



THE  
*Privilege*  
OF  
*Giving*

## DAILY DEVOTION GUIDE

LORD, what do You want to do through me to fulfill  
Your will for Kilmarnock United Methodist Church?

KILMARNOCK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
KILMARNOCK, VIRGINIA

*The Privilege of Giving*  
*A Stewardship Ministry of Kilmarnock United Methodist Church*  
2022

A Letter from Our Pastor:

Faithful stewardship allows the church to accomplish its mission. We are called to share the love, salvation and forgiveness of Jesus Christ with others. We are called to invite family, friends and neighbors to come to church to enjoy the Christian fellowship we share together. This would not be possible without the many resources, including financial contributions, people freely give to God through the church.

Stewardship is connected to our Christian spiritual growth. It's how we take care of the church building, the pastor, the parsonage and staff in addition to our own spiritual growth. God asks us to be good stewards of all He's given us. He blesses us so we can be a blessing to others! As we give of our tithes, gifts and offerings, we can never out-give the Lord! God has overflowing, abundant blessings to pour into our spiritual lives.

God has commissioned us with the task of taking care of His creation. When I look and see the beauty all around us, I am so thankful to Him that I want to give Him my best! As I write this, a beautiful butterfly flew by my window and a small hummingbird came to my feeder. God is amazing in all the gifts that He has blessed us with! Thank You, God, for Your many gifts to us!

It is a privilege to give to God. Our ministry of giving to God is based on the Biblical theology of the need of the giver to give rather than the need of the church to receive! It is an honor to give to God. It is part of my personal commitment to God as I give intentionally, with a spirit of generosity pleasing to the LORD! God is at work in the life of our church. God is helping us to serve Him as responsible stewards who care for His sanctuary and whole creation, for His GLORY and HONOR!

As you consider the ways you intend to give of your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness, I encourage you to join me in reading this booklet each day. The Holy Spirit is ready to guide us. Listen for His promptings, and pray this prayer:

**Loving Creator, Almighty God, Sustainer and Giver of all good things, please show me tangible ways I can fulfill my responsibility as a steward of Your creation and inspire others to care for the world You've entrusted to us. Amen.**

In Christian Love,

Pastor Penny

**Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another  
with whatever gift each of you has received. *1 Peter 4:10***

# Welcome to KUMC's *The Privilege of Giving* daily devotion book!

This book explores facets of stewardship. Stewards are also disciples of Jesus Christ. Church members contributed to this book by sharing Bible verses, their thoughts, opinions, goals, and experiences as related to stewardship. We are thankful for their time and willingness to share, and we pray their experiences and insights will encourage all of us in our roles as stewards.

Information from other sources is included to reinforce the importance and value of attending to our roles as stewards. Unless stated otherwise, all scripture is from the NRSV. We pray this resource will be educational, enjoyable, thought-provoking and a true blessing to each member of your family.

Thank you to committee members Virginia Craig, Margaret Nost and Pastor Penny Cory for their assistance in compiling material, proofing and editing, and to all contributors: Judy Altier, Jon and Elaine Baer, Stan Becker, Kathee Cernicky, Birt Cory, Penny Cory, Virginia Craig, Tammy Crandall, Curt Dozier, Sandy Jordan, Sherry Ketner, Beth Koberle, Jamie Lang, Melinda Lewis, Audrey and Elliott Lorenzino, Mary Lorenzino, Sally McGrath, Eric Nost, Margaret Nost, Slater Pittman, Jim Symons, Judy Werner, and two anonymous contributors. We know you will be blessed by reading their reflections. We also thank Whitney Lang for the cover design, special graphics and layout, and Joanne Hinson for help with layout and all the printing.

May God continue to guide each of us as we strive to be faithful and grow in His service.  
Sandy Jordan, Stewardship Chair 2022

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## ***THE PRIVILEGE OF GIVING***

### **† OPPORTUNITIES FOR STEWARDS TO GIVE †**

Throughout the booklet you'll find examples of opportunities to give according to the pledge we made when we joined our church. The Church is the Body of Christ. The Church is the Bride of Christ. God has given stewardship of Christ's Body and Bride to members of KUMC. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we take this responsibility seriously by giving to God in all the areas we promised when we joined the church. Stewards at KUMC have many opportunities to give. Look for this symbol, "†," which marks opportunities to give, as you read through your book.



### **STEWARDS GIVE THROUGH OUR PRAYERS**

#### **Pray without ceasing. *1 Thessalonians 5:17***

We pray for the Pastor and the Pastor's family.

We pray for members on our prayer list.

We pray for the children and teachers in Sunday School Classes and for other ministries in our church.

We pray for visitors and outreach opportunities.

We pray for our ministries to grow, be effective and draw people to Christ.

We pray for the music ministry and all who participate in this aspect of worship.

We pray for the secretary, custodian and workers behind the scenes who record, edit and email videos of our services for others to watch, who prepare communion, have sacristy responsibilities and contribute to helping our worship service flow smoothly.

We pray for the numerous committees which help steward the workings of the church.

We pray for our community, state, nation and world, that all would turn to God.

## Thinking about *Stewardship*? Look at our Hymnal!

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (From the United Methodist Hymnal)

- **What do we ask?**
- **What do we expect?**
- **What do new members agree to do?**
- **As members, what covenant do we renew?**

### From page 38 in our hymnal:

The pastor addresses those transferring their membership or joining by profession of faith, asking:

As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?

They respond:

I will.

The pastor addresses the congregation, asking:

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

The congregation responds:

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified.

## WHAT ARE STEWARDS?

### A STEWARD is...

- One who owns nothing, but manages everything
- A fiscal agent
- One who supervises distribution of provisions or funds
- One who manages supply & distribution
- One who manages something for someone else
- An asset manager

### STEWARDS...

- Are Trustworthy
- Demonstrate Respect for the Role
- Demonstrate Initiative & Trust in the Supervisor's Goodness
- Display Wisdom & Sobriety
- Show Generosity of Spirit
- Express Gratitude & Respect
- Participate in Care of Others
- Have a Healthy Attitude Toward Money
- Focus on Spirituality
- Care for the Earth & All of God's Resources



**October 23, 2022**

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Never underestimate the power of prayer.

**SCRIPTURE: Mark 11:22 & 24**

Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God...So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

**REFLECTION by the Stewardship Committee**

Each day's devotion follows a similar pattern. Each is educational as well as thought-provoking. Most pages provide space to add your own thoughts. You may want to offer a prayer after each reading.

Pastor Penny provided a wonderful prayer at the end of her letter on the inside cover. It is reprinted below. During the weeks of "*The Privilege of Giving*," please consider praying this prayer each day, perhaps at noon. Imagine the impact of our being united in prayer at the same time, daily. There is tremendous power in prayer and increased power when the Body of Christ prays in unity.

If you want to pray after each reading and are looking for words to say, we offer these ideas to help you get started:

1. Offer a Breath Prayer. An example is: "Abundant Life." As you inhale for several seconds, breathe in as you speak the word, *Abundant*. Next, slowly exhale as you speak the word, *Life*. Do this several times. Conclude with, "Thank You, God, for the Abundant Life You have provided through Your Son, Jesus. Amen."
2. "Dear Lord, please give me ears to hear and heed Your promptings regarding my growth in all areas of stewardship. Help me bring glory to You and Your Kingdom. Amen."
3. "Dear God, teach me not to conform to the world but to transform my thinking and life by renewing and expanding my stewardship habits. I long to please You, Lord. Amen."
4. "Dear Father, please give me eyes to see the stewardship opportunities all around me. Help me pray effectively and know where to use my time, talents, gifts, service and witness to glorify You. Amen."
5. "Dear Creator God, please teach me daily practices that help me pause, breathe and listen for Your still, small voice. I ask the Holy Spirit to direct me to areas where I may give and serve. Thank You, God. Amen."
6. "Dear God, if I'm hesitant to increase my personal financial stewardship, please help me remember Philippians 4:19, 'And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus,' and remind me not to be afraid. Amen."
7. "Thank You, Lord, for providing for all my needs so I may be a blessing to others. Amen."

**REMEMBER:**

A stewardship ministry is about the need of the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.

**PLEASE PRAY PASTOR PENNY'S PRAYER DAILY:**

Loving Creator, Almighty God, Sustainer and Giver of all good things, please show me tangible ways I can fulfill my responsibility as a steward of Your creation and inspire others to care for the world You've entrusted to us. Amen.

October 24, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Disciples are called to be faithful stewards at all ages and in all stages of faith.

**SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:27-28**

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.

**REFLECTION by Mary Lorenzino**

Stewardship! What a deep topic to think about, especially when thinking of it in the way of the church. Growing up in the church, this hasn't been a topic that was openly taught; more or less a topic that was assumed to have existed. After a brief research on the word, I have just realized how in-depth "Stewardship" can be.

I believe we all have an important role in how we care for our church, whether it is with how we maintain the actual building or the treatment of its people within the walls. God asks us to care for the gifts He has given us. Ways we can do this are by tithing, caring for others through mission work, helping out through different committees that serve the church population, and by being active in classes that help us grow in our daily walk with Him. When I personally do one of these things, I feel God's Presence in my life and know that He is with me. This is especially true for me when I teach the children each Sunday and watch them grow in their love for the Lord and His church.

It is my hope that each day we will continue to dig deeper and take care of the needs of others and the gifts God has given us...and be grateful for it all.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. *1 Corinthians 12:12*



*A stewardship ministry is about the need of the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

October 25, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Stewardship is living our lives in faithfulness to God and in thanksgiving to Him for making us in His image and giving us charge of His creation.

### **SCRIPTURE: Genesis 2:15**

The Lord took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

### **REFLECTION by Margaret Nost**

Stewardship encompasses so much! It's my loving response to God who calls me His child and with whom I have a personal relationship. Stewardship is an honor and privilege. It's caring for something entrusted to you. It requires thought and diligence. (My job at the Community Foundation was all about stewardship. Donors expected that their gifts would be well invested and support the organizations and causes as they instructed.)

Giving is an important part, but only one part, of stewardship. The Bible, my gratitude to God and the example set for me by my parents all prompt my giving to the church. As a child, I was given four quarters every week as allowance, and one of those was expected to go into the offering plate. When I was confirmed and received my first set of weekly offering envelopes, I was so proud to have my own box! I knew it was my duty and a privilege to be able to give something to God. For me, giving is a means to return blessings I've received from God. I am responding to all God has provided for my family and for me – my church, my salvation, His forgiveness, and a one-on-one relationship with my Father in Heaven and His Son.

Through my tithes, gifts and offerings, I know I receive more than I can give. Tithing is my intentional, prayerful financial gift. I believe it's the minimum asked/expected of a Christian, and I strive to do so. My offerings are intentional and over and above tithing. My gifts may vary in amount and frequency as specific needs/purposes arise. God expects our best in all that we do to advance His Kingdom. My giving to the church has been and still is an on-going journey with occasional divergent paths, but I'm always moving toward the goal of giving cheerfully and giving my best in all ways, including monetarily.

My suggestion to others is – Be intentional in your giving! It makes a difference to move from feeling you're *expected* to give to knowing it's a *privilege*. Pray. Consider the impact your giving and stewardship are having in your relationship with God and in the work of His church.

### **THOUGHTS:**

### **REMEMBER:**

“For God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son.” *John 3:16*

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

**October 26, 2022**

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

We serve a God of abundance, not scarcity.

**SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 4:10**

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

**REFLECTION by Kathee Cernicky**

Stewardship includes overseeing everything God has given us, including the church. It means maintaining and taking care of what is ours *from God*. As good stewards, we give from what we ourselves have been given. I like the 1 Peter verse as a reminder to manage our gifts well so God's generosity can flow through us.

Tithing is 10% right off the top of our income to give to our local church. God tells us to tithe, and it's important to Him. I used to give what I could and tried to increase my giving as I could. After many years, I was finally able to begin tithing. The tithe is the 10%. I think of offerings and gifts as additional monies going for special purposes or events. I'm prompted to give because God has been so good to me and my family. I just feel like I want to give back for all He's done.

Money is an important part of our stewardship plans because we use the money for caring for our church, its property and our ministries. Without money, we couldn't do these things. My suggestion to others who are not tithing is to start where you can. Then, increase as you can and will!

My favorite areas to exercise stewardship include all of these: prayers, presence, talents, tithes and service. I participate in worship, Sunday School and choir, and I volunteer to serve in a number of areas like Prayer Group, organizing second Sunday fellowship, visiting members and preparing meals for others when needed. In all these ways, I feel I steward the talents God has given me.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

God doesn't want your money. He wants your heart.

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

**October 27, 2022**

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

It is a great privilege to be entrusted with things owned by our God and Creator.

**SCRIPTURE: Genesis 2:15**

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

**REFLECTION by Judy Werner**

Stewardship is maintaining, taking care of, and supporting something of importance. Genesis tells us to be good stewards. God gave Adam the responsibility of the garden. Adam was expected to be the steward of the garden. In the same way, God gives us responsibility for His creation – animals, plants, people - and everything else He gives us.

Our family always belonged to a church, but giving and religious issues were not discussed. I've learned that when it comes to giving, there are lots of ways we are expected to give, and in each, God expects us to give cheerfully. There are first fruits giving, and there's tithing, when you give back to God 10% of what you're given, and that's also supposed to be the first check you write each month. I've never tithed and am not proud of it. I always lived paycheck to paycheck and couldn't seem to do it, so my giving continues to be sporadic.

I give of my time and the talent I possess, and do so cheerfully, and I'm present in worship and Sunday School. I currently serve on the Administrative Council and organize the First Friday Lunch 'n Laffs. I participate in choir, sometimes play the piano during worship, and enjoy doing duets with our Organist/Choir Director Wayne Hare.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

God is just as interested in how we use the 90% as He is in the first 10%.



*Lord, what do You want to do through me to fulfill Your will for KUMC?*

**October 28, 2022**

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Stewards respect their role, live a life of gratitude, demonstrate generosity of spirit, time and service, and have a healthy attitude toward money.

**SCRIPTURE: Malachi 3:10**

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and thus put Me to the test, says the Lord of Hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

**REFLECTION by Judy Altier**

I realized, when asked about stewardship, that I rarely think about it. I hadn't considered how many different aspects there were to stewardship. I constantly thank God for all our blessings and pray we'll be good stewards to take care of all He's given us, because we know all our blessings come from Him. Growing up, my parents gave us money for church and Sunday School, so I didn't really think about it as a child. As an adult, I've come to believe Malachi 3:10.

The parts of stewardship I like are prayer (because we can do that anywhere), presence (because we like to participate in worship and Sunday School when we can), and service (because I liked helping with the Clothes Bank when we had that), but my favorite part is tithing.

I think tithing has become one of the biggest things in my life. In our early years, Julian was a teacher. We had four children and didn't tithe at the time. Then, our church did a church-wide study on tithing. After participating, I still remember how Julian and I looked at each other and said, "We need to do this!" We've never looked back. There's a saying, "You can't out-give God." We've found this to be true ever since we started tithing. If you aren't tithing, I recommend you seriously consider it, and *if you're going to do it, do it big and trust God!*

I view tithes as the first 10%, which goes to the church. Gifts would be like what we donate to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, and offerings would be for special needs such as flood relief or people in need in specific locations.

We give out of our love for God and to be obedient. I think stewardship begins with tithes and gifts; then time, talents and service fall into place. When we were younger, we participated in more activities and served in more ways. I still try to prepare food for others when asked. Over the years, I find we donate more to help compensate for what we can no longer do physically. God gives us enough to help others, and I like being able to help anonymously when we can.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

Give the first 10% to God, and He'll take care of the rest. You can't out-give God!

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*



October 29, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

A good steward does everything as if doing it for the Lord.

**SCRIPTURE: Malachi 3:10**

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and thus put Me to the test, says the Lord of Hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

**REFLECTION by Jim Symons**

When I think of stewardship, I think of the Old English, *stiward*, or *stigward*, usually meaning “house guardian or housekeeper” (*stig* meaning hall or pen for pigs, and *wer* meaning watch out for.) Stewardship is taking good care of someone or something. A steward is the “keeper” of something special. As stewards at KUMC, we are to take care of the church’s body and soul.

The Holy Spirit prompted my giving to the church. The verse I think of is Malachi 3:10. For me, tithing is a requirement. It’s the first 10% that comes from my income. As I grew toward tithing, I considered tithing to be the first step - the basic step for giving. My progress toward tithing was slow and steady, and the thing I like most about tithing is the easy math! I also give to other special needs when I have extra.

I know God expects us to be cheerful in all the ways we give – prayers, presence, talents, tithes, offerings, gifts, service, witnessing and so on. The more I grow in stewardship, the more consistently I give in all these areas.

The advice I received from others re tithes and giving was, “Do It!” I give the same advice to others today – Do It! Do everything for the Lord.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

Whatever task you must do, work as if your soul depends on it, as for the Lord and not for humans, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ. *Colossians 3:23-24*



*A stewardship ministry is about the need of the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

# THE CHILDREN

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Stewards come in all ages!

**SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:40**

“And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’”

**REFLECTION by Jamie Lang, Age 9**

I think that when you give to the church, you help the church teach people about God. I can be a steward by helping the church, like by helping set up for stuff, and reading things in church, and helping people carry stuff from one place to another. I also make God happy by being kind to my Sunday School friends.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” *Matthew 19:14*

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- “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.” *Matthew 18:3-5*
  - And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. *Ephesians 6:4.*

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
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**October 31, 2022**

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.” *John 15:12*

**SCRIPTURES:**

**1 Peter 4:10**, Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

**John 17:3**, “And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

**Colossians 3:17**, And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Mark 10:45**, “For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

**REFLECTION by Eric Nost**

As Christians, we are blessed and comforted to have an established relationship with God. We are humbled to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, who showed us the way to eternal life. With this relationship also comes the responsibility of being good stewards of Christian love. We are stewards of our faith in all that we do and with all that we have, in the service of others. God expects us to use our gifts as stated in 1 Peter 4:10. This Christian stewardship includes using these gifts in our unwavering commitment to our church family, the nucleus of how we share the Word and serve others.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

Do not neglect the gift that is in you. *1 Timothy 4:14a*



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November 1, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

God blesses, helps, and rewards your heartfelt efforts to be a better steward.

**SCRIPTURES:**

**Romans 14:12**, So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

**Matthew 6:21**, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

**REFLECTION by Curt Dozier**

When I think of stewardship, I imagine my obligation to God and my fellow humans. I describe it as my relationship to others and strive to practice how Jesus wants us to live, as He taught in His Sermon on the Mount, in Matthew 5-7. Where a person chooses to spend their money, time, energy, devotion and resources proves what they value. The Matthew 6 verse goes to the heart of Jesus’ teaching. God pays attention to what we value, what we think and how we feel. A verse that exemplifies and complements this aspect of stewardship is Romans 14:12. God will hold us accountable for many things, including where our treasure is.

My giving and stewardship do not relate only to the Methodist Church because we serve God and humanity in many ways. I believe this is what Jesus is teaching in the Sermon on the Mount. While tithing is specified in Moses’ teaching in Leviticus, it isn’t specifically mentioned in the New Testament, but Jesus does teach us to give generously and not to store up treasures here but to use them for good works.

I’m never satisfied with my obligation to God. I don’t keep a record, but I hope my service and witness help make this world a little better. I think service sums it all up, encompassing all we do. I think emphasizing service is the way to encourage a congregation, and stressing tithing is a way to lose a congregation. We can never know how people are compelled to use their resources.

At KUMC, 22% of our budget goes for Apportionments - this is \$64,000. To be accountable, the conference should let us know how this is spent just as we keep our congregation apprised of how their contributions are spent. The same thing applies to money we contributed for Ukraine and disaster relief and even money given to the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund. Updates in the monthly newsletter would be helpful. We could see how far-reaching our efforts are. This would exemplify good stewardship.

My recommendation is not to try to tell anyone how or why to give but to continue to tell the story of Jesus and how He would have us live our lives. I hope I never stop growing.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

How we live and how we manage our resources is our opportunity to honor God.

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
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November 2, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Stewardship is a way of life based on spiritual principles.

**SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:9**

Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce.

**REFLECTION by Birt Cory**

Stewardship is about giving financially to the church, but it's about more than that. It's about giving our time and talent. Good stewardship in the church means acting responsibly concerning the management and care of the church's assets. That means taking care of the facilities, equipment, and finances of the church.

Certainly tithing is Biblical, particularly in OT scriptures. I don't think insisting people give 10% is always practical or reasonable. When I was young, I don't remember being taught specifically about tithing, giving 10% of what I receive, but I remember my parents giving my siblings and me a coin or two to put in the offering plate to emphasize the importance of giving. When I got old enough to receive an allowance, I was expected to give a small portion to the church and to set aside an amount for future needs or wants.

When I first came to church as an adult, my finances were a mess. My wife and I went to a financial advisor, fully expecting to be advised to file for bankruptcy. We managed to avoid that, but money was tight. A tithe wasn't going to happen for a while. Over time, I worked up to tithing, but for those who can't pay their bills, a tithe is unreasonable. Some don't think a tithe is specifically identified in the NT. Jesus talked about giving sacrificially. Even when I couldn't tithe, I gave what I could. In my mind, gifts represent giving over and above the tithe, especially where it concerns special needs of the church and/or community

Some people won't give money to the church because they say the church shouldn't be all about money. That's true, but without money, we wouldn't have a nice building (which needs maintenance), air conditioning, or funds to pay the pastor's salary. There would be no church, so supporting the church is very important.

Good stewardship means managing our gifts, talents and all we've been given financially in a responsible way that glorifies God. It means being able to further the ministries of the church which helps meet the goal of the Great Commission, to make disciples of all nations.

Remember - the church is not the structure, or the pastor and staff. The church is the congregation, the people of God. If I believe in what the church is doing, if I believe in the gospel of Jesus Christ, if I believe in the Great Commission, if I believe I have a responsibility to help and support my fellow man, then I believe it is a moral imperative to give to the church.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

The Church is the Bride of Christ. We must take care of her.

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
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November 3, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Giving is putting love and compassion into action.

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 8:6**

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.

**REFLECTION by Beth Koberle**

When I think of stewardship, I think of ways we can try to show God's love and be careful to manage everything He's given us properly. He deserves our respect because of everything He's given us to enjoy.

When I was a child, my parents showed me why it's important to give to the church. I view tithing as a good way to commit to and show support for our church and its ministries. Tithes are my commitments. I show my appreciation for the many gifts God has given me. I offer my love and life to Him. I enjoy giving financially to help the church do God's work for all His children in the world.

I take my prayer life very seriously, support the church with my presence, as often as I can, and serve on the altar guild and as a communion steward.

**REMEMBER:**

God looks for and blesses obedient, faithful believers because they are the ones who reflect His heart of compassion.

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**What does the New Testament say about tithing?**

Some assume tithing is strictly an Old Testament practice. It's referenced in the New Testament but perhaps not as strongly as in the Old Testament. Maybe that's because writers assumed there was no reason to think the practice had stopped. The 10 Commandments are in the Old Testament, and we still uphold those even though Jesus gave us a new commandment in John 13:34, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Good disciples and stewards demonstrate love for God and others through their spiritual disciplines and practices of giving and tithing.

Jesus preached about money and possessions more than anything else. At least 11 of His 39 parables are about money. In Matthew 23:23, Jesus said, "Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced **without neglecting the others.**" Jesus told them they should continue tithing because He knew the importance of the tithe. In Matthew 5:17-20, Jesus stated He came to fulfill the law, not to abolish the law and the prophets. We are under grace, and God's grace gives us power and ability to enable us to live a life pleasing to Him through generous giving.

Perhaps we should do as God suggested in Malachi 3:10, and put Him to the test!



November 4, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

We are God's stewards.

**SCRIPTURES:**

**2 Corinthians 9:7**, Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**1 Chronicles 4:10**, Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from hurt and harm!" And God granted what he asked.

**REFLECTION by Jon & Elaine Baer**

We believe we are stewards of Christ's body – the Church. We are stewards, financially, physically and "worship-fully," by attending worship services.

We acknowledge that everything we have is a gift from God, and we should give back to Him, willingly and cheerfully, for all the blessings He has provided, as explained in 2 Corinthians 9:7. We also like the Prayer of Jabez, in 1 Chronicles. We studied this verse in LifeLines. It has so many implications, and not just for our prayer life. It also relates to our intimate relationship with God, and what we partner with Him to do in us, for us, and through us, including our opportunities and abilities to be a good steward.

Both of us have been pleased to give of our time, talents and service by serving and participating in numerous capacities over the years. Among them are SPRC, Sacristy Prayer, Prayer Group, UMM, the former UMW, Communion Steward, Altar Guild, Financial Secretary, Board of Trustees, and other Outreach activities with the congregation.

We are prompted to give out of love for God and a sense of duty as well as thanksgiving. When it comes to tithing, giving the first 10% to the church, we should strive to reach or exceed that amount. We've always thought that, whatever one's means, one should feel a little "pinch" as they joyfully give! The point is *to be generous*. Our hope is for others to give as much as they can, and give regularly!

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:16*



*LORD, what do You want to do through me to fulfill Your will for KUMC?*

November 5, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

When the math doesn't work, giving still can.

### **SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:28**

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?

### **REFLECTION by the Stewardship Committee**

In our early years, most of us learned the value of a budget. Perhaps you taught your children the principles of budgeting. We never outgrow budgeting! The scripture from Luke reminds us we must estimate and compare our expenses and income.

Managing finances and living within our means can be emotional, especially when faced with difficult choices due to limited finances. We are told to spend wisely, save diligently and give generously, but some of us still struggle to make ends meet. How are we to give our first 10% to God, or give anything at all, if all of our financial resources are already committed?

These are decisions each steward or family must make. Turning in prayer to the Holy Spirit for guidance is a great first step. We must check out our heart and check in with God. If serious changes are needed to live within one's means, it might be time for professional guidance. Professionals encourage and assist in reviewing one's income, expenses and saving practices.

There are practical ways to address financial stewardship. Many find that as soon as they take the first intentional steps toward better money management, God helps. He rewards the faithful who are diligent. Scripture says God channels resources to those who spend, save and give in accordance with what He values. Our Heavenly Father wants us to live a life of joy through faithful stewardship. He wants each of us to be blessed so we can be a blessing to others.

If you feel you hardly have enough to give, consider these suggestions:

1. Develop the habit of giving *something*. Grow from there.
2. Try the "step-up" method. Example: Increase your giving by 1%, or a set amount each year, until you reach your goal.
3. Refer to the November 13 devotion in this booklet. Even if tithing seems a long range goal, that page may spark some ideas that will work for you.
4. Obedience from the heart matters to God, so give in faithful obedience.
5. Spend time in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to guide you in managing your expenditures, savings & giving practices.
6. Remember the story of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4).
7. Consider consulting a professional to help you (Christian Credit Counseling, free; AARP; Dave Ramsey Solutions offers a 9-week course under \$200; check with your local bank).
8. Our Pastor may have suggestions.

### **THOUGHTS:**

### **REMEMBER:**

God is looking for people who will use their blessings to bless others.

*Lord, what do You want to do through me to fulfill Your will for KUMC?*

November 6, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Generosity brings joy. It is a glimpse of God's kingdom here on earth.

**SCRIPTURES:**

**Romans 12, especially verses 6-8,** We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

**Luke 21:1-2,** He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

**REFLECTION by Virginia Craig**

When I think of stewardship, I mostly think of serving God through my gifts of time and energy, i.e. Mission Dinners, women's projects, children's events and my monetary support. I see stewardship as taking care of and using, to the best of my ability, what has been entrusted to me. This starts with both my talents and my income.

In one of John Wesley's sermons, he said something like this – Gain all you can, by hurting no one; save all you can, by not wasting or over indulging; and give all you can, not by percentages but according to what God has given to you. I think this applies to all of our gifts – not just our money.

My grandmother moved in with my parents in 1942, at age 50. She had no income until she started receiving Social Security. Her first check was \$28.00! Every month, she cashed her check and asked me to help her put her tithe into her church envelopes. This set an example that I have never forgotten.

My father was always first to give. As a farmer, he was never sure of his income, so he didn't sign a commitment card, but he always gave freely not only to the church but also to anyone in need.

I've never been able to give even close to what I have gotten in return. The love and support I've received from God and my church family over the years has been overwhelming. My advice to others regarding tithing is, *try it!* It comes off the top, and you will never miss it. It's a good habit! Let it be a lifetime commitment.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

Stewardship, like discipleship, is a year round thing; not something we talk about for a few weeks. Suppose the church only talked for a few weeks about praise, prayer or repentance!

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

November 7, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Good stewards are blessed so that we can be a blessing to others.

**SCRIPTURES:**

**2 Corinthians 9:7**, Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Malachi 3:10**, Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

**Proverbs 3:9-10**, Honor the Lord with your substance (wealth) and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

**REFLECTION by Pastor Penny Cory**

The spiritual growth of Christian disciples is reflected in our stewardship of the gifts God has given to us. The above verses from 2 Corinthians, Malachi and Proverbs have been good reminders for me of the ways I want to use the gifts God has given me, and the 1 Samuel verse below always gives me comfort, because God knows my heart.

God loves good stewards. Most people immediately think of money when they think of stewardship, and it does include the giving of our offerings to God, but it also includes much more! It includes giving our prayers, our time, our talents, our presence through our worship, our gifts, our witness, and our service to God. We remember the vows we took when we joined the membership of our church. We look for opportunities to participate in the ministries of the church. God needs ALL of our lives to reach out in love to the community. It also takes many people to volunteer with their specific talents and gifts to make the church run efficiently and further the work of God's kingdom! It takes a team of workers! I pray we will all grow in our understanding of what God is asking of us as good stewards of all He has given to us!

Among the many ways we honor God and demonstrate our thanksgiving is tithing. Tithing is very specific. It is giving the first 10% or more of your income to the LORD's work. Everyday God gives us His best. How can we do otherwise? I tithe and sometimes give beyond a tithe to be a blessing to God and others. When it comes to giving, many give God the leftovers. This is backwards. God asks us to give the "first fruits" of our labors to Him. Then, He will bless us to overflowing! After all, everything we have comes from God, so why not give God first place in our giving?

Gifts and offerings may be any amount we give to the LORD's work to build up the Kingdom of God. I was taught as a child the importance of giving God your best! I was taught that you take the 10% tithe out first before you spend any of your money. I loved going to church and felt special when I gave my offering to God. Throughout my life, I have followed the example of my parents and the teachings I learned from the church!

Stewardship is about doing God's work. Each day I have the opportunity to grow towards pleasing God in all that I do. I do this in how I live my life by reading and studying God's Word, praying for others, sharing God's love and compassion through visiting people, singing in our church choir, preaching, giving to God through service and through tithes and offerings, and being the best person I can be for God! We should always be open to God's voice to us and be willing to obey when He speaks. **1 Samuel 16:7** says, But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." I

am thankful that God knows my heart of sacrificial giving. I'm thankful for all the different ways that I am able to give to God.

As you consider your giving practices in each area, please pray this prayer:  
*Loving Creator, Almighty God, Sustainer and Giver of all good things, please show me tangible ways I can fulfill my responsibility as a steward of Your creation and inspire others to care for the world You've entrusted to us. Amen.*

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

What we give and how we live our lives reflect the sincerity of our love for God.

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

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Here is a Sample of the Loyalty Card We Will Mail to You:

**Kilmarnock United Methodist Church  
2023 Stewardship Estimate of Giving Card**


Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

In grateful recognition that my time, talents and abilities come from God, I intend to give my prayers, presence, tithes, gifts, service and witness to God for 2023 as indicated below:

I will pray for KUMC, our pastor, staff, members, visitors and ministries. \_\_\_\_\_ (check)  
I plan to support our church through my presence. \_\_\_\_\_ (check)  
Ways I'm willing to serve: \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to explore ways to be a better witness to the life and love of Jesus. \_\_\_\_\_ (check)  
In 2023, I plan to tithe/give \$\_\_\_\_\_ per week, month, year. (circle)  
This estimate can be adjusted by presenting your update to the church office/financial secretary.  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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November 8, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Stewards live lives that honor God.

**SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 21:20**

Precious treasure remains in the house of the wise, but the fool devours it.

**REFLECTION by Stan Becker**

When I think of stewardship, I think of Proverbs 21:20. To me, stewardship means taking care of something or supervising the care of something.

I consider stewardship to be participating in the life of the church and showing how much we care through our prayers, being present in church and in worship, using our talents as we serve the church, and by giving. I think God expects us to serve and give in all these ways.

I feel that everyone should tithe. Since we started tithing, we have been blessed. We give to the church because we are glad to help and do our part. We feel we've grown immensely in the area of stewardship and that it's a blessing to give to the Lord.

The tithe is a baseline for giving. We look at it this way: Tithing is giving back to God. Gifts are giving to God and others, and offerings are when we give as needed. I would say the thing I like best about tithing is that it feels good to give to the Lord.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

Good stewards spend wisely, save diligently & give generously.



**STEWARDS GIVE THROUGH OUR GIFTS, TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**OT: All the tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the Lord's, they are holy to the Lord. *Leviticus 27:30***

**NT: And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to collect tithes from the people, that is, from their kindred, though these also are descended from Abraham. *Hebrews 7:5***

We are intentional in our gifts, tithes and offerings.

We spend wisely, save diligently and give generously.

We know tithes and offerings are God's idea. They are part of worship.

We set aside money for special needs in the church.

We know that when we give, we come closest to emulating God.

There is great joy in giving and in returning to God what is His.

We choose to store our treasures safely in heaven, because that's where our heart is.

We give even when it's tough, because such sacrifices are pleasing to God.



# THE CHILDREN

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

Children are a gift from God.

## SCRIPTURE: Matthew 18:10

“Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.”

## REFLECTION by Audrey (age 8) and Elliott (age 5) Lorenzino

We can be stewards. We take care of the church by helping to clean up the church and help those that can't walk very well. We can get bird feeders for the church yard and help to feed God's birds. We can pray for people in the church. We can be caring, kind and loving to those in our Sunday School Classes. We can give money to the church.

## REMEMBER:

Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray. *Proverbs 22:6*



## STEWARDS STEWARD RELATIONSHIPS

The way we care for others reflects the value we place on people God has placed in our lives whether they are family, neighbors, work associates or strangers.

**Matthew 25:40b**, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

**John 13:34a**, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.”

**Romans 12:10**, Love one another with mutual affection.

**Romans 12:16**, Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

**Romans 15:7**, Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**Galatians 6:2**, Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

**Ephesians 4:1-2**, I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.

**Ephesians 4:32**, And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

**1 Thessalonians 4:18**, Encourage one another with these words.

**James 1:27**, Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**1 John 4:21**, The commandment we have from Him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

November 10, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Good stewardship is the path to experiencing the full measure of God's blessings, freedom, and purpose in your life.

### **SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:9**

Honor the Lord with your substance (wealth), and with the first fruits of all your produce.

### **REFLECTION by Anonymous**

Stewardship is not just about money. It is giving of our time and talent as well. When asked to do something in service to God, I try to bring my servant's heart to the task.

An important aspect of tithing commitments or estimate of giving cards is that it allows the church to create a budget based on the tithes, gifts and offerings expected. God expects us to give what we can first, which helps us conquer greed and opens us up to receive His special blessings. While I haven't always practiced the "giving first," I hope to do better in the future. Tithes, gifts and offerings may go to different areas, but all go for the glory of God.

### **THOUGHTS:**

### **REMEMBER:**

Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord. *Colossians 3:23*



### **STEWARDS GIVE THROUGH OUR WITNESS**

**I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective  
when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. *Philemon 6***

We strive to love others as we love ourselves.

We look for opportunities to be kind and do good deeds for others, in the name of Christ.

We are prepared to share our faith in Christ with others.

We introduce ourselves to new neighbors and invite them to church.

We welcome church visitors warmly.

We are not ashamed of the gospel.

We know we are Christ's ambassadors in the world.

We tell others what the Lord has done in our lives.

We offer to pray for others.

We invite others to church functions.

We encourage visiting family members and friends to accompany us to church.

We've been commissioned as disciples to share and spread the good news of the gospel.

*Lord, what do You want to do through me to fulfill Your will for KUMC?*

November 11, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

God is our Source. He created and owns everything and gives temporary custody to us.

### SCRIPTURES:

**1 Chronicles 29:11-17**, (David is speaking) “Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and on earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? *For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.* For we are aliens and transients before you, as were all our ancestors; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope. O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is your own. I know, my God, that you search the heart, and take pleasure in uprightness; in the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people, who are present here, offering freely and joyously to you.” (Italics added.)

**2 Corinthians 9:7**, Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Proverbs 3:9-10**, Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

### REFLECTION by Tammy Crandall

When I think of stewardship, I think of giving, serving and selflessness. Giving collectively for common goals and interests serves the church in God’s kingdom. The 1 Chronicles verses are powerful. David points out that even the things we offer God originally came from Him (see italics above).

My history of stewardship has included serving in a variety of capacities: teaching, serving on committees, playing the piano, helping with VBS and missions. I love our church. I love helping and praying for our church and church family regularly. My love for the church, my faith and my support of God’s church are the things that prompt my giving. I believe God expects us to be respectful, loving people who look out for and help one another. My growth in stewardship continues, and I’d say my favorite parts of stewardship are prayer, service and witness.

I believe tithing is a very personal, dedicated, conscientious, respectful decision on the part of each person. It’s more of a committed responsibility, while gifts and offerings may vary and be sporadic. Giving regularly definitely helps with the church budget.

I believe we all have a part to play in giving and should give what we can in any way we can. The important thing is to give with a joyful heart. When we give we’ll receive 3-fold in return. My suggestion for others is to remember you can *always* give something! Be thankful and give with love. Make it your custom, your routine.

### THOUGHTS:

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

November 12, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

God funnels funds through the hands of those He trusts.

### **SCRIPTURE: Luke 12:48b**

From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.

### **REFLECTION by Anonymous**

When I think of stewardship, I think of taking care of something, managing, using resources wisely. God expects us to give the first fruits of our money, talents, time and service. Although there are numerous ways to be a good steward, I'm pretty much limited to financial giving with my current situation.

My parents taught me about tithing, and I learned a lot from John Hagee's ministry and teachings. It was a struggle at first, so I worked up to it over ten years ago. I consider it non-negotiable. Ever since I began tithing, all my needs have been provided for. To me, tithing doesn't feel like an obligation, because returning God's 10% comes from my heart. It's the first 10% I give. I think of gifts as amounts I give over and above the tithe. Even those gifts are from the heart. I give out of thankfulness, because without God, I would have *nothing*.

Even when money was tight, I tithed faithfully, and the rest has always worked itself out. If I could give a suggestion to others, it would be: *Give! Just have faith and do it!*

### **THOUGHTS:**

### **REMEMBER:**

God knows your heart follows your treasure.



### **STEWARDS GIVE THROUGH OUR SERVICE**

**In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for He Himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35**

- We pay attention to little things that need to be done and offer to help.
- We offer to help with meals for others and deliver altar flowers to the sick or shut-ins.
- Men participate in United Methodist Men. Women enjoy the Women's Circle.
- We agree to help when the secretary is out of the office.
- We help prepare church mailings.
- We help with Vacation Bible School.
- We use our talents to serve in leadership positions; to help with Altar Guild, as a Communion Steward, with Adult or Children's Sunday School, and on committees that further the work of God's kingdom.
- We serve as ushers and greeters.
- We help keep things up to date through our Publicity Chairman and Webmaster.

November 13, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Is it time to take a step up toward tithing?

**SCRIPTURE: Malachi 3:10**

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

**REFLECTION by the Stewardship Committee**

Financial giving is a matter between each steward and God. The Holy Spirit prompts us in such decisions. This chart shows what a tithe looks like based on income as well as a range of giving percentages. As you pray and prepare your Estimate of Giving Card to dedicate at the altar on November 20, we hope this will be a helpful tool if you want to take a step up in giving.

Weekly Income	Beyond A Tithe		Tithe	Upper Range of Giving			Middle Range of Giving			Lower Range of Giving		
	15%	12%		10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%
\$200	\$30	\$24	\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4	\$2
\$300	\$45	\$36	\$30	\$27	\$24	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6	\$3
\$400	\$60	\$48	\$40	\$36	\$32	\$28	\$24	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$75	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$5
\$600	\$90	\$72	\$60	\$54	\$48	\$42	\$36	\$30	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6
\$700	\$105	\$84	\$70	\$63	\$56	\$49	\$42	\$35	\$28	\$21	\$14	\$7
\$800	\$120	\$96	\$80	\$72	\$64	\$56	\$48	\$40	\$32	\$24	\$16	\$8
\$900	\$135	\$108	\$90	\$81	\$72	\$63	\$54	\$45	\$36	\$27	\$18	\$9
\$1,000	\$150	\$120	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$10
\$1,100	\$165	\$132	\$110	\$99	\$88	\$77	\$66	\$55	\$44	\$33	\$22	\$11
\$2,000	\$300	\$240	\$200	\$180	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$40	\$20
\$3,000	\$450	\$360	\$300	\$270	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$150	\$120	\$90	\$60	\$30

**PERSONAL CALCULATIONS:**

*Lord, what do You want to do through me to fulfill Your will for KUMC?*

November 14, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Stewardship fulfills the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

### **SCRIPTURES:**

**Matthew 13:3-9**, And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

**Luke 21:1-2**, He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

### **REFLECTION by Slater Pittman**

When I think of stewardship, I think of tithing, praying for our church and our church family, being a disciple, telling others about our church and sharing God's Word with others.

It's good to pledge an amount to the church because it's important for the church to be able to know where the money is coming from to support its projects and responsibilities. In my mind, a tithe is a certain amount regularly given to the church; a gift is something we give for a particular occasion; and an offering is given by people who don't tithe. I give on a monthly basis so the church has funds to operate, carry out their projects, and support local and world missions.

As a steward, I enjoy praying for my church and its members and praying for and trying to help others in need. I like to do God's work in the church and our community. The parable of the sower reminds us to keep planting seeds because we never know which ones will grow. The story of the widow giving all she had also comes to my mind.

Reading the Bible, doing daily devotions each day, participating in LifeLines Bible study and The Way, my small group, have all helped me grow stronger in the area of stewardship.

My advice is to give to God, and He will give back to you.

### **THOUGHTS:**



*A stewardship ministry is about the need of the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*



November 15, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Stewards read the Word of God.

### **SCRIPTURES:**

**John 10:10b**, I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**, All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

### **REFLECTION by the Stewardship Committee**

We have committed to support KUMC with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Reading and studying the Word of God help us fulfill these commitments. As disciples and stewards we are eager to learn and fulfill these responsibilities. We strive to please our Creator by loving Him and one another and serving where we are called.

Throughout *The Privilege of Giving* you've read many Bible verses. Maybe you knew all of them. Maybe one or two were new to you. Through the Word of God we learn to be more diligent, responsible, intentional stewards.

1. At the back of this booklet are three pages of all the verses used in these devotions.
2. Review them.
3. Find a few that really speak to you.
4. Write them below.
5. Meditate on them.
6. Consider memorizing some of them.
7. Share them with a friend or family member. Tell them what the verse means to you.

### **VERSES I WANT TO REMEMBER:**

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

November 16, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

“Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to Me.” *John 25:40*

### **SCRIPTURES: John 21:15**

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

### **REFLECTION by Sherry Ketner**

I was thankful to be asked to answer questions about stewardship. It made me think. Our church needs to appreciate the joys of stewardship. Webster says stewardship is the art of taking care of something. I want to take care of our church where we worship God. I’m proud to have been a member of this church 61 years. It wasn’t until adulthood and raising children that I began learning much about stewardship. I wish there had been a stewardship class to take.

I believe God expects me to use good judgment when I spend my own money because He’s my source of everything, every penny I have. I love to give spontaneously when moved by someone I meet, as I feel this draws me closer to God. When we were raising 3 children, I wish we had had more money to give. Maybe that’s when I learned to appreciate giving through my prayer life and my talent of service. By working with children and youth, I could witness to the precious young ones just as I used to witness to adults when we had our store. Witnessing is so important because the Father is in us. Jesus is in us, and we are in Him. If we don’t tell people, especially young people, about God’s love and salvation through belief in His Son, they’ll never know the way to heaven! We are supposed to tell others about Him. Good stewards witness!

As stewards, we are to take care of everything God’s given us, and that includes all the relationships in our lives. Jesus told Simon Peter three times to feed His sheep. We’re supposed to do that with children, by being examples for them. Watching Mary work with the children is such a blessing. Watching children in Sunday School sing, learn about Jesus, present plays in the sanctuary and learn to pray are wonderful blessings. I also have vivid memories of 8-10 years working closely with the youth at the Agape Center on the Eastern Shore, encouraging them, glorifying God together, listening to their stories. Each way I serve the Lord has blessed me.

The story of the widow’s offering (Luke 21:1-4) touches me as a lesson in giving. So does John 14:6, when Jesus said He was the way, the truth and the life. God gave us the *way* to Himself, the *truth* in His word, and the *life* which is the light of the world. How could we not give back by being good stewards of everything He’s given us?

There were times I told God I’d give Him my hands, feet and heart and try to do more the next time the offering plate came around. Now, when Slater brings the plate around, I ask myself why I don’t do more, like usher or take altar flowers to the sick or shut-ins. I love God and give in every way I can because of everything He’s done for us. I want to please Him and walk where He tells me to walk. I want to praise Him when I sing, thank Him for where I am and all that’s ahead, pray for others and stand in the valley for people.

I wish more people had come to watch THE CHOSEN. It did so much for me and my faith. I felt I was living with the people in Jesus’ time. Those movies witnessed *to me!* That’s what I want to do for others.

### **REMEMBER:**

Real joy comes from purpose, not pleasure.

November 17, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

The 10% is God's idea.

### **SCRIPTURE: Leviticus 27:30**

All the tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the Lord's; they are holy to the Lord.

### **REFLECTION by Melinda Lewis**

When I think of stewardship, I think of helping others, and giving of my time or finances. I have always believed in tithing and think everyone should tithe or work toward that goal. I think God expects us to take care of what He's given us and give back by returning some to Him and by helping others. I think of tithes as giving money; gifts as giving of my talents; and offerings as other gifts of worth. I'm prompted to give because of all God has given me. When I give financially, I'm giving for the sake of the kingdom because I believe in helping others. Giving is an important part of stewardship.

Growing up, I received positive advice from my family and friends about giving. These are the practices I follow today. I recommend others give to His kingdom and do His good works to further the kingdom. When we give through tithes, offerings, service or witness, we bless God. In return, God not only blesses us, He gives and trusts us with more. Through the years, I feel I've grown in stewardship through giving more of my finances and my time through service.

My favorite parts of stewardship are praying, because prayers bring powerful results; presence, because when we show up it shows that we care; and witness, because witnessing to others about our faith can be a powerful testimony that turns others to the Lord.

### **REMEMBER:**

God is a God of abundance, not scarcity.



### **STEWARDS GIVE THROUGH OUR PRESENCE**

**Therefore my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus...And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. *Hebrews 10:19, 24-25***

**I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" *Psalms 122:1***

We attend 8:30 and/or 11:00 worship as well as special services (ex. healing).

We attend additional services to support the children's ministry.

We attend seasonal services (ex. during Easter and Christmas seasons).

We attend Sunday School.

We attend church council, committee and other special meetings to build up the church.

We participate in special activities to support the church's missions.

We enjoy fellowship after church and between Sunday School and church.

We show up when volunteers are needed.

November 18, 2022

## *The Privilege of Giving*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

John Wesley said, “Earn all you can, give all you can, save all you can.”

### **SCRIPTURES:**

**2 Corinthians 8:7**, But since you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness, and in the love we have kindled in you – see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

**Psalms 24:1**, The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it.

### **REFLECTION by Sandy Jordan**

Good disciples are good stewards! We acknowledge that we own nothing but have been given temporary custody of everything. This has been obvious to me as a child and an adult as I witnessed men and women participating in the lives of the three churches to which I’ve belonged.

Mom and Dad were good role models. Dad and I were a team that regularly visited church visitors to tell them about our church and answer questions. Great memories! Later, Jack and I made those visits, sharing God’s love and what our church and our faith meant to us. As a child, I was given a modest allowance and told that 10% of it was for our church and God – 10% was easy to figure. As a teen and adult, I followed Mom and Dad’s examples of service by accepting church council positions, teaching Sunday School, leading and teaching small groups.

Corporate and personal worship, praise, Bible study, reading, and leading small groups are still highlights in my life today. As for giving financially, Jack and I took our church commitments seriously, aiming at generosity, but never stepped all the way up to tithing. After his death, I took a sober look at the giving practices I would commit to on my own. My life had been beyond blessed. One day I read Isaiah 54, and those verses (especially beginning with 54:5) struck me. My Maker was going to be my husband?! It only took seconds for me to commit my prayers, presence, tithes, gifts, offerings, service, witness, and sacrificial offerings to Him.

When the Holy Spirit led me to step out in faith like that, it was one of the most joyful decisions and satisfying commitments I’ve ever made. God knows our heart. He honors, blesses and rewards the commitments of those who love Him. I don’t know how God’s math works, only that it does. From respected pastors, I’ve learned that when we return the first 10% of income or any increase to God, the other 90% is blessed. With God, 90% that is blessed goes farther than 100% that isn’t!

God owns everything, and everything comes from Him. I trust Him and will thank Him forever because of all He’s done in my life. He died for me. My sins are forgiven. I experience eternal life with Him now, and will spend all eternity with Him. I’m His daughter, disciple, and steward. We love each other dearly, and one way I strive to honor Him is by properly managing all of His gifts and resources entrusted to me.

### **THOUGHTS:**

### **REMEMBER:**

Stewardship is our commitment to God out of love, honor, thankfulness and obedience.

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

**November 19, 2022**

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

God monitors our stewardship.

**SCRIPTURES:**

**1 Peter 4:10**, Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

**Leviticus 27:30**, All tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the Lord's; they are holy to the Lord.

**REFLECTION by Sally McGrath**

To me, stewardship means taking good care of what God has entrusted to us – His creation and His church. We are His children, and I think God expects us to take up our responsibilities with gratitude and joy to maintain and improve His creation and His church.

As a child, I was encouraged to give part of my allowance to the church. Once I understood, as an adult, how the church worked from the inside, rather than looking in from the outside, I understood better the financial stewardship required to run a church. I began to see how people needed to support the church and its programs financially and with gifts of time, rather than attend church and expect programs to be provided for me.

As I became more aware of God's grace and love and mercy in my life, my contributions began to reflect the love I felt for God and the desire to share what He had given me...always remembering that everything I have is His. My love for God and for His church, my deep gratitude for what He's done for me and given me – these prompt my giving.

For me, tithing is more than setting an amount of 10% to the church. It's offering our time and talents to further the kingdom of God here on earth. Giving financially to the church enables its programs and growth. It's responding to our neighbors and to the world as a loving and grateful response to the love God has given us. If you consider a tithe to be what you require of yourself, the gifts and offerings would be the second mile of giving.

Part of my personal stewardship involves devising ways for the adults and youth in church to increase their spiritual growth opportunities. Another way I try to live into stewardship is with prayer walks around the downtown Kilmarnock area. I also conduct four servant evangelism events during the year. Each is designed to spread the love of Christ and make people more aware of KUMC and the love we as a congregation have for them.

Discernment is a gift from God. I listen to God, and I believe I'm doing what He called me to do. My suggestion to others is to give what you believe you can in every area of stewardship, and increase that amount every year.

**THOUGHTS:**

**REMEMBER:**

As children of God, we have a high calling – to be Divine Stewards.

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

November 20, 2022

*The Privilege of Giving*

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Stewards are ordinary people with an extraordinary love for God.

**SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 9:7b**

For God loves a cheerful giver.

**REFLECTION by Stewardship Committee**

As we near the end of *The Privilege of Giving* devotional booklet, let's take a personal inventory. There are areas we already exhibit qualities of good stewardship, but perhaps there are areas where we'd like to grow. Maybe we've been tithing and giving financially but could find new ways to give our time, talents and service to the church or others. Maybe we've felt self-conscious about anything to do with witnessing or sharing our faith with others. It's possible for stewards to grow in each area. To be a well rounded steward is a great goal for all of us. By looking at the questions below, maybe you'll come up with one or two ways to extend your reach as a faithful disciple and steward.

Thank you for reading our stewardship booklet. We hope you have found it educational and inspirational. You may decide to refer to it from time to time or share some of the content with others. Setting new stewardship goals can result in a vision worth pursuing in the Body of Christ and bring glory to God the Father, **the One who owns it all!**

1. Am I really praying for my church? How could I enhance that part of my prayer life?
2. In what new areas could I serve my church?
3. Would I be willing, once a week, to share my faith or tell someone why I believe as I do?
4. Are there Sundays I could have attended Sunday School and Church, but didn't? Why?
5. How could I increase my participation in church activities? Which of them appeal to me most?
6. Have I been thinking of money in my checkbook and other accounts as mine or God's?
7. When I have an increase in income, do I increase my giving?
8. Do I make giving to my church a priority?
9. If I'm not tithing to the church now, do I want to?
10. Would taking one step up each year help me reach that goal?
11. Do I make gifts to the church or other worthy causes over and above my tithe?
12. When, if ever, have I given sacrificially? What did it feel like? What might it feel like?
13. Have I taught my children or grandchildren how to be good stewards? What might I do to help them begin a lifetime of good stewardship through giving their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness to God?
14. Have I considered myself the manager and trustee of what God's given me, or have I considered myself the owner and controller of all He's given me?
15. In what ways could I strive to be a better steward?
16. Am I willing to commit to being a better steward? How? When?

**THOUGHTS:**

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

## Your Personal Devotion Page

This page is set up according to the format of the previous pages. *This is your page!*  
Take some quiet time to put *your* thoughts in writing. Use this journal experience to further your commitment to stewardship and *The Privilege of Giving*.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

*The Privilege of Giving*

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

SCRIPTURE:

REFLECTION by \_\_\_\_\_ (Your Name)

THOUGHTS:

REMEMBER:

*Lord, what do You want to do through me to fulfill Your will for KUMC?*

# The 60 Scriptures Submitted for Our Booklet

**Genesis 2:15**, The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

**Leviticus 27:30**, All tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the Lord's; they are holy to the Lord.

**1 Chronicles 4:10**, Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from hurt and harm!" And God granted what he asked.

**1 Chronicles 29:11-17**, "Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and on earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. For we are aliens and transients before you, as were all our ancestors; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope. O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is your own. I know, my God, that you search the heart, and take pleasure in uprightness; in the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people, who are present here, offering freely and joyously to you."

**Psalms 8:6**, You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.

**Psalms 24:1**, The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

**Psalms 122:1**, I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

**Proverbs 3:9-10**, Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

**Proverbs 21:20**, Precious treasure remains in the house of the wise, but the fool devours it.

**Proverbs 22:6**, Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray.

**Isaiah 54:5-6a**, For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. For the Lord has called you like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit,

**Malachi 3:10**, Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

**Matthew 6:21**, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

**Matthew 13:3-9**, And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

**Matthew 18:3-5**, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."

**Matthew 18:10**, "Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven."



**Matthew 19:14**, But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.”

**Matthew 23:23**, “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others.”

**Matthew 25:40**, And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

**Mark 10:16**, And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

**Mark 10:45**, “For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

**Mark 11:22 & 24**, Jesus answered them, “Have faith in God...So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you received it, and it will be yours.”

**Luke 12:48b**, “From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.”

**Luke 14:28**, “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 21:1-4**, He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.”

**John 3:16**, “For God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son.”

**John 10:10b**, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

**John 13:34a**, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.”

**John 14:6**, Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

**John 15:12**, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

**John 17:3**, “And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

**John 21:15**, When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

**John 25:40**, “Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to Me.”

**Acts 20:35**, In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for He Himself said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

**Romans 12:6-8**, We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

**Romans 12:10**, Love one another with mutual affection.

**Romans 12:16**, Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

**Romans 14:12**, So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

**Romans 15:7**, Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**1 Corinthians 12:12**, For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

**1 Corinthians 12:27-28**, Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.

**2 Corinthians 8:7**, But since you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness, and in the love we have kindled in you – see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

**2 Corinthians 9:7**, Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Galatians 6:2**, Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

**Ephesians 4:1-2**, I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.

**Ephesians 4:32**, And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

**Ephesians 6:4**, And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

**Philippians 4:19**, And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

**Colossians 3:17**, And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Colossians 3:23**, Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord...

**1 Thessalonians 4:18**, Encourage one another with these words.

**1 Thessalonians 5:17**, Pray without ceasing.

**1 Timothy 4:14a**, Do not neglect the gift that is in you.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**, All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

**Philemon 6**, I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ.

**Hebrews 7:5**, And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to collect tithes from the people, that is, from their kindred, though these also are descended from Abraham.

**Hebrews 10:19, 24-25**, Therefore my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus...And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**Hebrews 13:16**, Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

**James 1:27**, Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**1 Peter 4:10**, Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

**1 John 4:21**, The commandment we have from Him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.



## **JOHN WESLEY COVENANT PRAYER**

“I am no longer my own, but thine,

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,

exalted for thee or brought low for thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things

to thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,

let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.”

## *The Privilege of Giving*

“Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory,  
the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the  
heavens and on earth is yours; yours is the kingdom,  
O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.  
Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all.  
In your hand are power and might;  
and it is in your hand to make great and to give  
strength to all. And now, our God, we give thanks to you  
and praise your glorious name. But who am I,  
and what is my people, that we should be able  
to make this freewill offering? For all things come from you,  
and of your own have we given you. For we are aliens  
and transients before you, as were all our ancestors;  
our days on the earth are like a shadow,  
and there is no hope. O Lord our God,  
all this abundance that we have provided for  
building you a house for your holy name  
comes from your hand and is your own.  
I know, my God, that you search the heart,  
and take pleasure in uprightness;  
in the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered  
all these things, and now I have seen your people,  
who are present here, offering freely  
and joyously to you.”

**1 Chronicles 29:11-17**

*A stewardship ministry is about the need of  
the giver to give, not the need of the church to receive.*

**KILMARNOCK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
KILMARNOCK, VA  
2022**