

Stewardship ministry assessment tool

For churches to strengthen their stewardship ministry

Introduction

A church's financial stewardship ministry happens year-round. It usually encompasses five major areas of church life that involve some key activities throughout the year. See the Stewardship Ministry Wheel from Everence® for an illustration of these areas.

This assessment tool is designed to help your stewardship leaders discern the areas where your church could strengthen your stewardship ministry. Note that not everything will be accomplished in one year!

Stewardship ministry growth and change is an ongoing, multi-year process. So after you complete this assessment, prioritize the activities you would like to begin working on this year, and note those that can wait until later.

To complete this assessment

We suggest stewardship and finance team members help complete this assessment. Then compile all responses to get a sense of direction for your stewardship ministry.

Church information

Does a pastor serve on the stewardship or finance team? Yes No

Your name: _____

Date: _____

Name of church: _____

City and state: _____

Estimated annual budget: _____

Average number of weekly attenders: _____

Do you have an Everence stewardship advocate? Yes No

Check all the activities that you think your church should focus on in the next few years.

Planning for the future

Update our church vision and goals

Identify capital projects

Start an endowment fund

Consider a building loan

Establish policy for gift acceptance

Follow best practices in our financial operations

Resource our stewardship leaders

Other: _____



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Telling our church's story

- Share our church's vision for ministry
- Tell stories of changed lives from our church ministries
- Preach on biblical stewardship
- Include stewardship in worship
- Create a narrative budget
- Other: _____

Teaching stewardship and generosity

- Biblical stewardship principles and teachings
- Money-management classes for Christians
- Education on planned-giving concepts and tools
- Money education for youth and young adults
- Mentor people with financial challenges
- Help people deal with debt
- Other: _____

Summary

What is working well in your stewardship ministry? _____

What challenges do you face in your stewardship ministry, and which activities above would you like to focus on in the coming year?

How could Everence be helpful to your church in strengthening your stewardship ministry? _____

Talk to your Everence Stewardship Consultant for information about the stewardship ministry wheel and for assistance with your stewardship ministry.

Asking for gifts

- Create a commitment/pledging system
- Provide online/electronic giving options
- Provide alternative avenues for giving (special events, etc.)
- Update and communicate current capital and other needs
- Include the church in one's will or estate plans
- Invite IRA charitable gifts from attenders who are 70 ½ + years old
- Other: _____

Thanking donors

- Send notes and make personal visits
- Include pastors and church leaders in thanking
- Use financial statements to thank and share stories
- Create regular celebrations
- Other: _____
