



# Cultivating Generosity

ToolKit 2022

# Defining Stewardship

*The Lord God took the earth creature and settled it in the garden of Eden so that it might cultivate and care for the land. - Genesis 2:15*

*The earth and everything on it - the world and all who live in it - belong to the Lord. - Psalm 24:1*

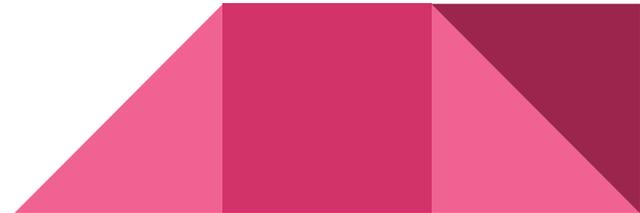
*Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.- 1 Corinthians 4:1*



# Defining Stewardship

*Living all of life, and using all of our resources, with Jesus at the center.*

*- Norma Malfatti*



# Defining Financial Stewardship

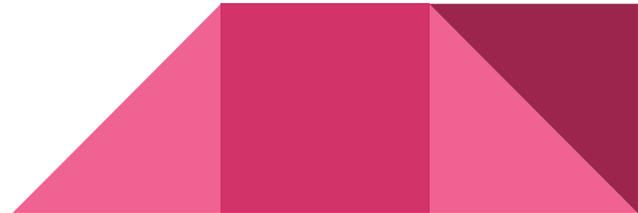
*Fundraising is proclaiming what we believe in such a way that we offer other people an opportunity to participate with us in our community's vision and mission.*

*- Henri Nouwen*



# Scarcity vs. Abundance

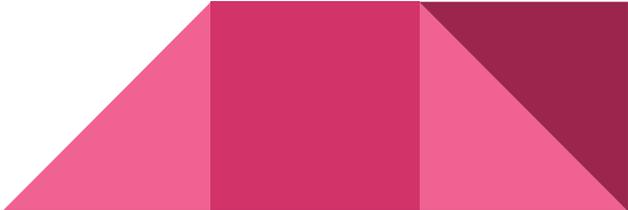
*Greed and fear of scarcity are programmed; they do not exist in nature, not even in human nature. They are built into the money system in which we swim, and we've been swimming in it so long that... we have learned to consider them normal and legitimate behavior.* - Bernard Lietaer, former senior officer of the Belgian Central Bank



# Signs of a scarcity mindset\*

- Publish a weekly “box score” in the bulletin showing how expenses are outpacing revenue
- Celebrate keeping a flat budget
- Assume you have to cut expenses rather than raise gift income
- Seek to survive rather than thrive
- Build up reserves for a rainy day

\* from *Abundance* by Mike Ward



# Signs of an abundance mindset\*

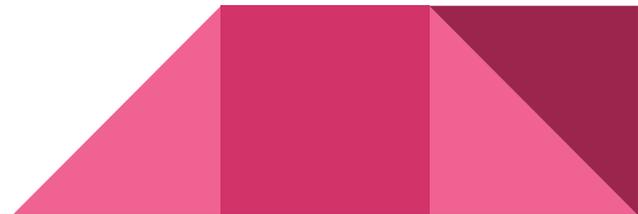
- Know their mission/purpose
- Create visions/ministry that are worthy of investment
- Focus on leadership development
- Invite people to be partners through financial investment
- Willing to take risks

\* from *Abundance* by Mike Ward



# Telling Your Story

- Why does your congregation exist?
  - Does everyone know this?
- How does your congregation make an impact in people's lives?
  - Do you tell people?
- When do you tell your story?
  - Newsletters alone do not work
  - Storytelling during worship (offering or another time)
  - Testimony is important!



# Places to learn more

- Stewardship for All Seasons - Starts May 2022
  - Intro Session - March 16 at 1 pm at at Gustavus Adolphus in St. Paul
- Beginning a Culture of Generosity - Starts August 2022
- ResourcefulServants.org

