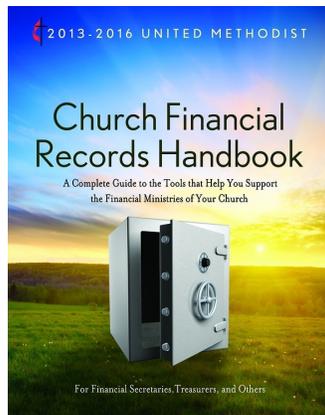


Finance & Stewardship

Course of Study 224

Church Finance

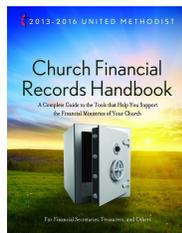
- Financial Secretary (Collects \$-Receivable)
- Treasurer (Signs Checks- Payable)
- Small churches are not immune to business standards, especially payroll taxes for lay employees



Internal Financial Controls

Every church should have a system of internal controls.

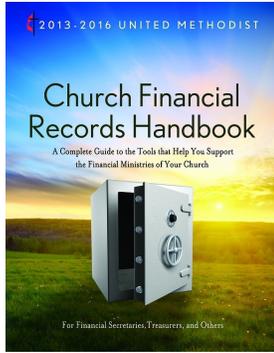
- prevent loss or theft of the church's assets
- minimize the opportunity for an employee or volunteer to steal or misuse the assets and/or records of the church
- provide timely and accurate information to management; and
- ensure compliance with laws and regulations



A sample Small Church Financial Policy is at ARUMC.org

Church Finance

- Make sure you keep the information you need to fill out the end of year GCFA Statistical Reports (Check-Out Forms)
- Check-Out data is the tool used to calculate apportionments (*For now - Tithe Initiative*)
- A UM "audit" is really just a Financial Review



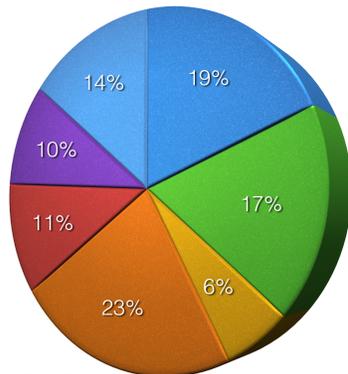
Church Finance

Figure out ways to explain the budget to everyone, using both spreadsheets and images



Annual Fund for Ministry

- Worship and Music 19%
- Discipleship Program 17%
- Congregational Care 6%
- Beyond St. James 23%
- Children's Program 11%
- Youth Program 10%
- Administration 14%



St. James
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God Pie

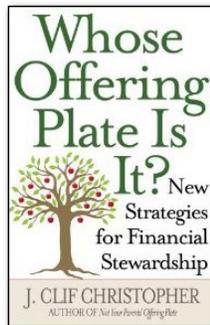
<http://www.worshiphousemedia.com/>



Stewardship

SHARE SPECIFICALLY
how a life has been changed
directly from a relationship
with your church.

Share how the world has
been made just a little bit
better because you are in
business.

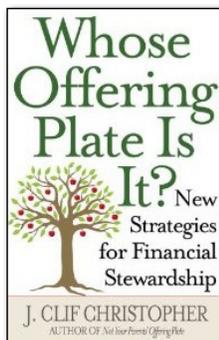


Stewardship

Do what you can to know the
finances of the church.

What other nonprofit CEO
doesn't know anything about
the financial health of their
organization?

Giving is a diagnostic tool to
understand the both the church
and the soul of the donor.



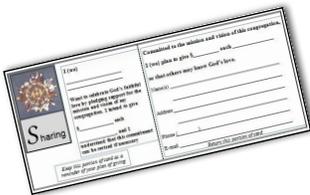
Acknowledgement Letter or Giving Statement

Documentation must be provided to donors giving more than \$250 per donation, whether in cash or through in-kind gifts.

The statement or acknowledgment letter must include, at a minimum, the following:

1. The name of the organization
2. The amount of contribution or description of non-cash contributions and their value
3. A statement that “no goods or services were provided in exchange for the gift” and/or “the only benefit received in exchange for the gift was an intangible religious benefit”

Stewardship



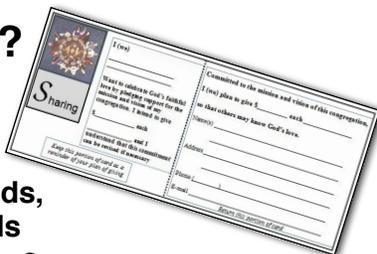
Targeted Communications For Giving Levels

- Actives/ Sacrificial Givers
- Supporters
- Attenders
- New Members
- Less than Actives
- Friends of the the Church

Stewardship

To Pledge or Not to Pledge?

Should you use
pledge cards,
estimate of giving cards,
or commitment cards
in an annual campaign?



Finance/Stewardship in Your Appointment

What is your current **Financial PRACTICE** concerning Budgeting, handling money, receiving and dispersing funds, telling the congregation about the church's financial status?

What is your current **STEWARDSHIP PRACTICE** concerning celebrating the "Wins" and the Mission, and seeking donations and tithes?



The graphic features a background of a US dollar bill with binary code (0s and 1s) overlaid. The text "Stewardship of Church Resources" is prominently displayed in the center. At the bottom, it reads "Course of Study 224".

Stewardship of Church Resources

Course of Study 224

Congress made clergy self-employed for purposes of SECA

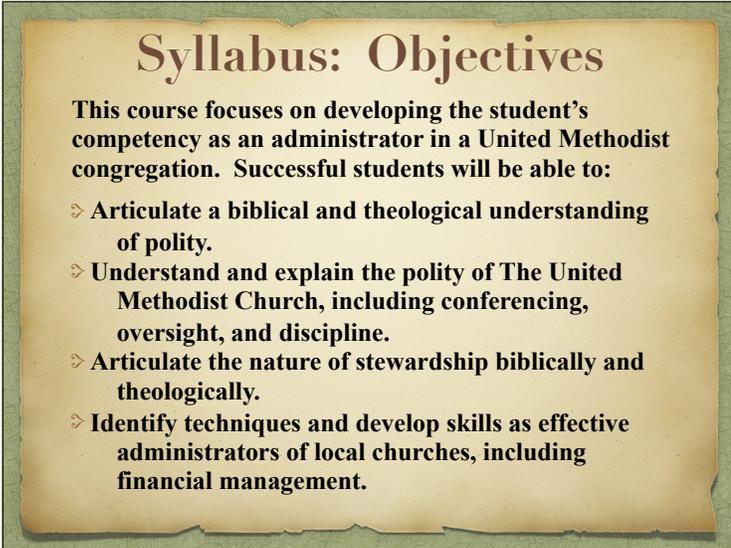
CLERGY THUS ...

		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Receive benefits through the administration of the conferenceSupervised by their bishop <p>BUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">are employed by the local church for purposes of income tax.	<p>BUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Clergy are self-employed for purposes of Social Security and Medicare<ul style="list-style-type: none">meaning they pay SECA, which is paid by them individually by April 15 and filed as a schedule SE with the rest of his or her tax return.	<p>BUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">As employees of local churches they are issued a W-2 by January 31 of each year, reflecting the wages paid by the local church with notes for tax-deferred pension and housing (we'll get there later).

A graphic with a teal background featuring a close-up of a US dollar bill. The text "Stewardship of Church Resources" is written in large, white, bold letters. Binary code (0s and 1s) is scattered across the background.

Stewardship of Church Resources

Course of Study 224

A graphic with a parchment-like background. The text "Syllabus: Objectives" is written in a dark, serif font. Below it, a paragraph and a list of objectives are provided.

Syllabus: Objectives

This course focuses on developing the student's competency as an administrator in a United Methodist congregation. Successful students will be able to:

- ❖ Articulate a biblical and theological understanding of polity.
- ❖ Understand and explain the polity of The United Methodist Church, including conferencing, oversight, and discipline.
- ❖ Articulate the nature of stewardship biblically and theologically.
- ❖ Identify techniques and develop skills as effective administrators of local churches, including financial management.
