that," "Don't touch that," or "Don't do that." It was as if everything in my children's curious minds was compelling them to do what I didn't want them to or what was harmful to them. My reflection on those early years led me to weigh the idea that perhaps my children wondered why there were so many things they weren't supposed to do — and those thoughts took focus away from the freedom they had, under my supervision, to enjoy all the things my wife and I had provided for them.

Sadly, that same view my children may have come to about their own lives is the very view that much of the world has about the Church and Christianity today. In his book unChristian, David Kinnaman says, "It is clear that Christians are primarily perceived for what they stand against. We have become famous for what we oppose, rather than who we are for." This means that, like I was as a new parent, Christians are so much to the world: "Don't do this," "Don't do that," that the world has lost the picture of *who* it is we serve and *why* it is we seek to live lives of obedience to Him.

As the Church of Jesus Christ, we have been saved for God-honoring, God-exalting acts of service and good works. Good stewardship is one way we not only honor and exalt the Lord, but also show the world who and what we are for. And although our stewardship season in the church focuses primarily on the stewardship of our finances – God also calls each one of us to be good stewards of the Gospel itself!

We help the proclamation of the Gospel by the giving of our finances to the church which stewards those resources to various ministry partners seeking to advance the Kingdom, here and around the world. At the same time, each and every believer is called to steward the Gospel through our very lives, wherever we have been placed by the Lord to live, work, and play. We steward the Gospel by living it out through acts of service to help serve and restore our city:

Isaiah 61:4 — They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.

Isaiah 58:12 – Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings. And we steward the Gospel by proclaiming its Truth to help set free those in bondage to sin:

Isaiah 61:1 – The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners...

What better way to raise up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord than teaching them, at every age, how to be stewards of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Open in Prayer

Opening Question:

What are some of your favorite things about the city of Memphis? What are some things you wish were different?

Read Isaiah 61:1,4 and 58:12

Questions for PK-3rd

- What do these verses tell us about God and the things He cares about?
 List the things he talks about in these verses.
- What does 61:4 tell us needs to be done for the city?
- What types of people does 61:1 tell us God wants to hear the Gospel?

Questions for 4th-8th (in addition to or replacing some of the above)

- Look up the word "steward" in the dictionary and read it aloud.
- God calls us to be a good steward of our time, our talent and our treasure (money and other possessions). What are ways in which you can be a good steward at home? At school? At church?
- What are some ways we can be stewards who love and serve our city?

Questions for 9th-12th (in addition to or replacing some of the above)

- How can we be good stewards of the gift God has given us in the person of Jesus?
- How can you as a teenager have an impact for the Gospel in Memphis? (Think about where God has placed you, where you live, work and play.)
- What are ways your family can be good stewards of the Gospel together?

Close in Prayer

- Thank God for being the great giver of everything in your life. List some specific things you are thankful for to God.
- Ask God to show you some specific ways you can be a good steward for His glory.
- Pray that the Lord would work in your family, and all the families in our church to understand that God calls us to be vessels of grace and the Gospel to the city of Memphis.
- Pray that we would be a church that brings glory to God in the way we steward our time, talent, and treasure.
- Pray that God would raise up His church to love God and our city in such a way
 that a spiritual revival would take place and that lives would be changed forever.



4055 Poplar Avenue Memphis, TN 38111 (901) 454-0034 · 2pc.org