



We are excited to announce the theme for the 2023 Stewardship Campaign:

What has God put under our care that we could share with others.

Generosity

Have you ever thought of giving as a form of worship? Or do we just think about it as a way to keep the lights on and the sermons coming?

As we prepare for our Stewardship campaign, we are reminded by Luther that all of our gifts and abilities come from God the Apostles Creed states that God is the Creator; creating us and giving us all that we have. God wants us to put all of ourselves and our resources to good use serving God, our community, our family, and all those in need.

While it is normal to think of our stuff as OUR STUFF, as good stewards of God, don't we need to consider how God wants us to best use our resources? Where is God in our giving considerations? Are we serving God or are we just keeping the lights on? And maybe, just maybe, we may begin to see that all we do and all we have really and truly is a gift from God, even the lights in our building. These lights enable us to worship together in community, study God's Word together, prepare to take the gospel into the community, and keep our doors open to a world in need.

Your Stewardship committee and Council is studying the book *Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity*, by Michael R. Ward. This book takes us back to the mindset of Luther, teaching us how these gifts God has so generously provided need to be used to bring God's kingdom now, in our lifetime. It's a great read and available on Amazon for download or for the actual book.

Before we consider our giving this year, let's think about what God has asked us to do here at Good Shepherd. Let's listen for God's call on our lives to provide for our church family as well as our community.

When we put our faith in God and strive to reflect God's generosity in the sharing of our gifts, God will guide and provide for Good Shepherd in the year ahead.

Consecration Sunday is November 26th. We want to thank you for your generosity and resources during the past year and pray that you will continue your support to work together for the things God has called us to do here in our congregation, our community and in our world. Should you complete your forms before that time, we will provide a box at the altar for you to deposit your forms before the service starts each Sunday. **Even if there are no changes this year, please fill out your form for 2023.**

Remember an easy way to consistently provide your giving is through Simply Giving. There will be a form for that in this package for you to fill out. Simply giving is secure, convenient and an automated way to submit you offering.

May God guide you with this serious decision and bless you with his grace and love.

Sincerely,

Your Stewardship Committee

Jaime Escamilla, Janice Swinford, Jason Champion, John Mac, Valerie L. Whiteman

Council Liaison *Sharon Ryan*

